

SEA TURTLES-INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE  
AFTER NOVEMBER 15, 1974

**HIMB G.H. BALAZS**

January 19 1975

Dear George:

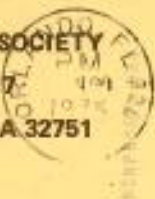
Many thanks for the most appreciated turtle slides. Sorry not to have seen you down this way but I understand how difficult it is to fit everything in on a short trip. I will get some Galapagos sea turtle slide together for you. I'm off to the islands for a month of February 2nd, so will try and augment my slide collection then and send off duplicates to you as soon as possible thereafter.

All best wishes,



Peter .C.H.Pritchard

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY  
P. O. DRAWER 7  
MAITLAND, FLORIDA 32751



sent

Mr. George Balazs  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe  
Hawaii 96744

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 15, 1975

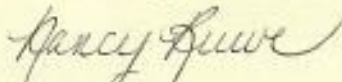
Dear Mr. Balazs,

Mrs. Ford asked me to acknowledge your recent letter in which you shared your views and feelings with her.

Please know that the President and Mrs. Ford are always pleased to have the benefit of comments from fellow citizens, and they appreciate the effort you made to convey your opinions.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Nancy Ruwe  
Social Secretary

Mr. George H. Balazs  
Post Office Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Sept 21

Dear George,

Thank you very much for the children's book on the green sea turtle. I had it put in the school library and it is getting lots of use already.

There has not been much tagging going on lately everyone in the dive club seems more interested in getting all the lobsters they can. Did have one report of a large turtle up on the beach over at Eastern.

If possible let me know when you will be coming back out to Midway. I would like for you to give a lecture and show you slides to the junior and high school students and if you have time also to the elementary.

Hope you had a successful summer and you were able to collect all the data you wished. Hope to see you in the near future.

Sincerely,

*Gary*  
Gary Means



## Black-Tailed Prairie Dog

A large ground squirrel about the size of a cottontail rabbit, the stout Prairie Dog lives in colonies where clusters of burrows surrounded by funnel-like mounds of earth cover an area of many acres. Playful and inquisitive, these little creatures will perch there in the sun and carry on with their neighbors incessantly, chattering and gossiping.

House-proud, the Prairie Dog constantly tends to his mound, tamping it with his nose to maintain its condition. He'll seldom wander far from home, and it only takes seconds for him to scurry to his hillock at the first warning signal of danger. Should the alarm prove real, down he goes!

The Prairie Dog has disappeared from much of his natural range in the West because of the competition for grassland with the stockman, and now the animal is found mainly in national parks.

Gary & Linda Means  
Box 5, U. S. Naval Station  
FTO San Francisco 96111



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UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1110 MORGES, SUISSE (SWITZERLAND)

☎ (021) 7144 01

TELEGRAMMES: UNICORN MORGES

Mr. George H. Balazs  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
P. O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe  
Hawaii 96744  
USA

21st April, 1975

Dear George,

Many thanks for your letter of 14 March 1975. I am sorry to note that some of the correspondence from here has taken so long to reach you and will certainly ensure that communications in future go by normal air mail.

There has not been any response to Professor Brongersma's comments on the Task Force report other than those few which were circulated to all Task Force members and which you will have seen. At the last meeting of the Survival Service Commission these were, of course, considered in conjunction with the report itself. The Meeting respected Professor Brongersma's views but recognised that they were not in accord with the majority of views, and was satisfied that the report did in fact convey reasonably accurately the corporate view of the participants. The Meeting therefore accepted the report virtually unchanged. Professor Brongersma has of course been informed accordingly by a personal letter from the Chairman of the Survival Service Commission.

Just to keep you up-to-date, it is only within the past month that IUCN has received formal notification from the State of California of the legal requirement for IUCN advice to be sought in the issue of permits for the importation of marine turtles. The "Principles" have been sent to the State legislature as the basis upon which IUCN advice would be offered.



We are optimistic that Nicholas Mrosovsky will accept the task of editing a regular turtle newsletter and I hope that the first issue may appear before too long.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Tony*

A. J. Mance  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission

cc: PScott  
ACarr  
THarrisson  
AJM/MF

commence on the day before next after three pm until  
there are not been any response to Professor Mrosovsky's

in future so by notice will be  
you to keep you and will certainly enable your communications  
to note that some of the correspondence from here has been so  
many thanks for your letter of 14 March 1972. I am sorry

best regards

14 MARCH 1972

REV  
HEALTH DEPT  
KANSAS  
COLUMBIA TRING  
P. O. BOX 1340  
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS AT MANHATTAN  
DR. GEORGE H. WILSON



INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES





Dr. George H. Balazs  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P. O. Box 1346, Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
USA

30th May, 1974

Dear Dr. Balazs,

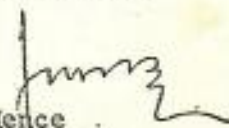
Mr. Nicholls has passed to me your letter addressed to him of April 8th 1974 on the subject of the activities of Mariculture Ltd.

We can confirm that Mariculture Ltd. has been seeking the endorsement of IUCN to their operations. Since IUCN is an organisation which will require fully scientifically valid data in support of such claims as Mariculture may make in relation to its influence on marine turtle conservation, there can be no question of any kind of endorsement being given until such claims have been scientifically proved. IUCN has therefore made it entirely clear to Mariculture Ltd. that no support or endorsement can be expected at this time.

It has furthermore been explained to Mariculture Ltd. that the onus of providing scientific data to support their claim lies with them.

A great deal of information is already available to IUCN which suggests that the Mariculture claims cannot be substantiated and that there is a wide range of incidental conservation implications. We are extremely grateful for your letter and the points which you have brought to our notice.

Yours sincerely,

  
A. J. Mence  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission

AJM/MP/1

RA/5 - Turtle farming

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Report to the Chairman of the Survival Service Commission  
by the ad hoc Task Force convened to investigate the  
commercial exploitation of sea turtles.

1. The Task Force was convened in accordance with Decision 42/23 of the 42nd Meeting of the Survival Service Commission,
2. The Terms of Reference of the Task Force as drawn up by the 43rd Meeting of the Survival Service Commission are attached as Annex 1.
3. The Meeting required by these Terms was held at the University Inn, Miami, Florida, USA, on 23 and 24 November 1974. Those in attendance were:-

a) By invitation:

Dr. George R. Hughes  
The Natal Parks Board  
P. O. Box 662  
Pietermaritzburg, 3200  
South Africa.

Mr. George S. de Silva  
Forest Department  
Sandakan  
State of Sabah  
East Malaysia

Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky  
Department of Zoology  
University of Toronto  
Toronto  
Canada

Professor David Ehrenfeld  
Department of Horticulture and Forestry  
Cook College, Rutgers University  
P. O. Box 231  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903  
USA

Dr. George H. Balazs  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P. O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
USA



Dr. Peter C. Pritchard  
Florida Audubon Society  
P. O. Drawer 7  
Maitland  
Florida 32751  
USA

Dr. Harold Hirth  
Department of Biology  
University of Utah  
Salt Lake City  
Utah  
USA

Dr. L. D. Brongersma  
Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie  
Raamsteeg 2  
Leiden  
Netherlands

Dr. F. Wayne King  
New York Zoological Society  
Bronx, New York 10460  
USA

(IUCN/SSC Alert Group)

Professor A. Carr  
Department of Zoology  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida 32601  
USA

(IUCN/SSC Meeting Co-  
Chairman)

Professor T. Harrison  
c/o Vice-Chancellor  
University of Sussex  
Falmer BN1 9QQ  
Sussex  
U.K.

(IUCN/SSC Alert Group  
Meeting Co-Chairman)

b) IUCN:

Dr. G. Carleton Ray  
Department of Pathobiology  
The Johns Hopkins University  
615 North Wolfe Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21205  
USA

(IUCN Consultant)  
(for part of the time)

Mr. A. J. Mence  
International Union for Conservation  
of Nature and Natural Resources  
28 Les Uttins  
1110 Morges  
Switzerland

(Executive Officer, Survival  
Service Commission, Secretary  
to Meeting)

c) Observers (part of the time):

Mr. Ross Witham  
Florida Department of Natural Resources  
Marine Research Laboratory  
P. O. Box 941  
Jensen Beach, Florida 33457  
USA

Miss Karen Bjorndal  
Department of Zoology  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida 32601  
USA

4. The Meeting considered the subject of commercial exploitation of sea turtles and, in accordance with the requirements of the Terms of Reference, agreed on a Statement of Principles and Recommendations, attached as Annex II.

5. The following participants then proceeded to Grand Cayman Island:

Professor Carr,  
Professor Harrison,  
Dr. King,  
Dr. Pritchard,  
Dr. Hirth,  
Mr. de Silva,  
Dr. Brongersma,  
Dr. Hughes,  
Dr. Balazs,  
Mr. Mence

6. Meetings were held there on 25 and 26 November with the following Directors, Advisors and Staff of Mariculture Ltd.

Directors: Mr. Anthony Fisher  
Dr. J. Johnson  
Dr. S. Ayres  
Mr. Marlin Simon  
Mr. J. Goodier

Scientific Advisors:

Sir Alan Parkes; F.R.S.  
Professor E. Amoroso; F.R.S.

Staff: Mr. Roy Major  
Dr. Jim Wood



7. Having already considered aspects of the operations of Mariculture Ltd. in relation to the Principles previously established, members of the Task Force were given the opportunity to question the representatives of Mariculture Ltd. on all matters upon which elucidation, explanation, account or elaboration was thought necessary.
8. Owing to circumstances beyond their control, Professor Carr and Drs. Wayne King and P. Pritchard had to return before full consideration could be given to the implications of this dialogue. They indicated however that the main issues had been covered to their satisfaction and that they were agreeable to accepting the findings of the remaining members.
9. The panel of the Task Force which then considered the extent of the Company's compliance with the Principles consisted of Professor Harrison; Drs. Balazs, Hughes and Hirth; and Mr. de Silva. Dr. Brongersma, who had travelled independently to Grand Cayman, was co-opted to this panel.
10. The panel agreed on the following conclusions:
  - a) that Mariculture Ltd. has made claims and statements which are misleading and demonstrably untrue;
  - b) that this has resulted in unjustifiably favourable impressions in some quarters regarding its operations to date; and in some others in grave suspicion about its integrity;
  - c) that reconciliation of the conservation ethic with business efficiency in the company's policy therefore remains to be demonstrated;
  - d) that no long-term operational planning projection has been made;
  - e) that the viability of its turtle farming operation has yet to be proved.

For these reasons alone the panel is unable to endorse the operations of Mariculture Ltd. as making a positive contribution to the conservation of the Green turtle.

11. This notwithstanding, the panel noted:
  - a) that Mariculture Ltd. has recognised the harm done by its misleading publicity and has agreed to withdraw remaining inaccurate publications and to ensure that all future publications are cleared by its Scientific Advisors;
  - b) that the company's plant and installations display considerable enterprise and ingenuity, and the site operations are undoubtedly efficient;

- c) that valuable research programmes, some of outstanding scientific merit, are in varying stages of development, and that facilities are also made available by the company to private research workers;
- d) that the Directors of Mariculture Ltd. have stated categorically that they wish to maintain frank and open dialogue with IUCN concerning all aspects of the company's operations in order to ensure compliance with conservation requirements.

12. The panel expressed concern:

- a) that Mariculture's present practice of taking "doomed" eggs might become an established part of the operation, thus perpetuating ranching rather than farming and also encouraging an extension of the definition, and by implication the range of occurrence, of so-called "doomed" eggs;
- b) that Mariculture's known interest in establishing operations in other parts of the world (e.g. Astove Island) has implications which cannot be assessed in the lack of any long term operational planning projection, and which carry inherent dangers of gene movement between oceans;
- c) that the requirement for profitability might easily result in a disregard of inconvenient conservation considerations; particularly in regard to promotion of markets;
- d) that the present culture operations depend on a nutritional regime at a higher tropic level than that naturally applicable.

13. The panel therefore recommends:-

- a) that the present operations of Mariculture Ltd. can not be endorsed as being in the conservation interests of the Green turtle;
- b) that Mariculture Ltd. be commended for the efforts it has made in developing turtle farming techniques and for its expression of intent to ensure that such development conforms to conservation principles;
- c) that Mariculture Ltd. be informed of these principles, and of IUCN's readiness to endorse the company's operations when convinced that they do so conform;
- d) that Mariculture Ltd. be informed of IUCN's pleasure at the company's assurance of frankness concerning all aspects of its operations, and of IUCN's expectations of receiving practical demonstrations of this assurance by being kept posted about future plans; recognising that new activities or significant extensions of present ones initiated without previous notice will be regarded as a breach of such assurance and therefore as grounds to doubt the company's integrity of purpose.



## INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## SURVIVAL SERVICE COMMISSION

An ad hoc meeting to discuss the commercial exploitation of marine turtles;  
to be held in Miami, Florida,  
21-23 November 1974

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Following a decision of the Survival Service Commission and after consultation with the Co-Chairmen of the SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group, this meeting has been convened, and persons invited, by the Secretariat of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).
2. The meeting is asked impartially to review the commercial exploitation of marine turtles with especial reference to the state and implications of turtle farming and, if possible, to reduce the result of such review to a statement of principles.
3. The resulting statement will be in the form of a recommendation to the Survival Service Commission, which will review it and will, if considerations of new policy implications may be involved, so recommend to the Executive Board of IUCN for decision.
4. It is proposed that after this meeting a small panel should visit Grand Cayman in order to examine and discuss the operations of Mariculture Ltd. in the light of the statement of conservation principles referred to in paragraph 2 above, and to report to the Survival Service Commission on its findings. This panel is to consist of the two Co-Chairmen of the SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group (or their nominees), three other persons selected by the ad hoc meeting, along with the Executive Officer of the Survival Service Commission.

Morgas, 28th October, 1974

PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Because the majority of the distinct populations of Chelonia turtles are extinct, threatened or rapidly declining, the entire group should be considered endangered.

The reasons for the extinction and decline of populations include particularly exploitation for meat, hides, eggs and other products (including souvenirs), massive killing of turtles in the trawl nets of fishing fleets as well as increasing habitat destruction and disturbance.

The situation has become even more critical with the expansion of international commercial trade in sea turtles and their products.

As regards trawling, the task force recommends that urgent attention be given to encourage the use of nets designed to minimise undesirable catches of turtles and that research into this question be given funding priority.

As regards souvenirs, the task force recommends that the taking and preparing of turtles and turtle products for the primary purpose of souvenirs be strongly discouraged.

As regards primary exploitation (meat, hides, eggs), the task force recommends that, where it can be demonstrated that local turtle populations can tolerate exploitation, and the desire or necessity is present, it should be done only by peoples traditionally dependent on them, with methods ensuring minimal waste and for local utilisation. The task force condemns the diversion of wild sea turtle resources from traditional use by local people, or the expansion of that use, to satisfy or extend the demands of international commerce.

The task force emphasises at this point the distinction between turtle farming and turtle ranching; a turtle farm implies that the unit is completely independent of wild stocks; a turtle ranch is a unit dependent on wild populations for eggs or turtles with the animals kept in varying degrees of captivity. (H. Hirth; FAO Fisheries Synopsis No. 85; "Synopsis of Biological Data on the Green Turtle" December 1971.)

Further, in recognition of the deteriorating energy and food resources of the world, the task force advocates that wherever possible any turtle culture be maintained at the lowest applicable trophic level.

The task force is opposed to farming objectives which lead to the expansion of existing markets resulting possibly in an increased exploitation of wild turtles. However, it would be consistent with the foregoing principles for the task force to endorse turtle farming whose products will replace wild turtle products in existing traditional markets. The acceptability of any farm should be demonstrated



by suitably designed and independently evaluated tests and data. Moreover, the task force can endorse those ranching endeavours satisfying the above conditions and which can be shown not to harm wild turtle populations.

The task force encourages the provision of funds for the preparation of informative pamphlets to promote the application of the foregoing principles and recommends to IUCN that immediate measures be taken to ensure the early implementation of such action as is necessary to conserve the marine turtle resource in accordance with these principles.

Nearly all the considerations stated for Chelonia may be applied with force to populations of the five other species of marine turtles.



ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR,  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

In Reply Refer To:  
FWS/SE

DEC 11 1974

Mr. George H. Balazs  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
P.O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I have received your letter of 10 November inquiring as to the status of the review of the sea turtles announced on 16 August. The comment period now has ended and we have received considerable information from governments and private individuals. Our Office also has completed a detailed survey based largely on recent literature and personal communications from biologists. We think that we now have a reasonable understanding of the situation. As you probably know, the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior have joint responsibility concerning this matter. Therefore, any decisions as to listing will have to be made by both agencies. As yet, no definite rule-makings have been proposed, and there have been no official announcements since 16 August.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald M. Nowak  
Staff Specialist  
Office of Endangered Species  
and International Activities



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UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Commission du service de sauvegarde - Survival Service Commission

Sir Peter Scott  
Chairman, IUCN/SSC  
The Wildfowl Trust  
Slimbridge  
Gloucestershire  
England

20th January, 1975


Dear Sir Peter,

Under cover of this letter I am transmitting to you the Report of the ad hoc Task Force convened at the instruction of the Survival Service Commission to investigate the commercial exploitation of sea turtles. You will already have received the draft which was circulated to the Task Force members, and their comments have been taken into account in the present document.

The Task Force wishes to draw your attention to the need for speedy consideration of this matter so that any decision which may be thought necessary regarding Mariculture Ltd. may be implemented without delay. With this in mind, perhaps you would be agreeable to authorising the Alert Group to consider the document on behalf of the Commission, so that it may be passed, subject to any amendment, comment and recommendations thought appropriate, to the Executive Board.

Would you kindly let me know whether this course of action meets with your approval.

Yours sincerely,

  
A. J. Mence  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission

AJM/MF/6

RA/5 TF

cc: Alert Group  
Task Force

Enc.



UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Commission du service de sauvegarde - Survival Service Commission

To: Members; Marine Turtle ad hoc Task Force  
Alert Group

From: AJMence, Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission

Subject: Report by the Task Force

Thank you for your comments and suggestions concerning the draft report dated 17 December 1974. I hope that the final version, which is circulated herewith, has incorporated them to your satisfaction.

The Report has now been submitted to the Chairman of SSC under cover of the enclosed letter of transmittal. Should there still remain any matter which you feel has been inadequately dealt with in the Report, perhaps you would kindly inform the Chairman directly, under notice to the Alert Group and myself.

Please note that reference to an extract from a report by Dr. Carleton Ray, which may not however have been seen by all participants, has been included as an extra Annex at the suggestion of Professor Harrison.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the form of the "Principles and Recommendations" was agreed to in session at Miami. Although substantial changes would now be out of order, it should be mentioned that Professor Carr has made the point that the requirement for "burden of proof" of compliance with conservation principles to be placed with claimants for "acceptability" has not been fully provided for. Nevertheless, the "Principles and Recommendations" do provide that "the acceptability of any farm should be demonstrated by suitably designed and independently evaluated tests and data". This requirement might perhaps therefore be taken care of in designing such tests, which is a task which will need to be tackled as soon as possible.

AJM/MF/6  
20th January, 1975

RA/5 TF  
Enc.



File

# MARICULTURE, Ltd.

P. O. Box 645, GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND, BRITISH WEST INDIES



From the office of

~~MARK XINXK NUNM~~  
~~Neaxplices: fceom fustk~~  
~~Suxsax: fngtoand~~  
~~Phumax: fceom fustk 466c~~

Please reply to:  
8/15 Rutland Gate,  
London SW7 1PL.

3rd January 1975.

Mr. A. J. Mence,  
I. U. C. N.,  
1110 Morges,  
Switzerland.

Dear Tony,

Many thanks for your letter of the 19th December. I am sure we all appreciated the great effort that was made by your group to get to Cayman at all. That a dialogue was very necessary was quite evident. It is just sad that it did not happen sooner.

I think it is difficult for your group to realise how many problems face businessmen in our position. We are only too grateful for advice, but even then with a tiny business, spread almost all over the face of the earth it is by no means as easy to co-ordinate our activities as outsiders would imagine.

Our job is to run our business intelligently and to cope correctly with problems connected with conservation. I hope that our willingness to try to do this was apparent and that we will be more successful in future in avoiding statements and implications which can harm our cause. Naturally the dialogue helped us to appreciate the points of view held by your group in a way which had so far never happened before.

I hope that some way will be found so that we can keep in touch. In this way your group will be informed of our developments and we can hope to avoid causing offence.

With kind regards,

Antony Fisher.

cc:

- A. Cam
- T. Harrison
- Task Force ✓
- Acad Sp.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

15 January 1975

*Large to right limb -  
Shorter than left.*

*Blk pig ventral side of marginals -*

*Sal.  
FLA.  
Tortu  
Asc?*

*Send -  
5 Brit. article -  
2 Green Creeper -  
1 Hawk -  
1 both sides -  
2 Copeia notes -  
Tortoise Soc journal  
Audubon? 8  
2 Aquaculture reports*

George Balazs  
University of Hawaii  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
Coconut Island  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George,

Thank you very much for the sea turtle shirt. It fits perfectly. Who is distributing them? While I was in the Bahamas in December, I spent an evening with Michael Lightbourn, the president of the Bahamas National Trust. He is interested in obtaining or writing some pamphlets on sea turtles in the Bahamas for use in a conservation education program in the schools that they are planning. Do you have anything at all similar that he might use as a pattern? I thought I saw you holding one during the Miami meetings.

Also, do you have any reprints of your two Copeia notes? I would like to have a copy of each if you do, and of any other papers you publish in the future.

Dr. Carr sends his regards and hopes your work is going well. What are your plans for future turtle work?

Sincerely,

*Karen Bjorndal*

Karen Bjorndal

Ralph Ackerman

The effects of nest packing and clutch size  
on incubation time and mortality of sea turtle eggs

Sigma Xi Grants in aid awards in Herpetology

John F. Stamps  
1968



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
GAINESVILLE, 32611

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

20 January 1975

Dear George,

Thank you for the Aquaculture information. I had heard that an article by Margarite Greenway was going to be in Aquaculture, but I had been too lazy to go look for it. For some unknown reason, our library keeps Aquaculture in the Health Sciences library which is a long walk away, and no one can tell me where in the medical complex it is. Florida has by far the most poorly run library of any I have been to. It's certainly worth the walk, now that I know the entire journal is devoted to seagrasses.

Unfortunately, there is no trawling report as such. What Dr. Carr had at the meetings were merely a couple of pictures (copies enclosed) of what a diver watched underwater. The turtle involved was a loggerhead, but I'm sure a green would respond in the same way, following the basic instinct to head up for air.

At present the southeast is in the midst of a population explosion of a jellyfish that clogs the trawlers' nets before many shrimp are caught, obviously resulting in a great loss of money. Because of this, the shrimpers are more inclined to try new nets, that help turtles in addition to getting rid of the majority of jellyfish. The net shown with the escape flap results in a 10% loss of shrimp, I've heard, but that is negligible to losses due at present to jellyfish. The flap also lessens damage done by sharks.

It's been found that often if a turtle is brought up in a net still alive and is returned to the ocean immediately, it will often drown because it is in a state of shock and won't come to the surface for air. If the turtle is held on board for about half an hour and then returned to the sea, it is fine.

Perhaps one of the best people for you to contact is Mr. Larry Ogren. He worked with Dr. Carr here when he was getting his Masters and has just been appointed sea turtle consultant for the National Marine Fisheries Service. His address is Eastern Gulf Sport Fisheries Marine Lab, National Marine Fisheries Service, P.O. Box 4218, Panama City, Fla. 32401.

Hope this is of some help. Thanks again for the references.

*Karen*



*Thank you  
Memo returned  
Feb 3*

George R. Ariyoshi

GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



DIVISIONS:  
CONVEYANCES  
FISH AND GAME  
FORESTRY  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
STATE PARKS  
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FISH AND GAME

1179 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 21, 1975

Mr. George H. Balazs  
P. O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thank you for your letter dated January 5, 1975 with a copy of an advertisement featuring "Maui turtle (when available) \$6.25" by Buzz's Wharf, Maalaea, Maui.

Our Maui enforcement staff was alerted concerning the matter, and for your information the advertisement was in error. The advertising agency did not clear with the management regarding dining tips. No turtle for sale at Buzz's.

Yours truly,

*Eugene K. Burke*

EUGENE K. BURKE, Chief  
Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officer

EKB:lm

cc: E. Schmidling



IUCN / WWF Joint Project Operations

P.O. Box 189  
1110 MORGES, Switzerland  
Tel: (021) 71 44 01  
Cable: Unicorn Morges

Mr. George H. Balazs  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
USA

17th January, 1975

Dear George,

Dr. Budowski has asked me to acknowledge with thanks your reply to his letter of 4 December 1974 regarding financial reimbursement for your participation in the Turtle Task Force Meetings, and to inform you that, having learnt your view, he has caused the matter to be taken up with the World Wildlife Fund.

I am glad to be able to let you know that World Wildlife Fund has agreed to meet the expenditure involved and that the due payment will be made by personal check to you from the World Wildlife Fund office.

I am happy that this vexatious subject is on the way to being resolved, and hope that we may soon be able to move forward in the implementation of the conservation action we devised together.

Yours sincerely,

*Tony*  
A. J. Mence  
Project Officer

AJM/MF/2  
RA/5 TF  
cc: HJungius - WWF



Office of the Chief Game Warden,  
P.O.Box 311, Sandakan. . .

1 . . . . .  
31st December, 1974.

GW.7/95/Vol.II/96.

Mr. T. Mence,  
Executive Officer,  
Survival Service Commission,  
1110 Morges,  
Switzerland.

Dear Tony,

Task Force on the Commercial  
Exploitation of Marine Turtles

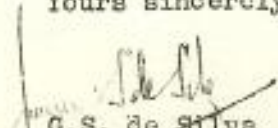
Many thanks for your letter of 17th December 1974 and a copy of the draft report, which in my opinion is a fair and reasonable exposition of the facts. However, the following comments/suggestions are made:-

1. Para. 10(a). Last word reads "untrue". Delete "untrue" and insert incorrect.
2. Para 10(b). Delete the word "farming" and insert ranching.
3. Para 11. Delete "noted" and insert appreciates.
4. Para 11(b). Delete the words "and the site operations are undoubtedly efficient". No scientific data were made available regarding disease, mortality, etc. Although pollution exists, little or no mention was made of it.
5. Para 11(d). Apart from Dr. Amoroso's work, the panel did not specifically commend any other research project undertaken by Mariculture. Woods indicated that company funds were hardly available for research or experiment.
6. Para 13(b). Suggest alteration of entire paragraph to read. The panel appreciated Mariculture's efforts to develop turtle farming techniques and for expressing its intention to ensure that such development conforms to conservation principles.

After reviewing all comments and suggestions received, you will, I am sure, be in a better position to consider any major changes or alterations.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

  
G.S. de Silva  
Asst. Chief Game Warden.

GDS/1s1



- c.c. Dr. George R. Hughes, The Natal Parks Board, P.O. Box 662,  
Pietermaritzburg, 3200, South Africa.
- c.c. Dr. Nicholas Mrosevsky, Department of Zoology, University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Canada.
- c.c. Professor David Ehrenfeld, Department of Horticulture and Forestry,  
Cook College, Rutgers University, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick,  
New Jersey 08903, U.S.A.
- C.C. Dr. George H. Balazs, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,  
✓ P.O. Box 1346, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744, U.S.A.
- c.c. Dr. Peter C. Pritchard, Florida Audubon Society, P.O. Drawer 7,  
Maitland, Florida 32751, U.S.A.
- c.c. Dr. Harold Hirth, Department of Biology, University of Utah,  
Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.
- c.c. Dr. L.D. Brongersma, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Raamsteeg 2,  
Leiden, Netherlands.
- c.c. Dr. F. Wayne King, New York Zoological Society, Bronx, New York 10460,  
U. S.A.
- c.c. Professor A. Carr, Department of Zoology, University of Florida,  
Gainesville, Florida 32601, U.S.A.
- c.c. Professor T. Harrison, c/o Vice-Chancellor, University of Sussex,  
Falmer BN1 900, Sussex, U.K.
- c.c. Dr. G. Carleton Ray, Department of Pathobiology, The Johns Hopkins  
University, 615 North Wolfe Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, U.S.A.
- c.c. Mr. A.J. Mence, International Union for Conservation of Nature and  
Natural Resources, 28 Les Uttins, 1110 Morges, Switzerland.



Office of the Chief Game Warden,  
P.O. Box 311, Sandakan,  
Sabah, Malaysia.

GW.7/95/Vol.II/106.

8th January, 1975.

Dr. Wayne King,  
New York Zoological Society,  
The Zoological Park,  
Bronx Park,  
Bronx, N.Y. 10460,  
U. S. A.

Dear Wayne,

Many thanks for your letter of 20th December, 1974 and the enclosures regarding the exploitation of sea turtles in the Philippines. I am very glad to learn that you have been successful in halting the slaughter programme.

Due to engine failure, I reached Manila 2 days behind schedule and nothing very much could be done during the week end. The person I wanted to contact was unavailable. However, I spent some time at the Philippine Village near the aerodrome and found several shops at the Trade and Industrial Exhibition selling turtle carapaces and stuffed turtles. Several shops in the city were also selling these items and carried fairly large stocks. The sales assistants, managers or owners were not closely questioned for obvious reasons. In this regard, it is suggested that Gregory Brower of the U.S. Peace Corps undertakes a survey with the assistance of the Philippine Wild Life Division to ascertain the status of sea turtles in the Philippines. When a report is received, we will be in a better position to evaluate the situation and make concrete suggestions. Information now available is insufficient or scanty.

I also had a day in Singapore and took the opportunity to explore the "turtle market" near Colliers Quay and Change Alley. Three shops located in Colliers Quay had large stocks of turtle carapaces and stuffed turtles for sale (Green and Hawksbill). Their stocks were obtained from taxidermists in the Philippines. One shop obtained a portion of their stocks from Trengganu - so I was informed. Shops situated in Change Alley overhead pass obtained their stocks solely from the Philippines. This is the only area I investigated. What happens in other areas in Singapore is unknown.

After seeing the stocks carried in these places and speaking to employees, it can be suggested that there is a brisk business in imported turtle products. Undoubtedly, the raw material is obtained from the seas around Borneo and other areas in South East Asia.

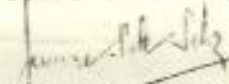
I am presently unaware of the conservation laws of Singapore and am also unaware whether it would be possible for interested persons to influence the Singapore authorities to take some action and prohibit the import of turtle shells etc. or, if this is impossible, to exercise control in some manner, preferably through legislation. Before doing this, I consider it essential to properly investigate the situation in Singapore, so that, it could be properly assessed; documented and reported to the Singaporean authorities with IUCN recommendations. As a large area has to be covered the investigation will be time consuming. It is therefore suggested that 2 persons from the turtle group undertake this project as a team. I am quite willing to investigate the position in Singapore, provided I am released by the Sabah State authorities. It is also strongly recommended that

arduous  
and



George Blaszs of the Marine Institute of Biology, Hawaii be nominated as the other member of the team. At the same time it is imperative that the situation in Trengannu be assessed and, especially after my conversation with individuals in Singapore there is little room for complacency. I am sure that Trengannu could be handled by the Fisheries Department who are presently involved with turtle research.

Yours sincerely,



G.S. de Silva  
Asst. Chief Game Warden.

GDS/1sl

- c.c. Dr. George R. Hughes, The Natal Parks Board, P.O. Box 662, Pietermaritzburg, 3200, South Africa.
- c.c. Dr. Nicholas Mrosovsky, Department of Zoology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.
- c.c. Professor David Ehrenfeld, Department of Horticulture and Forestry, Cook College, Rutgers University, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903, U.S.A.
- c.c.  Mr. George H. Blaszs, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, P.O. Box 1346, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744, U.S.A.
- c.c. Dr. Peter C. Pritchard, Florida Audubon Society, P.O. Drawer 7, Maitland, Florida 32751, U.S.A.
- C.C. Dr. Harold Hirth, Department of Biology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.
- C.C. Dr. L.D. Brongersma, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Raamsteeg 2, Leiden, Netherlands.
- c.c. Professor T. Harrisson, c/o Vice-Chancellor, University of Sussex Falmer BNI 900, Sussex, U.K.
- c.c. Professor A. Carr, Department of Zoology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32601, U.S.A.
- C.C. Dr. G. Carleton Ray, Department of Pathobiology, The Johns Hopkins University, 615, North Wolfe Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, U.S.A.
- c.c. Mr. A.J. Mence, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, 28 Les Uttins, 1110 Morges, Switzerland.



Dr. George H. Balazs

-copy for your information-

*George Hughes*

SPO for DIRECTOR

*George, thanks for your slides + copies  
of papers. It was great meeting you  
and I hope that the opportunity  
will come again soon.*

*Cheers  
George.*

10/2

14th January 1975

Mr. A.J. Mence,  
Executive Officer,  
Survival Service Commission,  
IUCN,  
1110 MORGES, Switzerland.

Dear Tony,

I have on hand a copy of the affidavits provided by Wayne King and of his suggested amendments to the draft. To comment on the draft first :-

1. I am totally opposed to inserting "once again" after "and has agreed" on page 4, 11(a). This draft concerns only the Task Force meeting and is totally divorced from any other meetings, affidavits, etc. etc. To insert those words infers that the Company had previously promised the Task Force and this is untrue and biases the statement considerably.

2. Page 4, item 11(b).

As I recall, the food conversion ratio was on average 1 : 5 and this is reasonable in most animal husbandry activities. As they are experimenting with pellet consistency in order to improve the conversion ratios I think that as far as current knowledge available is concerned the operation is efficient. I am unable to find the meaning of the word proficuous.

3. Page 5, item 11(c).

As we must view everything in the long term "scientific merit" is adequate.

4. Page 5, item 12(b).

If Dr. King is right, then IUCN must inquire directly to Mariculture for confirmation and act accordingly on receipt of the reply. Hearsay reports after the Task Force meeting have



no relevance to the recommendations made by the Task Force on Grand Cayman. If all these reports were taken into consideration there would have been little point in appointing a Task Force.

Further, Dr. King's amendment to the gene-flow statement is excellent and I should support the term "artificial".

5. Page 5, item 13(c).

Perhaps Dr. King is being a trifle premature here. Firstly, his statement that Mariculture has never complied with a conservation ethic is certainly debatable, particularly as it questions the integrity of several scientists, including Joop Schulz and John Hendrickson. Secondly, that it is logical to assume that in order to earn IUCN's endorsement Mariculture Ltd. will have to prove its value and this automatically presupposes conservation value and ethics. Dr. Carr's admirable proposition of the 3rd January is exactly right for this particular problem.

Finally, as far as the affidavits and accompanying literature are concerned, I find rather a confusing picture where Mariculture Ltd. in its concern at losing valuable markets has suggested theories as truth and the State has attacked these theories as unproven without a shred of evidence to suggest that proof to the contrary will be forthcoming. Quite frankly I find little to commend on either side; I neither approve nor admire Mariculture's efforts to improve their image (although I certainly understand it) nor do I admire the attack on Mariculture based on the fact that it is a commercial operation (see Parke's paper). The inadequacies of the affidavits from the Mariculture side are illustrated rather spectacularly by the use of the term 'tortoise' which no-one remotely connected with sea turtles would use. It is hardly surprising, therefore, to find theories presented as fact.

Dr. King's letter of 16 May 1974 requesting the State to veto A12367 contains a section equally as misleading as Mariculture's claims, perhaps even more so. It concerns the efforts of "a commercial sea turtle raising farm" hoping to manufacture and sell green turtle jewellery in New York. He explains that eggs are taken from the wild for rearing to slaughtering size and then without indicating the length of time the farm has been operating states: "The firm has not yet produced eggs or hatchlings from captive raised males and females". This statement is, of course, perfectly true but totally ignores the 1973 breeding success of captive turtles and avoids pointing out that the firm is 5 years old and it is well documented that green turtles take between four (which would surprise me) to eight years to reach reproductive maturity (see e.g. Hirth's 1971 Synopsis, 3 : 18).

There appears to be two extremes at loggerheads here and



if I had to comment on both sides I should have two major criticisms;

for Mariculture - 'they have gone too far too fast'  
for some Conservationists - 'too severe, too soon'.

It would distress me to see the principles and decisions of the IUCN Task Force used by either extreme to further their aims. There is some hope that much good can yet be salvaged from this situation without totally destroying Mariculture Ltd. In any case IUCN has shown excessive good faith in the light of a plethora of adverse evidence and the Task Force has put the onus on Mariculture Ltd. to live up to its promises. Mariculture Ltd. holds the key to its own future and if it goes let it be by its own hand. IUCN is, to my mind, a positive force and the Task Force decisions on Cayman were made in that spirit.

I sincerely hope that this does not unduly complicate the entire issue for you but having studied all this documentation I felt that it was necessary to make my personal feelings clear.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Senior Professional Officer  
for DIRECTOR

GRH/ta



# NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Telephone: WELLINGTON 3-1500  
Cable Address: ZOOPARK NEW YORK

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK  
Bronx Park  
Bronx, N. Y. 10460

14 January 1975

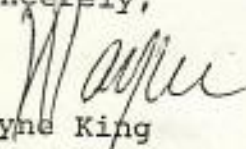
Peter Scott  
The New Grounds  
Slimbridge  
Gloucester GL2 7BT  
ENGLAND

Dear Peter:

As I pointed out in my memorandum of late December concerning the Marine Turtle Task Force draft documents, there is a need for a timely response to the California Fish and Game Department. In view of this I am here requesting that the Alert Group draft a letter to the California commission stating that the IUCN convened the Turtle Task Force to consider the status of the wild populations of Chelonia and the impact of commerce on these reptiles. The letter should further state that the findings of the task force will be reviewed at the next meeting of the SSC and results of that review will be forwarded to California at that time. In light of this we urge the California Game and Fish Commission not to issue any permits under Section 1, Article 4, Paragraph 2450 of Chapter IV, Division III of the Fish and Game Code. The short moratorium on issuance of permits reflects the responsibility charged to the IUCN in Paragraph 2454(a).

Since he was one of the co-chairmen of the Turtle Task Force and is a member of the Alert Group I would suggest that Tom Harrisson might draft the letter in consultation with Tony Mence (address: California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California 95714, Attention: E. Charles Fullerton).

Sincerely,

  
Wayne King

/db  
cc: R. Fitter  
T. Harrisson  
A. Mence  
J. Perry  
Turtle Task Force



January 6, 1975

Mr. George Balazs  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George,


Thank you for numerous xeroxes etc. I did not have much to say about the draft, not having been on the Mariculture visit, but enclosed is a copy of such points as I had. I have heard nothing definite from Budowski, and can't remember to whom I have sent copies of my letters, it is getting so voluminous. In any case I told him I would feel obliged to write to the press of such if it was not satisfactorily cleared up.

Thinking about more constructive things, it is certainly a pity IUCN moves so slowly. Maybe one or two of us should start thinking ahead about implementation of some of the principles, which should be very useful once they become official. In particular, maybe you and I might try to work up some pamphlet or educational material, that we could then submit to IUCN (see second last paragraph of the principles). You already have prepared some pamphlets, but new ones might contain some extracts from the IUCN principles.

Another point: It is possible that I will be passing through Hawaii in early July this year. I have an invitation to work on the alpha-helix research vessel in Sabah, mid-July to near end of August, and if I can raise the fare, would like to participate. This is probably just when you will be in the field yourself.

Thank you for the slides. I will project them first, and then see about prints.

Best wishes,

  
Nicholas Mrosovsky.

NM/mmck





January 2, 1975

Mr. T. Mence  
 Executive Officer  
 Survival Service Commission  
 IUCN  
 1110 Morges  
 Switzerland

Dear Mr. Mence,

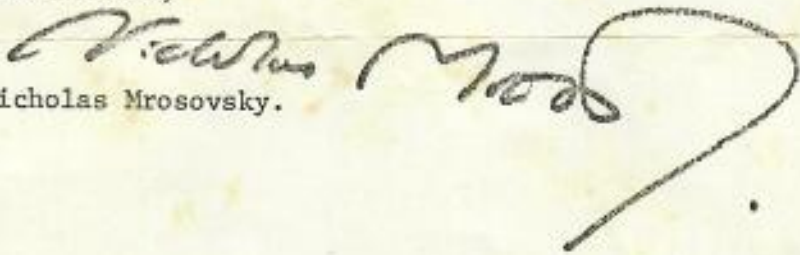
In reply to your memo of 17th December on marine turtle conservation, I think that the Principles and Recommendations should be left just as they are, as they were jointly agreed upon after much work. I would prefer to receive a revised draft of these if anything that alters the emphasis or implications is introduced. If there are only minor style changes, there is no need to send it again. (Annex 2)

On the draft recommendations for mariculture, as time is short I would be happy if you just considered, and incorporated if you think fit or if it agrees with other suggestions, the following very minor suggestion, without sending me a revised draft:

- p. 5 c) suggest insert 'potential' before scientific merit, and delete 'outstanding'. This section seems a little overdone as it stands.

I think putting "doomed" in inverted commas is excellent as it indicates this question is complex, and has not been satisfactorily resolved, without having to go into all the pros and cons here.

Best wishes,

  
 Nicholas Mrosovsky.

NM/mmck

also p. 4. 11a) clearing by scientific advisors is a bit weak since they are paid by Mariculture. Suggest it says simply "ensure ... that publications are ... scientifically accurate"



## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

1416 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

January 9, 1975

Mr. F. Wayne King, Director  
New York Zoological Society  
The Zoological Park  
Bronx Park  
Bronx, New York 10460

Dear Mr. King:

Thank you for your letter of December 31, 1974 informing us of the November meeting of turtle biologists convened by International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

On December 11 we wrote to Director-General Budowski and supplied him with copies of our recent turtle bill. We wanted to give some solid proposals to IUCN in order to obtain their reaction, evaluation, and suggestions at the earliest possible date. This input is necessary because of the report the legislation requires from the California Department of Fish and Game (Code Section 2462). For your information, we are enclosing a copy of the proposed Fish and Game Commission regulations.

Action taken by IUCN was timely and we look forward to receiving their comments. Now that green sea turtles are being cultivated in Grand Cayman Island, Surinam and Mexico, it is possible that the world's wild turtle populations will have a chance to be perpetuated and enhanced while, at the same time, providing a highly desirable product for the world market.

Thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

*E. E. Fullerton*

Deputy Director

cc Dr. Gerardo Budowski

TITLE 14 REGULATIONS FOR GREEN SEA TURTLE

137. Importation and Sale of Green Sea Turtle Products. Products derived from domestically reared green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) may be imported into this State for sale only under a revocable, non-transferable permit issued by the department subject to the provisions of Sections 2450-2463 of the Fish and Game Code and the following regulations:

- A. Permits issued shall be either Class I or Class II permits.
  - (1) Class I permits may be issued only to foreign or state agencies or persons authorized by their governments to raise green sea turtles and to export products derived from such turtles.
  - (2) Class II permits may be issued only to persons who import green sea turtle products from a Class I permittee.
- B. An application for a Class I or Class II permit shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable filing fee of fifty dollars (\$50).
- C. Permit applications shall be submitted to the Department of Fish and Game, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California, U.S.A. 95814.
  - (1) Class I permit application shall include:
    - (a) Applicant's name and address;
    - (b) Location where turtles will be domestically reared;
    - (c) Type of products to be exported;



- (d) Written proof of permission for the exportation of green sea turtle products from the state or country in which the turtles were domestically reared shall be submitted with the application for a Class I permit.
- (e) If all or part of an applicant's turtle products are derived from eggs obtained from the wild, certification from the state or country of origin shall be provided showing the following information:
- (1) Name of state or country;
  - (2) Agency and official authorizing collection of turtle eggs;
  - (3) Area where eggs are collected;
  - (4) Number of eggs purchased or collected annually for the previous three years;
  - (5) Percentage of total eggs collected compared to number of eggs laid by sea turtles in the collection area;
  - (6) Number of young turtles hatched and released in the area where the eggs were collected; and
  - (7) A report of the applicant's green sea turtle conservation efforts for the previous year, and the planned marine turtle conservation program to be conducted by the applicant. If granted a permit, the applicant shall submit such a report annually.



- (2) Class II permit applications shall include:
    - (a) Applicant's name and address;
    - (b) Type of business; and
    - (c) Department of Fish and Game Class I permit number and name of the permittee from whom turtle products will be obtained.
- D. Products derived from domestically reared green sea turtles may be imported into California only under the following conditions:
- (1) All products are to be shipped with a certificate of origin.
  - (2) Any package in which green sea turtle products are transported by a common carrier or his agent shall bear clearly and conspicuously on the outside the name and address of the shipper and of the consignee, an accurate description of the contents, the permit number of the Class I permittee producing the products, and a statement that the turtle products were derived from domestically reared green sea turtles.
- E. Legally imported products derived from domestically reared green sea turtles may be distributed by a Class II permittee, in sealed packages or containers, for delivery to a processor, retail store, market, restaurant, or other retail or wholesale outlet. Further distribution or sale of green sea turtle products shall not be made unless each package, container, or lot is accompanied by a sales invoice or waybill showing the date of

shipment, the number of pounds, or an accurate description of domestically reared turtle products in each package, container or lot, the state or country of origin of the products, the name of the producer and the number of his permit, and with the stipulation that consumers shall retain the container until all products it contained are used. A copy of the sales invoice or waybill shall be retained by the consignee until all the turtle products received have been sold or used, and shall be presented for inspection to any deputy of the department upon request of such deputy. Class II permittees shall maintain and keep receipts, waybills, or bills of lading dealing with the importation or sale of turtle products for a period of one year from date of receipt or issue.

- F. All persons holding Class I and Class II permits must submit annual reports on all turtle products shipped or received during the license year. Permittees shall submit such reports within fifteen (15) days after the expiration date of the license year, to the Department of Fish and Game, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California, U.S.A. 95814.
- G. Upon receipt of an application for a Class I permit the department will, prior to permit issuance, inspect the applicant's green sea turtle rearing facilities.
- H. If it is determined by the department that a Class I permittee has not complied with the terms of the permit, these regulations or provisions of the Fish and Game Code or State Penal Code dealing with green sea turtles then the department shall revoke



the permit. The permittee may appeal such revocation to the Commission and shall have the opportunity to appear and submit testimony in his own behalf. The Commission may reinstate the permit or let the revocation stand.

31 December 1974

California Department of  
Fish and Game  
Sacramento  
California 95814

Attention: E. Charles Fullerton

Dear Sir:

Under Section 1, Article 4, of the California Fish and Game Code, as amended during the 1974 legislative session, it is possible for persons who raise sea turtles or persons who import captive-raised sea turtles to obtain a Class I or Class II permit (as appropriate) exempting them from the State prohibition on the sale of sea turtles and their products.

Section 2454(b) of the Code states that such a permit shall not be issued if the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources finds that the issuance would adversely affect the wild populations of green sea turtles.

In addition, Section 2453 of the Code states that any permit that has been issued shall be valid for a period of one year after (until the anniversary of) the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources finding of adverse effects.

Recognizing the intent of this legislation the IUCN convened a meeting of sea turtle biologists on 22-26 November 1974 in Miami, Florida, and Grand Cayman Island, West Indies, to review the conservation status of the green sea turtles. Special emphasis was placed on the impact the sale of captive-raised green turtle might have on



wild populations. Although I was a participant in that meeting I cannot here reveal the findings of the IUCN group. The final statement and findings must be forwarded directly from IUCN headquarters (1110 Morges, Switzerland).

In fairness to the green sea turtles, to any captive-rearing operations, to the citizens of the State of California, and in order to comply with the purpose of the law, I strongly urge that your Department issue no Class I or Class II permits until after you have contacted IUCN.

Sincerely,



F. Wayne King  
Director, Conservation and  
Environmental Education

/db

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY 84112

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

H. F. Hirth  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY  
301 Biology Building  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84112

January 13, 1975

Mr. T. Mence  
Executive Officer  
I.U.C.N.  
1110 Morges  
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Mence,

In general, I think that the draft report of the Turtle Task Force Meeting is a fair summary of all the dialogue. My only comment concerning the "Principles" pertains to the last paragraph on page 1. At this point in time I find it hard to endorse turtle farming as a conservation agency even in "traditional markets" unless the agency can prove it is not harming wild populations. The burden of proof in this case should fall on the company. Therefore, maybe a "burden-of-proof" statement should appear in the last paragraph on page 1.

Specifically: Page 4 (11b): ...the site operations has potential as a prototype of turtle culture.

Page 5 (12b): I, for one, am concerned with the possible spread of Mariculture type operations (viz. Astove, Brazil) when the ranch on Grand Cayman is still only in a primitive stage of development. Therefore, I would be deeply concerned if Mariculture exported its technology at this time.

Page 5 (13b): ...that Mariculture be commended for the start it has made in turtle farming technology ...

Page 5 (13c): I don't think I.U.C.N. should "endorse" any kind of commercial enterprise. I.U.C.N. might better provide "moral support" where appropriate.

Sincerely,

*Harold F. Hirth*  
Harold F. Hirth  
Professor

HFH/daw

cc: Turtle Task Force ✓



LIBERTY HOUSE

DONALD C. ONASCH  
President

January 3, 1975

Mr. George H. Balazs  
P. O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

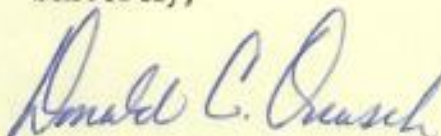
Thank you for your recent letter and the kind words concerning Liberty House.

The purses you mentioned which are made from sea turtles, have been removed from sale.

Our records show that these purses were made from a species of turtle not on the Federal endangered species act of 1973, were properly cleared through the U.S. Customs and legally the purchase meets all U. S. Government requirements.

I assure you that it is the policy of Liberty House to conform not only to the "letter of the law" but the spirit as well, and our buyers have been instructed to avoid such purchases in the future. Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,



Donald C. Onasch

DCO:bjk

ANSON CHONG  
Assistant Majority Leader  
Ph. 548-4183

# The Senate

State of Hawaii  
*State Capitol*  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



January 10, 1975

George H. Balazs  
Jr. Marine BiologistHIMB  
P. O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hi. 96744

Dear George,

Thank you for your letter of January 6th. It arrived yesterday.

I feel that setting up an educational and information oriented exhibit at the Honolulu Airport relating to endangered wild-life species is an excellent idea and will be working with Senator Jean King (Chairperson of the Senate Ecology, Environment & Recreation Committee) to carry out your excellent recommendations.

If you have the time, I would appreciate it if you can help us manage this initiative (i.e. follow-up and track the progress of the initiative).

Specifically, as a starter, I would appreciate it if you draft a letter for my signature and Jean's, to the Director of the Department of Transportation, Airports Division (not Alvy Wright ... it would get lost in the shuffle if we sent it to him).

Let's move on this. It's a damn good idea.

Anson Chong

P.S. Regards to Linda.



School of Hygiene  
and Public Health  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

615 North Wolfe Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21205 • Cable: PubHyg • Phone: 301-955-3320



Department of Pathobiology

8 January 1975

Mr. George H. Balazs  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
P.O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thank you for your detailed letter with regard to contamination in Mariculture's turtle tanks. Frankly, I think that sterilization in chlorine is a hell of a way to treat this situation. Their tanks are obviously over-crowded and filthy. The water circulation is not in accordance with the best modern practice of aquaria and oceanaria. I think they could save themselves a lot of trouble if they tended to some of these problems rather than depend on sterilization to get rid of Salmonella and other bacteria. There is no question in my mind that the condition in their tanks taints their product. I had an opportunity to eat some of their turtle meat and found it to be poor in quality.

I am an outsider to your group but continue to take great interest in it and very much appreciate the trouble you took to write.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

G. Carleton Ray  
Associate Professor

cc: A. Mence  
A. Carr  
W. King

GCR/mm

# NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Telephone: WELLINGTON 3-1500

Cable Address: ZOOPARK NEW YORK

Bronx Park

Bronx, N.Y. 10460

6 January 1975

Nilarat Patanaseri, President  
The Environmental Conservation Club  
Student Union of Chulalongkorn University  
Bangkok, THAILAND

Dear Mr. Patanaseri:

As Colin Phipps mentioned in his letter to you of 16 December 1974, I will be happy to supply you with information on the U.S. federal laws for the protection of sea turtles -- copies are enclosed here. In addition, a number of the states in this country have their own laws for the protection of sea turtles, and I am enclosing copies of some publications concerning state regulations.

You might be interested to know what sea turtle conservation efforts are underway in other parts of Southeast Asia. I am by this letter requesting that Professor Thomas Harrisson (45 Avenue Lancaster, 1180 Brussels, Belgium) and Mr. George S. daSilva (Assistant Game Warden, P. O. Box No. 311, Sandakan, Sabah) supply you with this information. A report on the conservation status of sea turtles along the coast of Thailand and Malaysia has just been completed under the auspices of the IUCN/Survival Service Commission Marine Turtle Group. Professor Harrisson has a copy of that report. And Mr. daSilva is in charge of the turtle conservation efforts in Sabah. He has also just visited the Philippines where he met with officials to discuss sea turtle conservation.

I would be happy to supply you with further information if I knew more specifically your needs.

Sincerely,



F. Wayne King  
Director, Conservation and  
Environmental Education

/db

cc: G. Balazs ✓  
A. Carr  
G. daSilva  
D. Ehrenfeld  
T. Harrisson



the Chief Game Warden,

P.O. Box No. 311, Sandakan,

Sabah, E. Malaysia.

GW.7/95/Vol.II/90.

27th December, 74.

Mr. Mitchell Wolfson,  
WOMETCO Enterprises,  
306 N. Miami Avenue,  
Miami, Florida,  
United States of America.

Dear Mr. Wolfson,

While at the turtle conference held in Coral Gables during the period 22nd - 26th November, 1974 I had the opportunity of visiting the Seaquarium with the other members of the turtle group and, must confess that I was quite impressed with the quality of the exhibits and the care and enthusiasm shown by your staff especially Miss Pat Foster who was our hostess and tour guide. Admittedly she has obtained remarkable results with her turtle rearing programme and she is undoubtedly a credit and an asset to your organisation.

Please accept my thanks for the hospitality and facilities extended to me and I will also be grateful if you will convey my thanks and the seasons greeting to your staff for their patience, courtesy and assistance.

Yours sincerely,

  
G. S. de Silva  
Asst. Chief Game Warden.

GDS/lsl

c.c. Dr. George H. Balass,  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,  
P.O. Box 1346, Coconut Island,  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744,  
Hawaii.

COOK COLLEGE

*Department of Horticulture and Forestry  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903*

January 3, 1975

Mr. T. Mence  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission  
IUCN  
Morges, Switzerland

Dear Tony:

The following are my recommendations for changes in the draft report on the meetings held by the marine turtles Task Force:

- 1) page 4, item 10e. The wording of this could be construed to imply that there already is a turtle farming operation in existence. I suggest that the phrase "viability of its turtle farming..." be changed to read, "viability of any future turtle farming..." (see also Mr. Balazs' comments on this point)
- 2) page 4, item 11a. I endorse the change suggested by Dr. King.
- 3) page 4, item 11b. I agree with Dr. King, but would go farther. "Efficiency" in this context can only mean either of two things: ecological efficiency, which, as we state in item 12d, is untrue, or business efficiency, which is also not the case, since the operation has yet to return a profit to its investors. Not only is the statement untrue, it is irrelevant -- the "enterprise", "ingenuity" and "efficiency" of the operation are of no possible concern to IUCN, nor did we properly evaluate these qualities. Since the entire item (11b) is both incorrect and gratuitous, I suggest that it be deleted in toto. It should not be necessary for me to point out to the SSC the damage that could be done if Mariculture, Ltd. were to quote this item out of context in its revenue-raising brochures, advertising, or legal briefs.
- 4) page 5, item 12b. I endorse the change suggested by Dr. King.
- 5) page 5, item 12c. The word "might" implies that this is a potential problem. There is ample evidence, however, that the problem is actual. I suggest substituting the word "can" for "might."
- 6) page 5, item 13b. I endorse Mr. Balazs' comments with respect to the word "commend." I also strongly object to the use of the word "farming" in this item. Mariculture has not developed any proven turtle farming techniques, although it has done a good deal with turtle ranching. I suggest that the word "farming" be changed to "ranching."
- 7) page 5, item 13c. I agree with Dr. King's comments.



Other than these few changes, I have no suggestions to make; unless the comments of other members of the Task Force are highly critical, I doubt that you will have to do any major revision. This is just as well, since as Dr. King has pointed out, speed is now of critical importance.

Sincerely yours,

*David W. Ehrenfeld*  
David W. Ehrenfeld  
Professor of Biology

cc: SSC Task Force



STATE OF HAWAII  
CONSUMER PROTECTION

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
802 KAMAMALU BUILDING — 250 SOUTH KING STREET  
P. O. BOX 3767  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96811  
548-2500 ADMINISTRATION  
548-2540 INFORMATION & COMPLAINTS

WALTER T. YAMASHIRO  
DIRECTOR

MITSUO TAKAYAMA  
CHIEF INVESTIGATOR

JANE S. PORTER  
EDUCATION SPECIALIST

January 3, 1975

Mr. George H. Balazs  
P. O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

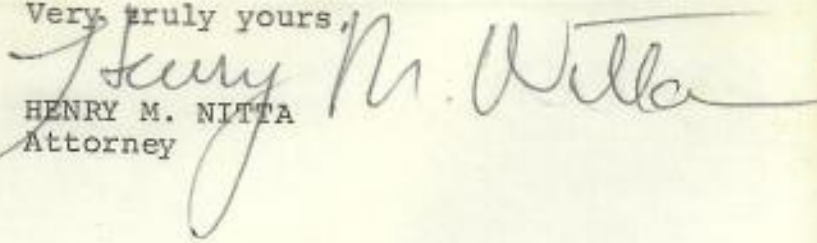
Re: Green Garden Restaurant - Kauai

This is in response to your letter dated December 26, 1974, relative to the above-captioned establishment.

In view of the fact that the Green Garden Restaurant is located on the island of Kauai, we are forwarding your complaint to our investigator stationed there. After he makes an investigation into the allegations made, I am sure that you will be hearing from him.

On behalf of the Director, Walter T. Yamashiro, and myself, I would at this time like to take the opportunity to offer our sincere thanks for your splendid cooperation in the matter of Philippine Handicrafts, Inc. Without your help we would not have been able to resolve the matter in an expeditious and effective manner.

Very truly yours,

  
HENRY M. NITTA  
Attorney



Office of  
Consumer  
Protection

...established to protect you and your family.



# NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Telephone: WELLington 3-1500  
Cable Address: ZOOPARK NEW YORK

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK  
Bronx Park  
Bronx, N.Y. 10460

31 December 1974

California Department of  
Fish and Game  
Sacramento  
California 95814

Attention: E. Charles Fullerton

Dear Sir:

Under Section 1, Article 4, of the California Fish and Game Code, as amended during the 1974 legislative session, it is possible for persons who raise sea turtles or persons who import captive-raised sea turtles to obtain a Class I or Class II permit (as appropriate) exempting them from the State prohibition on the sale of sea turtles and their products.

Section 2454(b) of the Code states that such a permit shall not be issued if the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources finds that the issuance would adversely affect the wild populations of green sea turtles.

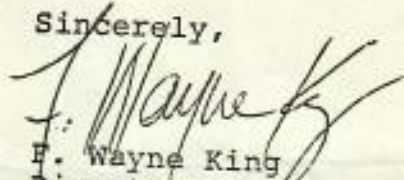
In addition, Section 2453 of the Code states that any permit that has been issued shall be valid for a period of one year after (until the anniversary of) an International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources finding of adverse effects.

Recognizing the intent of this legislation the IUCN convened a meeting of sea turtle biologists on 22-26 November 1974 in Miami, Florida, and Grand Cayman Island, West Indies, to review the conservation status of the green sea turtles. Special emphasis was placed on the impact the sale of captive-raised green turtle might have on

wild populations. Although I was a participant in that meeting I cannot here reveal the findings of the IUCN group. The final statement and findings must be forwarded directly from IUCN headquarters (1110 Morges, Switzerland).

In fairness to the green sea turtles, to any captive-rearing operations, to the citizens of the State of California, and in order to comply with the purpose of the law, I strongly urge that your Department issue no Class I or Class II permits until after you have contacted IUCN.

Sincerely,



F. Wayne King  
Director, Conservation and  
Environmental Education

/db



MARINE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
(BUREAU OF MARINE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY)

State of Florida

Department of Natural Resources



100 EIGHTH AVENUE, JENSEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33457  
P. O. Box 941 Tel. 334-1667  
JENSEN BEACH, FLORIDA 33457

LOCATION:  
BAYBORO HARBOR,  
MARITIME BASE

AIR MAIL

December 26, 1974

File: 12-1

Mr. George H. Balaz  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
University of Hawaii  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P. O. Box 1345  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

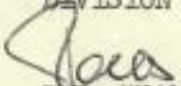
It was good to meet you at the IUCN Miami session, and I look forward to continuing our contacts on subjects of mutual interest.

Mr. Warren Zeiller forwarded me a copy of your letter to Mr. Mitchell Wolfson, Wometco Enterprises, and I am indeed pleased to learn of your opinion of our cooperative sea turtle work. While not detracting from Ms. Foster's care of the turtles there, it should be pointed out that the program had been in effect for some time prior to her arrival. She was still a student at Michigan State University when the first success in rearing leatherback turtles was achieved. During a discussion with Mr. Burton Clark, Wometco Enterprises I suggested the jellyfish diet and the use of padding in the aquarium. Burton was enthusiastic and said that he would be able to provide unlimited quantities of jellyfish. The diet was first tried in 1972-1973 and one leatherback reached a weight of 1.624 kg in six months.

I have discussed this matter with Warren Zeiller and he has assured me that he will write you explaining the cooperative nature of the sea turtle work there.

Sincerely,

DIVISION OF MARINE RESOURCES

  
Ross Witham  
Marine Biologist

cc: Dr. Mrosovsky  
Dr. de Silva  
Mr. Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.  
Mr. Dale S. Beaumariage  
Mr. Joe A. Quick, Jr.





FLORIDA

# Conservation News

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

VOL. 8, No. 10

July 1973

## BABY TURTLE STARTS OUT TO SEE THE WORLD (Travels 1300 Miles in a Little Over One Year)

The Department's Marine Laboratory has worked for several years, primarily out of its Stuart Field Laboratory, rearing for one year, then tagging and releasing green turtles. It is believed that this protection during the first year greatly increases survival. The returned tags then indicate not only that pen-reared turtles can survive in the wild, but also where they go, how fast they move and how fast they grow.

Just such a twenty-ounce yearling, tagged #A515, was released on April 13, 1972, near Delray Beach. It was caught on May 6, 1973, at Aves Island off the coast of Venezuela, approximately 1300 miles straight line distance. During this period it had almost doubled its length and had more than tripled its weight.

Ed Joyce, Chief of the Bureau of Marine Science and Technology, says it will take many more such returns before we can verify the true nature and importance of turtle migrations and movement. However, even this one is further indication of the real need and value of the recently passed legislation (sponsored by Senator Philip D. Lewis) requesting a conference of Caribbean Countries to discuss management and protection of marine turtles.

## BEACH EROSION CONFERENCE HELD

A Coastal Coordinating Council staff member discussed coastal zone management techniques at the Beach Erosion Conference held by Senator Lawton Chiles in Jacksonville on April 23.

Senator Chiles called the conference because he felt that it was time, in view of the projected rapid development of Florida's coastal areas, to take a hard look at coastal erosion in the state. Beach erosion has become a serious problem in some areas, and the conference was intended to present an evaluation of long-range approaches to coastal management and erosion control in the state.

The role of the state in erosion control and beach nourishment was presented by Randolph Hodges, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Natural Resources.



Release of Tagged Yearling Green Turtles continues at the Department's Stuart Field Laboratory. (Photo by Wometco Miami Seaquarium).

## MARINE PATROL ASSISTS MANY PEOPLE IN LAST 30 DAYS

During the past thirty days, officers of the Florida Marine Patrol have been called upon to tow more than one hundred boats to safety when their engines broke down or they had other boating problems away from shore.

Other public services ranged from saving a boy from drowning in a backyard swimming pool, and a SCUBA diver who was swept out to sea without his air valve turned on, to locating an automobile involved in a hit-and-run accident. In Miami, two Marine Patrol Officers broke up a fist fight in the middle of one of the busy streets and helped several ladies change tires or get gas when they were stranded.

Much of the Marine Patrol Officer's time is spent in helping citizens in distress, both on the water and on land. If you need help, remember, the "men in gray" are always ready to be of assistance.

## HURRICANE GUIDE AVAILABLE

The possibility in the next few months that a devastating hurricane will smash into some portion of the 18-county area of Florida protected by the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District is statistically very high, FCD officials warned last month.

Flooding is the greatest threat to life and property generated by a hurricane, but winds sometimes reaching over 100 miles per hour can also kill and destroy. Protection from them can be assured only if each individual has taken the proper precautions before they arrive.

These simple safety procedures and rules are clearly outlined in "Freddy's 1973 Hurricane Guide," published as a public service, and available at no charge from the Public Information Department, Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District, P.O. Box V, West Palm Beach, Florida 33402.



Mr. Ross Witham  
Marine Laboratory  
P.O. Box 941,  
Jensen Beach, Florida 33457  
U.S.A.

Leiden, January 10, 1973.

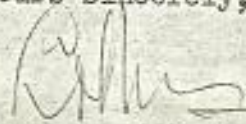
Dear Mr. Witham,

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of my paper on European Atlantic Turtles together with reprints of some other papers on turtles.

I am greatly interested in your raising hatchling Dermochelys. Would it be possible not only to weigh them, but to take the median length of the carapace (straight line). This would be feasible with Vernier calipers, I believe. A scale of the monthly growth would be of great value to obtain an estimate of the age of young specimens taken at sea.

I also remain interested in records of very young Caretta taken at sea.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Dr. L.D. Brongersma, D.Sc.



*This is the way it is!!*

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUPER-AGENCY NOT THE ANSWER

By Floyd T. Christian  
Commissioner of Education

There has been much discussion recently relative to the reorganization of our state environmental agencies into one "super-agency."

I cannot agree that this suggested reorganization would serve to benefit the citizens of Florida who are, after all, our primary concern.



Floyd Christian.

Aside from the fact that such reorganization would create an agency so large as to be unwieldy, I disagree with the basic premise that all environmental agencies should be consolidated into one department. I believe that each ecological agency has special interests protected for the public which may be lost in consolidation. Each such agency now has a separate voice, and consequently separate strength. Rather than fragmentation, I consider this to be a specialization which is really in the public interest; the recommendations made by each of the environmental agencies can be weighed and considered by the Governor and the Cabinet and a decision made based on those individual recommendations. A single department for all these factors would eliminate the opportunity for the Governor and Cabinet to have all the elements involved; they would be given only the recommendation of the department with a possible subsequent dilution of information relative to the issue.

Success can generally be measured by achievement, and I believe in the past couple of years the citizens of Florida have gained much in the protection of their interests by a reduction in dredge and fill operations, the acquisition of more state park lands, and more lands protected from the ravages of unplanned or careless development.

Although some individuals may claim there is too much delay in the granting of necessary state permits, this is a complaint only by those prompted by their own self-interests. I believe most conservation groups will heartily endorse the precautions taken to prevent the random granting of permits which directly affect the rights of all the people of Florida.

Although such proposals for reorganizations of our environmental agencies are purported to be for improvement of operation and efficiency in government, I cannot believe the formation of such a super-agency would accrue to the welfare and progress of our great state and the people we are all attempting to serve both wisely and well.



Five month old Leatherback turtle feeding on a Jellyfish.

## GIANT TURTLES GROWING RAPIDLY ON A JELLYFISH DIET

The leatherback turtle is the largest of the marine sea turtles, reaching weights approaching 2,000 pounds; yet work by the Bureau of Marine Science & Technology Field Laboratory at Stuart and the Miami Seaquarium is apparently showing that their main diet is the "lowly" jellyfish. Prior to the use of the jellyfish diet (suggested by Ross Witham at the Stuart Field Lab) only limited success had ever been achieved in keeping these animals alive in captivity, and even in these instances growth and survival were poor. Miss Pat Foster, employed by the Seaquarium, and also a biology student at the University of Michigan, takes care of the three turtles now under study and reports weight gains of up to one pound per week indicating their excellent condition.

"This information is highly pertinent to any attempts which may be made to increase the abundance of these relatively rare turtles," says Ed Joyce, Chief of the Bureau of Marine Science & Technology. "However, of perhaps equal importance is the realization that here is more evidence of the relationship of all living things to all other living things. All species have a function in the web of life; depending upon and in turn being depended upon by other species."

Nearly 70 per cent of our most valuable coastal fish are directly dependent on estuaries at some stage of life. The estuarine zones of our coast are an endangered ecosystem! (American Littoral Society).

## FLORIDA CONSERVATION NEWS

Volume 9 Number 4

January 1974

Published Monthly by the  
State of Florida Department  
of Natural Resources  
Larson Building  
200 East Gaines Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Reubin Askew, Governor  
Richard Stone, Secretary of State  
Robert Shevin, Attorney General  
Fred O. Dickinson, Comptroller  
Thomas D. O'Malley, Treasurer  
Doyle Conner, Commissioner of  
Agriculture  
Floyd Christian, Commissioner of  
Education

Randolph Hodges, Executive Director  
T. N. Anderson, Editor

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Dear Linda & George,

I have at last reached Sandakan & we are making plans for Christmas, which is according to us a Children's festival. Rohan is thrilled with his place which can be compared, at the children's party held at the Royal Jack Club, he dressed up as an a Red Indian & won the 1st prize. He is happy about that too.

I got off from Hawaii without any hassle & got to Manila where it rained & raised, then to Singapore where it was reasonably dry.

It was indeed a great pleasure to have met you & I enjoyed your company. Paikua thanks sends his thanks for the coffee etc & Rohan adds his for the books. With warm regards.

P.S. Can you please send me the name & address of the ~~business~~ <sup>literature</sup> institute at Hawaii. Sincerely Stanley.

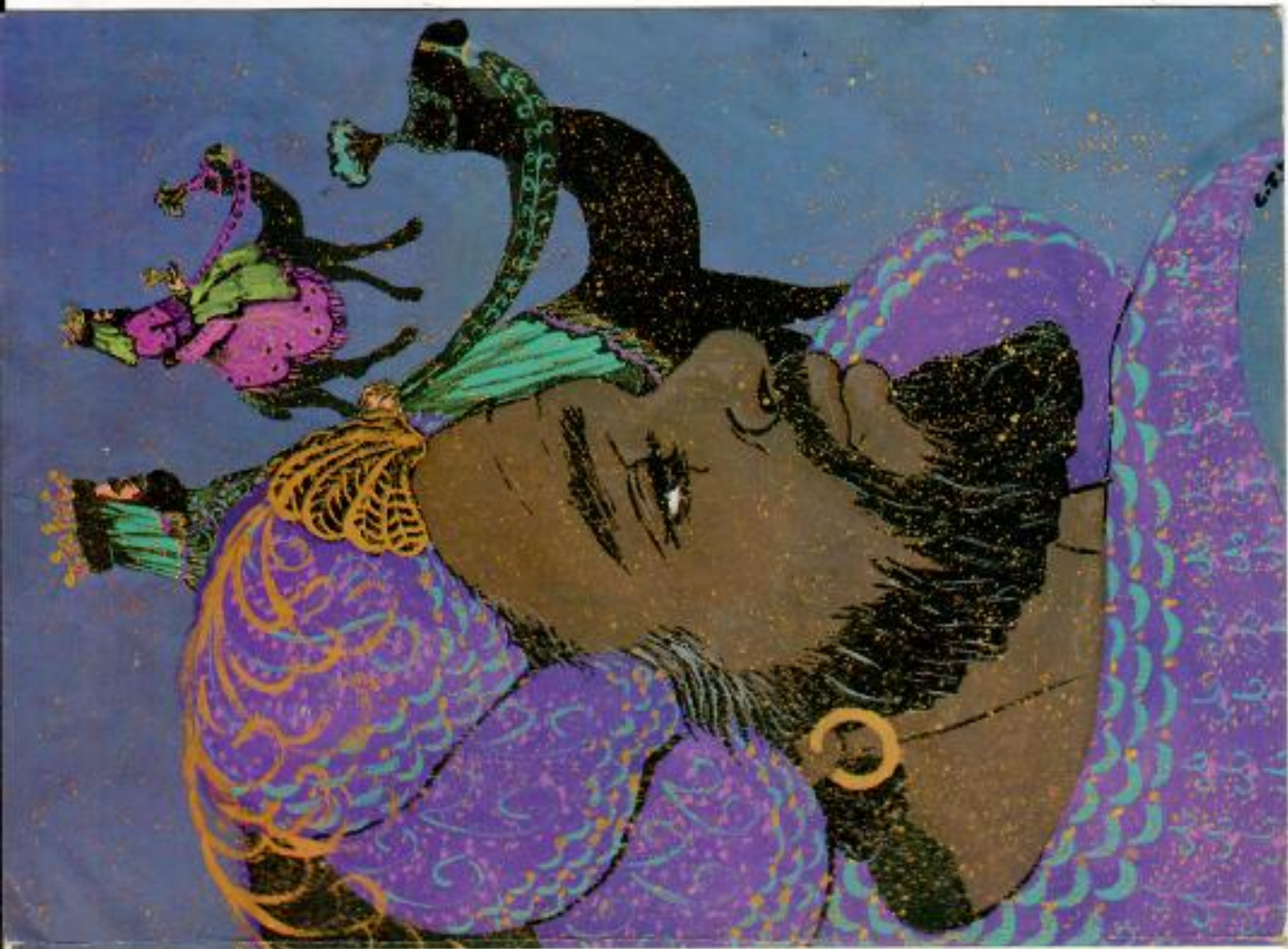
There is Destiny that makes us Brothers  
None goes His way alone

All that we send into the lives of Others  
Comes back into Our Own.

EDWIN MARKAM

Love

Stanley, Paikua & Rohan.



**SHADES OF BLACK**



© WASHINGTON, D.C.  
U.S.A.

35CH-A872



COOK COLLEGE  
*Department of Horticulture and Forestry  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903*

12/16/74

Dear George,

As you have no doubt figured out by now, all of us got the same letter from Budowski. My response to it, as you know, was to reject his offer to write to my "institution" (what a bizarre idea!) and push for funding from WWF. This morning, as I angrily threw away the fourth or fifth solicitation I have received for a gold and silver conservation coin set (all proceeds to go to WWF), I thought again what an incredibly disreputable and presumptuous business this meeting was (I mean with respect to the expense accounting). Do you know that after the Miami stint was over, Mence left Archie to pay the \$90 bill for our conference room? This, plus the other expenses that the Caribbean Conservation Corporation has had to pick up will mean one less outboard motor at Tortuguero this summer. So much for Budowski's pious desire to save all of WWF's money for "action programs.

I'm sorry that I didn't think, and answered Budowski's letter before circulating my thoughts among the rest of the group and receiving yours. Next time I'll wait.

What the hell happened at Cayman?

Regards,

*David*

cc: Harry, Nicholas

LEIGHTON R. TAYLOR, JR.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

MEMORANDUM

30 Dec '74

George -

We received this memo  
today - note date on memo.

The wheels grind slow.

Happy New year.

Leighton





# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

101 10 1974

1  
OCT?

Memorandum:

To: All Personnel, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
From: Associate  
Director  
Subject: Endangered Species--Sea Turtles--Notice of Review of  
Status

On April 23, 1974, the Service was petitioned to list the Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) as an endangered species, and the Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) and Pacific Ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) sea turtles as threatened species, pursuant to Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. In recognition of responsibilities under the Act, the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce have determined to proceed jointly on a status review of these species.

In the Federal Register of August 16, 1974, notice was given that the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce have evidence on hand to warrant a review of the status of the Green Sea Turtle, the Loggerhead Sea Turtle, and the Pacific Ridley Sea Turtle to determine whether these three species should be proposed for listing as either endangered or threatened species. The Departments are seeking the views of the Governors of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, California, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa; and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific. The Departments also are consulting with foreign countries.

All Service personnel are encouraged to submit any factual information which is germane to this review to the Office of Endangered Species and International activities, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Any questions regarding this matter also should be referred to this Office.



Keith M. Schreiner

Save Energy and You Serve America!



UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Commission du service de sauvegarde - Survival Service Commission

To: Invited Participants  
Chairman, SSC  
Alert Group, SSC  
GBudowski  
FGNicholls

From: TMence, Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission

Subject: Task Force on the Commercial Exploitation of  
Marine Turtles.

Enclosed is a draft of the Report to the Chairman of the Survival Service Commission by the Task Force on the Commercial Exploitation of Marine Turtles.

The participants at the Meetings of the Task Force are requested kindly to let me have any comments or suggestions they may have regarding the form of this Report and its actual content.

If only minor emendment appears necessary, I would hope to have the final version ready very soon after having received your comments. If on the other hand substantial alteration seems called for, it may be advisable for a second draft to be circulated for your approval. With this in mind, I would ask you to indicate in your reply whether you would be happy for me simply to incorporate your suggestions directly into the final draft or whether you would prefer to receive a second revised draft.

May I have your replies as soon as convenient?

AJM/MF/6  
Morges, 17th December, 1974

RA/5 TF

Enc.



*For Ciro. Balaga*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Washington, D.C. 20235

F35

DEC 13 1974

Honorable Hiram L. Fong  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Fong:

In view of your interest in the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and the likelihood that Congress will not enact relief legislation to allow interstate commerce in pre-Act inventories of scrimshaw or other products of endangered species, I would like to advise you of an action we are taking in accordance with our responsibilities under the Act.

A considerable amount of confusion still exists with respect to the application of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. 1531, to commercial activity involving whalebone, whaleteeth, scrimshaw, and other whale products acquired prior to December 28, 1973, the date the Act became effective.

Eight species of whales are presently listed as endangered including the sperm whale, traditionally the major source of scrimshaw and other whalebone products. In general, any interstate or foreign commerce in parts or products of these endangered whales is now prohibited in the course of a commercial activity. Such parts or products may not be imported into or exported from the United States, nor sold, shipped or offered for sale in interstate or foreign commerce.

These prohibitions apply to all parts or products including those on hand when the Act became effective. However, section 9(b) exempts parts or products held on December 28, 1973, provided they were not held in the course of a commercial activity nor contrary to the purposes of the Act. Commercial activity is defined broadly by section 3(1) as "all activities of industry or trade." Thus, the exemption is not available to merchandise held in inventory on December 28, 1973.

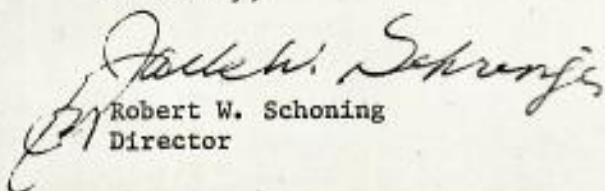
Inventories of sperm whale bone or teeth held by manufacturers or suppliers of bone or ivory products may not be sold in interstate



commerce as raw material or as finished products either by the original holder or by a subsequent purchaser. Equally prohibited is the interstate sale of inventories of finished products held by scrimshaw dealers and other retailers. Furthermore, none of these products may be advertised in interstate or foreign commerce.

It is our impression that there may be genuine ignorance on the part of many scrimshaw dealers as to the fact that pre-Act stocks may not be exported or sold in interstate commerce. Part of the confusion is attributable to the Marine Mammal Protection Act which does not apply to pre-Act materials. We intend to send a letter detailing our intention to enforce the provisions of the Endangered Species Act regarding whalebone and whale ivory to everyone we believe to be affected by these prohibitions. We also intend to publicize as widely as possible the fact that pre-Act materials of endangered species are covered by the Act. In this way we hope to avoid a misunderstanding as to the requirements of the Act or our enforcement responsibilities. Any assistance you could give us in disseminating this information to your constituents would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Robert W. Schoning  
Director



# The Cousteau Society, Inc.

16 December 1974

Mr. George H. Balazs  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

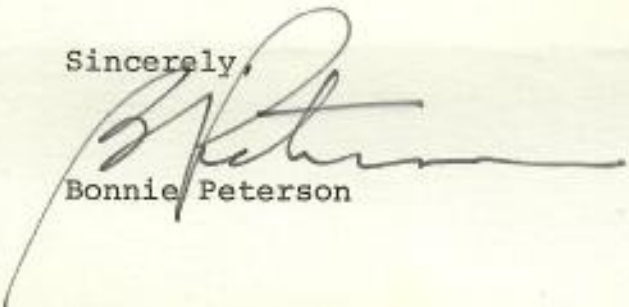
Dear Mr. Balazs:

It has been over two months since Jeanne Taylor left our organization, and I regret the delay in answering your letters to her. It has been some task keeping up with her correspondence as well as my own!

I can assure you that Captain Cousteau in no way intened to endorse Mariculture Ltd. in the article you sent us. He personally feels that farming the sea is a viable alternative to indiscriminate overfishing, as is now practiced, but only as a self-replenishing renewable resource -- not one that "steals" from the open sea.

I appreciate receiving the several articles you have sent, and hope you will continue sending those of special interest in the future.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Peterson

# WOMETCO MIAMI SEAQUARIUM.



December 24, 1974

George H. Balazs  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
University of Hawaii  
Coconut Island  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I am in receipt of your letter of December 18th to Colonel Wolfson and want to thank you for your kind words and constructive suggestions concerning our leatherback. I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy to Pat Foster as well.

Certainly, it was Seaquarium's pleasure to host your I.U.C.N. group and we look forward to you and your members' return visits. If there is any way we can be of additional service, please feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Warren Zeiller". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Warren Zeiller  
Manager/Curator  
Miami Seaquarium

WZ:mm





# WOMETCO MIAMI SEAQUARIUM.



December 31, 1974

George H. Balaz  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
University of Hawaii  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1345  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

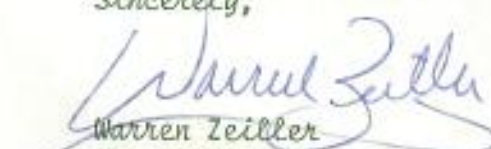
Dear Mr. Balaz:

Following my note of 24 December to you I received a copy of Ross Witham's letter. In my enthusiasm for Ross' project, I failed to note that it has indeed been through his efforts and those of our former manager, Burton Clark, that these works have been accomplished.

Each year Ross brings us approximately 400 green turtle hatchlings. We rear them for one year and then release them from Key Biscayne. The year's rearing includes data gathering by Seaquarium personnel and an accompanying project by one of our Dade County Laboratory Research Project high school students. Of course, the yearlings are tagged prior to release and returns to Ross and the Florida Dept. of Natural Resources have been most interesting. As Curator, I have worked with Ross over the years and now as Manager it is my special privilege to see that this cooperative and highly rewarding project continues indefinitely. Of course, this includes the very important leatherback research as well.

I trust the above offers some insight into our efforts with Ross and the Department. Again, if I can offer additional information please feel free to write at any time.

Sincerely,

  
Warren Zeiller  
Manager/Curator  
MIAMI SEAQUARIUM

WZ:tr

cc: Ross Witham



# WOMETCO MIAMI SEAQUARIUM.



12/10/74

Mr. George Balays  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Marine Biology Institute  
P.O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

Enclosed is a photo of the IUCN group  
at the Seaquarium. I thought you would appreciate a  
copy.

If you are still interested in writing in behalf of  
the leatherback turtle, try writing to:

Mitchell Wolfson  
Wometco Enterprises and  
306 N. Miami Ave  
Miami, Fla.

Warren Zeller  
c/o Miami Seaquarium  
Miami, Fla.

(It wouldn't hurt me if you mentioned my name and  
what a good tour of Seaquarium you received.)

Thanks,  
Pat Hooper





THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY 84112

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

December 12, 1974

Dr. Gerardo Budowski  
Director General  
I.U.C.N.  
1110 Morges  
Switzerland

Dear Dr. Budowski:

In reply to your letter of 4 December 1974 I would greatly appreciate it if you would ask World Wildlife Fund to reimburse my expenses for the recent Marine Turtle Meeting in Miami (ref. my letter to Mr. Mence of 5 December 1974).

I appreciate your interest in this matter and hope that all problems can be resolved so that the "turtle group" can move on toward more constructive things.

Sincerely,

Harold F. Hirth  
Professor of Biology

HFH/vm

cc: ~~Salazs~~  
Ehrenfeld  
Mrosovsky



UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1110 MORGES, SUISSE (SWITZERLAND)

☎ (021) 7144 01

TELEGRAMMES: UNICORN MORGES

Dr. George H. Balazs  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P.O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
USA

4 December 1974

Dear Dr. Balazs,

It was with some surprise that I learnt of the misunderstandings which have arisen concerning the costs of your attendance at the recent meetings convened by IUCN to examine the subject of sea turtle exploitation.

I should perhaps explain that IUCN is an organization which has to rely on funds donated almost entirely by foundations and our sister organization the World Wildlife Fund for specific conservation work. Fees from member organizations alone cannot support its work since they do not even cover the cost of publications, amounting to about \$100 per annum without postage, to which member organizations are entitled. Unfortunately we have closed our accounts for each of the past three years with substantial deficits.

For this reason it has never been the policy of IUCN to cover meeting attendance costs except by previous arrangement in those special cases where it is possible to obtain special funding on a project basis. We were able to get limited funds from the World Wildlife Fund partially to cover expenses of some participants at the second meeting of the Marine Turtle Group but World Wildlife Fund was not willing to continue such support for the third meeting which was mooted some time ago.

It appears that in the present case we at this end were insufficiently aware of your own circumstances and failed to make our policy clear to you from the beginning. For this I must offer you my apologies. On this occasion, the World Wildlife Fund reluctantly agreed to partly finance two people who had a long way to come to the Miami meeting.

Since it is clearly in the interests of all of us to resolve this situation in as satisfactory a way as possible, I would like to suggest, subject to your advice, that I now write a formal letter to your institution requesting its acceptance of the commitment for reimbursement of your expenses. I

./...



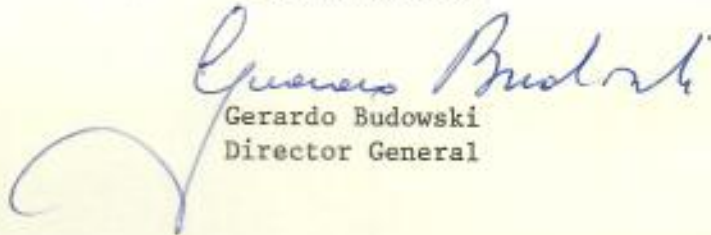
Dr. G.H. Balazs

4 December 1974

can only suggest that I ask World Wildlife Fund to consider reimbursing you from funds that were earmarked for marine turtle conservation, although I know that they are greatly concerned that such moneys should be devoted to action projects.

I would like to thank you for attending this meeting and for your interest and input. I have no doubt that the guidelines that you devised set an example in the difficult question of turtle exploitation. Hopefully we can look forward to maintaining useful contact and working relationships in marine turtle conservation.

Yours sincerely,



Gerardo Budowski  
Director General

COOK COLLEGE  
Department of Horticulture and Forestry  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

December 9, 1974

Dr. Gerardo Budowski  
Director General  
IUCN  
Morges, Switzerland

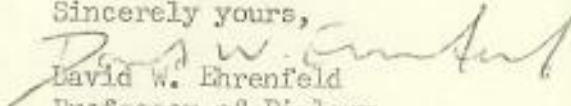
Dear Dr. Budowski:

Thank you for writing to me so promptly; I appreciate your efforts to clear up the misunderstanding that has arisen. If I understand your letter correctly, you wish to write to my institution asking them to pay the expenses that I incurred at the recent IUCN meeting in Miami. This would not be acceptable to me, because 1) Rutgers University is now in the midst of an acute financial crisis, and has frozen all funds not previously committed; and 2) there is no mechanism for funding such travel expenses retroactively. I fear that the only result would be a lengthy and unproductive correspondence with a bureaucracy that is exceeded in immobility only by the U.S. and Soviet governments.

Your alternate suggestion that you ask WWF to reimburse my expenses (and presumably those of the other North American participants) is certainly the logical way to proceed. Conservation necessarily involves both conferences and "action projects", and it is not reasonable to expect either to be a self-supporting activity. I have every confidence that WWF would appreciate the legitimacy of such a reimbursement request coming from your office. After all, nobody can expect that a professional consultation mechanism will remain viable if it imposes financial hardships upon its participants in this era of ever-increasing personal expenses.

I am happy that the guidelines we devised at the meeting will be of use to your organization, and also hope that I can continue to participate in IUCN's marine turtle conservation efforts.

Sincerely yours,

  
David W. Ehrenfeld  
Professor of Biology

cc: Dr. Carr  
Dr. Mrosovsky  
Dr. Hirth  
Dr. Balazs





November 26, 1974

Mr. A. C. Mence  
I.U.C.N.  
1110 Morges  
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Mence:

Further to our conversation in Miami, enclosed is an account of my expenses for the special panel meeting on mariculture. May I make a number of points about this matter.

The invitation was couched in terms that made me assume expenses were covered.

This was confirmed by the letter I received from Dr. Carr informing me of the place of the meeting, in which suggestions about reducing accommodation costs for IUCN were made.

Expenses were covered for most other participants. It is indeed remarkable that IUCN covers expenses from, say, Europe, but not from Canada or the U.S.A.

Making arrangements at the last minute and not clearly indicating the situation to participants on the matter of expenses leaves them no time to make other arrangements, even had the invitations and various memos have led them to assume expenses were covered.

I hope this apparent deception, which may only have been misunderstanding and time pressure, can be soon rectified and that it will not be necessary for me to raise this matter in wider circles.

I especially hope this can be satisfactorily resolved because it seemed that the work done at the meeting was a constructive step for conservation and suggests that the group might now be able to move ahead on other aspects of conservation. I enjoyed my discussions with you and learning more of things from the broader point of view and look forward to further interaction.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Mrosovsky  
Professor

NM/nm

Encl.

July 8, 1974

California Legislature  
Committee on Conservation  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California, 95814  
U.S.A.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing concerning the proposed alterations to your legislation on importation of products from green sea turtles.

The proposed alterations in the law at first glance may appear to without problems for conservation, in particular the stress given to taking eggs that are likely to be destroyed anyway. However, I think it is difficult, given our present knowledge of the biology of this species and other marine turtles, to be sure that this will not be detrimental to survival prospects. There are several considerations here:

1. Predators. In my experience when eggs are exposed by natural factors they soon are eaten by birds or crabs or other animals. One has to consider what the short-term effect of removing these easily obtainable eggs will be on the predators. It seems very possible that pressure on eggs in viable locations will be increased. To put it in anthropomorphic terms, suppose you were a crab accustomed to eating turtle eggs what would you do when the supply of readily obtainable eggs (e.g. half exposed by tide) was reduced: go away and die or start digging up other eggs? In the long run one might think that in a situation where eggs are being removed, with less total eggs available, the predator population would go down. But in the short run the turtle population might take a further dip. In view of this risk it might be best if one is considering the conservation of the green turtle, to just leave them alone, especially in areas where they are below their former numbers and areas where the predator-turtle population dynamics are unknown.

also birds,  
vultures.

2. Reasons for laying eggs in poor locations. It is true that a number of eggs are laid in places where they will be subsequently destroyed. This is something of a puzzle still to turtle biologists: why swim for hundreds of miles and then waste the reproductive effort by failing to crawl a little further up the beach? Perhaps there is some reason here.

continued ...



July 8, 1974

In my studies of the ability of hatching turtles to reach the water (this is my main area of expertise on turtles, although I have also studied other aspects of their biology and spent time on several nesting grounds) I have found that if the visual situation confronting the hatchlings when they emerge is too complicated they do not orient well toward the sea. They remain on land longer and increase their exposure time to predators. Therefore if a turtle lays too far up the beach, the hatchlings may find themselves in an unfavourable position. Thus there exist pressures both for laying clear of the high tide and pressures for not laying too far away from it, not laying high up on the beach where it is cluttered by vegetation and drift wood.

In nature what seems to happen is that individual nests are laid too near the water mark and other ones too far away among the vegetation, but that as a whole the turtle population hedges its bets. In any given year there is a spread of nests at various distances up the beach.

The important point is that the exact height the tides will reach is not predictable. It depends on the wind conditions on the day of the highest tides, and also on the topography of the beach. The latter can change dramatically in a day or two due to wave action, and this affects how far up waves on a subsequent high tide will be able to reach. It is unpredictable for the turtles.

Now here we come to the possible dangers of taking potentially destroyed eggs. The high tides are unpredictable for the turtles; they are also unpredictable for man. Therefore, although a certain number of eggs will in the end be destroyed by tidal action, only for a small number of these will it be possible to say in advance with certainty that they will be destroyed. It has been my experience that eggs laid too near the water are not often laid very much too low, but just around the general high tide line. Some of these still survive being moistened by a wave or two.

If such eggs that might have been destroyed but in fact survive are removed of course it reduces the number of hatchlings produced on the beach. Much more worrying than this is the possibility that by removing these eggs one is removing those genes from the population that are associated with laying close to the water. One may end up then with a population that no longer hedges its bets between the danger from the tide and the danger from predators attacking hatchlings that are delayed in the upper part of the beach.

Thus while it may appear that taking eggs likely to be destroyed is harmless, we really don't know that this is so. There are at least two causes for concern, short term predation increases on the remaining eggs, and altering the subtle balances whereby turtles lay eggs in different parts of beach.

Continued ...

July 8, 1974

On the latter, one final point seems highly relevant. Even if the law only permitted products from the few eggs that had been collected in places where beyond any reasonable doubt they would have been destroyed, how can this possibly be enforced? Much of the change in the law proposed is predicated on what will happen in remote beaches in other parts of the world. How are the authorities in California going to have any control of this? How will they even have independent evidence of what eggs were collected?

Yours truly

NM/nm

N. Mrosovsky  
Professor



C. M. JORGENSEN  
306 PINE STREET  
EDMONDS, WASH.  
98020



Nov. 30 1974

Edmonds, Washington

Dear Mr. Balazs

Received your most welcome letter the latter part of Oct. Was really pleased to hear from you. am a little slow answering, Wanted to see Capt. Crenshaw, he was on the ship Ocala Victory when the note was thrown overboard. He pointed out the place where you picked it up. Which is about 1200 miles to the South, Capt Crenshaw says the current at the place we dropped the note sometime split going n.w. & down the coast of U.S. and some gone toward Hawaii. He is also interested in what you are doing as he says the green sea turtle is disappearing.

In your work & studies I suppose you at some time run into Mr. Gerry Shaffer, who is with the ocean Geographic Survey, his office is near

the water front in Honolulu. He & his  
Wife are good friends of Capt. Crenshaw  
The last time we were in Hawaii we  
had dinner with them and a wonderful  
Evening.

I am Retired now. Was Sailing as  
Chief Engineer aboard the SS Ocala  
Victory, a gov. supply ship to Vietnam,  
on this trip in Dec 1968 we were  
carrying a full load of Bombs, but  
was very lucky only got hit with  
Small shell fire in the River to Saigon.

My wife & I travel a lot. if we get  
to your part of the Country we will look  
you up. & look us up if you come to  
the pacific N.W. We line just out of Seattle  
our phone is P.R. 6-3406.

Thanks again for the letter you sent  
your friend

Clarence Jorgensen  
306 - pine ST  
Edmonds Washington  
98020



COOK COLLEGE

*Department of Horticulture and Forestry  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903*

December 3, 1974

Mr. A. J. Mence  
Survival Service Commission  
IUCN  
Morges, Switzerland

Dear Tony:

When I gave you a bill for my expenses at the Miami meeting, I stated that I would follow it up with a letter recapitulating the main reasons for this action. I hope that you will soon be able to settle this unfortunate business in a satisfactory manner. Like the others involved, I am perfectly ready to press the matter and enlarge the number of persons and organizations privy to the squabble, but I trust that it won't come to that.

The facts of the case are as follows: In July, I was invited to participate in the meeting; I accepted and requested information about travel arrangements. None was forthcoming. On October 3rd I again asked about travel arrangements, and stated that "I assume that IUCN will reimburse my travel expenses". There was no response to my statement forthcoming from your office, so during the following month I 1) made several inquiries and was confirmed in my own impression that IUCN's silence could only be interpreted to mean that expenses were to be assumed by the organization; and 2) made arrangements for official leave from my university duties, bought air tickets, etc.

Several days before the conference, when changes in plans would have been inconvenient and personally and professionally embarrassing, I was informed by your office that IUCN would not pay travel expenses of its consultants. The wording of the letter implied that all participants were being treated in the same fashion, and that the lack of information about this had been an oversight in my case. However, at the meeting I discovered that all the other North American participants had been similarly misled, and, even worse, that IUCN had previously decided to pay expenses of participants from other parts of the world, without telling the North Americans (Hawaii is evidently a part of North America in the quaint geography of IUCN).

It is clear from these actions that IUCN has an unwritten(?) policy of making its North American consultants, who are supposed to be wealthy beyond the dreams of avarice, pay extra for the privilege of contributing their expert knowledge free of charge to IUCN. Your organization is indeed wise to conceal such a shameful policy, since contrary to your evident belief, most professors, myself included, cannot afford to pay for such trips out of their private funds, and have little hope of getting their universities to underwrite IUCN's expense accounts. Moreover, a generous part of IUCN/WWF financing originates in North America, and I cannot believe that donors here would sanction a covert policy that denies legitimate reimbursement for travel and hotel expenses incurred by those consultants who live in the United States and Canada, while sending Morges' officials on countless,

expense-paid junkets all over the planet. It is conceivable that IUCN did not in fact decoy us to a meeting under false (albeit implicit) pretenses of expense support, but from our point of view there is no other reasonable interpretation of IUCN's behavior and written correspondence.

I want to assure you, however, that I hold IUCN/WWF and not you responsible for this situation, and have no intention of allowing the organization to evade its responsibility by fixing the blame on your office. Like Dr. Mrosovsky, I think that much was accomplished at the meeting in a remarkably short time, and I look forward to future associations with you and your important work, free of the trivial distractions that necessitated this letter.

Sincerely,

*David*

David W. Ehrenfeld  
Professor of Biology

cc: Drs. Mrosovsky  
Balazs  
Hirth



GERALD S. MATSUNAGA  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



COUNTY OF KAUAI  
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
ROOM 210, 3016 UMI STREET  
LIHUE, HAWAII 96766

December 9, 1974

Ms. Fran Barrington  
Food and Beverage Section  
Kauai Surf Hotel  
Nawiliwili, Kauai

Dear Ms. Barrington:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of December 6, 1974, the "turtle meat case" scheduled for December 13, 1974, has been continued. The trial will be held on Friday, January 17, 1975, at 9:00 a.m. in the Lihue District Courthouse instead of January 10 as requested.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to write us at the above address or call us at 245-3955.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Calvin K. Murashige".

CALVIN K. MURASHIGE  
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

CKM/sd

cc: Lihue District Court  
✓ George Balez  
Wilfred Youth, esq.

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CANADA

December, 9th, 1974.

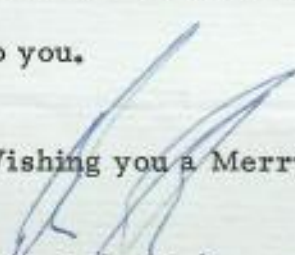
University of Hawaii at Manoa,  
P. O. Box. 1346,  
Coconut Island,  
Kaneoh, Hawaii, 96744.

Dear George;

Thanks for your letter and Inclosures of December 4th,  
1974. I will definately keep you informed of any  
interesting changes in the Mariculture Scene.

Would you be interested in a subscription to the "Caymanian  
Compass", our weekly news paper. If so I'll have one sent  
to you.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

  
Dennis Smith.

BANKERS:

BANK OF  
NOVA SCOTIA,  
GRAND CAYMAN, B.W.I.





December 11, 1974

Dr. George H. Balazs  
 University of Hawaii at Manoa  
 Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
 P.O. Box 1346  
 Coconut Island  
 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
 U.S.A.

Dear George:

Many thanks for sending on the various xeroxes. Your original letter finally staggered in. It must be the Toronto mail.

In response to your points about the interesting intervals, I think your point about differences between intervals for 'nesting purposes' and for actually laying is very good and useful. But ... and this may be beating a dead horse ... I don't think the data you mentioned really settles things either way for whether there is an influence of temperature. To really do this conclusively one needs information about the animals that did not have average intervals ... you only have filled in two cells in the matrix. I am much more persuaded by your observations on 'basking' at night.

My confidence in IUCN is not high and it would not surprise me if our points get watered down. Unfortunately, few of us even have any copy of these points. Maybe something good will come of it all.

Best wishes.

Nicholas Mrosovsky

→ nesting interval

NM/nm

Basking

Not Basking

	Average		
Basking	?	14	?
Not Basking	?	11	?



December 12, 1974

Mr. Gerardo Budowski  
Director General  
International Union for  
Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources  
1110 Morges  
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Budowski:

Thank you for the prompt attention you are giving to clearing up the misunderstanding concerning the recent meeting on sea turtle exploitation.

I do not, however, think it a useful tack to write to my institution, but agree with your next sentence which says that you can only suggest that you ask WWF for reimbursement.

On this point, I would not feel at all guilty if money earmarked for turtle conservation was used for this purpose. In some cases meetings and actions stemming from meetings can accomplish as much as 'action projects'. I have contributed towards conservation in the past and expect to do so again in the future, but at the moment, on account of various financial responsibilities, am not able to do so. I am sure you will agree that there is a difference between donating a kidney and having it extracted without consent, even if it is used for the same purpose.

As you say, it is in everyone's interest that this matter be satisfactorily resolved. The only way this can be done is if IUCN rectifies having not made its policy clear, and its misleading invitation to this meeting, by arranging an immediate reimbursement for these expenses.

If this is done, I am sure that good feeling will be at once reestablished, and that we can move ahead to following up some of the proposals made at this meeting (if not, I would certainly feel obliged to write to the Press or take similar action). Some of these proposals involve distribution of information, and maybe preparation of material aimed at modifying consumer demand for such things as stuffed turtles. One certainly hopes that some of the contributors to WWF and related organizations will be able to appreciate that such kinds of action can sometimes have as much impact on conservation as field work. The turtle group is now in a good position to follow up some of the ideas and initiatives taken at the last meeting, and it would be a pity if the considerable collective energies of those people were not organized into effective action.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Mrosovsky  
Professor of Zoology



4 December 1974

Dear Professor Mrosovsky,

It was with some surprise that I learnt of the misunderstandings which have arisen concerning the costs of your attendance at the recent meetings convened by IUCN to examine the subject of sea turtle exploitation.

I should perhaps explain that IUCN is an organization which has to rely on funds donated almost entirely by foundations and our sister organization the World Wildlife Fund for specific conservation work. Fees from member organizations alone cannot support its work since they do not even cover the cost of publications, amounting to about \$100 per annum without postage, to which member organizations are entitled. Unfortunately we have closed our accounts for each of the past three years with substantial deficits.

For this reason it has never been the policy of IUCN to cover meeting attendance costs except by previous arrangement in those special cases where it is possible to obtain special funding on a project basis. We were able to get limited funds from the World Wildlife Fund partially to cover expenses of some participants at the second meeting of the Marine Turtle Group but World Wildlife Fund was not willing to continue such support for the third meeting which was mooted some time ago.

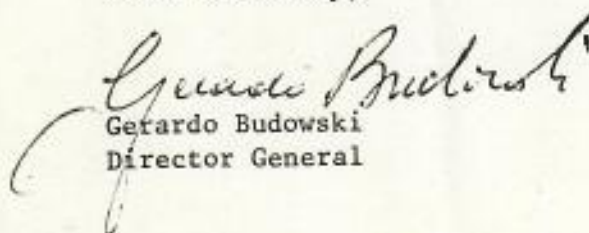
It appears that in the present case we at this end were insufficiently aware of your own circumstances and failed to make our policy clear to you from the beginning. For this I must offer you my apologies. On this occasion, the World Wildlife Fund reluctantly agreed to partly finance two people who had a long way to come to the Miami meeting.

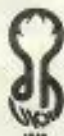
Since it is clearly in the interests of all of us to resolve this situation in as satisfactory a way as possible, I would like to suggest, subject to your advice, that I now write a formal letter to your institution requesting its acceptance of the commitment for reimbursement of your expenses.

can only suggest that I ask World Wildlife Fund to consider reimbursing you from funds that were earmarked for marine turtle conservation, although I know that they are greatly concerned that such moneys should be devoted to action projects.

I would like to thank you for attending this meeting and for your interest and input. I have no doubt that the guidelines that you devised set an example in the difficult question of turtle exploitation. Hopefully we can look forward to maintaining useful contact and working relationships in marine turtle conservation.

Yours sincerely,

  
Gerardo Budowski  
Director General



UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES  
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1110 MORGES, SUISSE (SWITZERLAND)

☎ (021) 7144 01

TELEGRAMMES: UNICORN MORGES

Dr. George H. Balazs  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology  
P. O. Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
USA

12th December, 1974

Dear George,

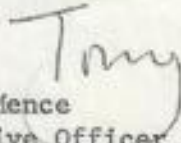
Many thanks for the two letters recently received from you.

In the meantime you will have received Dr. Budowski's letter of 4 December, 1974.

I would be most grateful to hear from you whether this makes any difference to the terms of your request for reimbursement; if not, I will of course ensure that the matter is taken up with the World Wildlife Fund along the lines indicated by Dr. Budowski.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
A. J. Mence  
Executive Officer  
Survival Service Commission

AJM/MF/1  
RA/5 TF



# NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Telephone: WELLINGTON 3-1500  
Cable Address: ZOOPARK NEW YORK

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK  
Bronx Park  
Bronx, N. Y. 10460

20 December 1974

To: Turtle Task Force

From: Wayne King

Subject: Exploitation of Philippine sea turtles.

You will recall the discussion at the Turtle Task Force meeting in Miami concerning the Philippine government's plan to permit the export of 25,000 adult Chelonia and up to four million eggs from the Sulu Sea area. We have been successful in putting a halt to that program -- see attached letters.

Stanley stopped by the Philippines on his way back to Sabah, so we may have more recent news from him shortly.

Wayne

# U. S. PEACE CORPS

Gregory Brower - Wildlife Biologist

P. O. Box 2702  
Manila, Philippines

Dec 3, 1974

F. Wayne King  
Director, Conservation and Environmental Education  
New York Zoological Society  
Bronx, N. Y.

Dear Mr. King:

I want to thank you for your letter to the Philippine government urging the ban of collection of Green Turtles, Chelonia mydas. Thanks to Dr. Ehrenfeld, many people have written from throughout the world, but your letter is the only known one to date addressed to the President of the Philippines.

Within ten minutes of receiving a copy of your letter, the Parks, Range and Wildlife Division Assistant Director, Jesus B. Alvarez, Jr. ordered an immediate ban on the issuance of trapping permits and cancellation of presently held permits until the status of the turtles can be ascertained. To my knowledge, our office has not yet heard from the Office of the President, but just the possibility of such a call has changed the attitudes of the wildlife management people here. Now, I am hoping to start a valid research project in the prime turtle nesting grounds of the southern Philippine waters. Tom Harrison from IUCN has already contacted me and I hope soon to have enough information to be able to write the research proposal. Financing may be no problem if the President becomes interested. Our main problem now is a lack of technical advice, but I am confident that it will be forthcoming.

One item of information: We are in no way capable of controlling the taking of turtles by any of the small fishermen in the southern Philippines because of the "Civil War" status of the Moslems there. The permits which were previously issued by my office were to exporters. The regulations for these permits prohibited permit



holders from capturing live turtles. They were to collect only "discarded carapace" from fishermen. I have been informed by several residents of turtle collecting regions, however, that fishermen literally destroy the carapace in order to remove all the meat — rendering the carapace useless to the permit holders. Therefore, I believe that the permit holders did quite often capture live turtles and were an additional source of turtle population decline. Agency personnel here tend to believe the permit holders are abiding by regulations and the cancellation of permits will have no effect on population pressure. I disagree and hope our research will clear this mystery up.

Again, I thank you for your concern and hope we may be successful in our battle to save endangered species throughout the world.

Sincerely,

Gregory Brower



# U. S. PEACE CORPS

Gregory E. Brewer  
Peace Corps Volunteer  
P. O. Box 2702  
Manila, Philippines

Dec 3, 1974

Dr. D. W. Ehrenfeld  
Rutgers University  
Cook College  
Department of Horticulture and Forestry  
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dear Dr. Ehrenfeld :

Thank you so very much for your help in urging the Philippine government to cease the trapping for export of green turtles, Chelonia mydas. To date and to my knowledge three letters have been sent to us through your circulation of my letter. Probably the most effective of these was a letter from F. Wayne King, of the New York Zoological Society addressed to the President of the Philippines. Immediately upon receipt of a copy of this letter, Parks, Range and Wildlife Division Assistant Director, Jesus B. Alvarez, Jr. ordered a total ban on the issuance of permits and cancellation of presently held permits until the status of the turtle population can be ascertained. I am now hoping that we can start a research program in the Philippines.

I have also received a letter from Tom Harrison of IUCN who tells me that IUCN is taking a strong position against turtle trapping and encouraging research in the Philippines. At present, I do not feel very qualified to make the research proposal, as I have almost no data of a technical nature on turtle research, so I am hoping IUCN will be able to aid us in this.

My only regret at this time is that we are unable to control the taking of turtles by the small fishermen in the southern Philippines because of the "Civil War" status of the Moslem people. The permits which were



previously issued by this office were to exporters. The regulations for these permits ~~permitted~~ ~~permitted~~ prohibited permit holders from capturing live turtles. They were to collect only "discarded carapace" from fishermen. I have been informed by several residents of the turtle collecting regions, however, that fishermen literally destroy the carapace in order to remove all the meat — rendering the carapace useless to the permit holders. Therefore, I believe that permit holders did quite often collect live turtles and were an additional threat to turtle population. Agency personnel here tend to believe the permit holders followed regulations and that the ban on permits is useless to reduce turtle population pressure. I disagree. I hope future research will enable us to know the truth.

Again, I wish to thank you for your assistance and ask for your continued support where possible.

Sincerely,

Gregory Brower

FROM THE CONSERVATION DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

To: \_\_\_\_\_

*George Balazs*

- Please answer direct.
- Please prepare reply for Director's signature.
- Please furnish information for Director's reply.
- Please handle or refer to the proper person to handle.
- Please discuss this with the Director.
- Is it possible for the Society to meet this request?
- Please note and return.
- Please note and send to file.
- For information and disposal.
- \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you.

*Wayne G.*



Department of Pathobiology  
The Johns Hopkins University  
615 N. Wolfe Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21205  
13 December 1974

Mr. Anthony J. Mence  
Survival Service Commission  
International Union for Conservation  
of Nature and Natural Resources  
1110 Morges  
Suisse (Switzerland)

Dear Tony:

I missed you down in Grand Cayman, though I dropped around to your hotel a couple of times to try to get you. You may have seen us offshore in the Cayman Diver.

I visited Mariculture on the last Saturday we were there and was struck with the overcrowded conditions of their tanks and with the stink that emanated therefrom. I got a film can and snuck out a water sample and turned it over to our Environmental Health Laboratory here a couple of days afterwards. The lab tells me that this delay would not effect the analysis they made unless possibly to decrease the bacterial counts which they actually got, barring a nutrient source in the sample.

The analysis follows:

Total coliform - confirmed	$2.2 \times 10^3$ coli/100 ml.
Fecal coliform	20 fecal coli/100 ml.
Presumptive <u>Salmonella</u>	+
<u>Paedibacillus aeruginosa</u>	-
<u>Staphylococcus aureus</u>	-

To give a context for these figures, I will mention the Maryland State standards for various types of water. First, the drinking water is 1 total coliform per 100 ml. For oysters and bathing water, the count must not exceed 70 per 100 ml. The effluent from sewage treatment plants must not exceed 200 per 100 ml. Note, the total coliform of the sample I brought back is over 10 times that permitted for sewage treatment effluent in this state!

The fecal coliform, indicative for warm-blooded animals, is low because the green turtle is not warm-blooded. Salmonella, the devil which triggered the action to stop the selling of baby turtles in pet stores, was massive and its presence only is confirmed; this is a qualitative test, not a quantitative. The other two rather dangerous organisms tested for were not present.

Mr. Anthony J. Mence  
13 December 1974  
Page 2

I don't know enough about this subject to say whether or not the FDA would permit meat from turtles to enter this country from Mariculture's tanks. I took the sample from the large tank holding yearling turtles, not animals that were to be butchered. All I can say is, the tanks in which they hold their animals are considerably filthier than the tanks in which we held animals at the New York Aquarium and we would not have thought of eating fish or turtles from our Aquarium tanks at any time.

I have no doubt that this is not the first analysis of their water that has ever been run. Does it agree with other results you may have heard of? Do you know whether or not Mariculture meets our FDA standards or whether sufficient tests have been made to determine the purity of their product? Salmonella is almost impossible to eliminate. It is present in chickens, turtles, and just about everything else, so I am not suggesting for a moment that their meat is unfit for human consumption, but I think that serious questions at least are raised.

I would appreciate hearing the opinion of the Committee on this.

Sincerely,

G. Carleton Ray  
Associate Professor

cc: A. Carr  
W. King

GCR/mm



## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME



MARINE RESOURCES REGION  
350 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, California 90802

December 16, 1974

George H. Balazs  
Jr. Marine Biologist  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Post Office Box 1346  
Coconut Island  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

This is in reply, Mr. Balazs ...

... to your letter of December 2, 1974.

I am sending a copy of an arrest report involving seizure of sea turtle meat believed to be that referred to in your correspondence. Recently Department wardens seized a number of green sea turtle shells imported by an individual from Mexico in violation of the California Penal Code.

I am forwarding a copy of 1974 legislation passed and signed into law by Governor Ronald Reagan. The law deals with green sea turtles only of the specific Chelonia mydas. At this point in time, no other species of sea turtles may be sold in California.

I trust this information will prove useful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell C. Goodrich".

Russell C. Goodrich  
Patrol Inspector

att (2)

ARREST REPORT

Defendant: Shamrock Seafoods  
120 West "G" Street  
Wilmington, California

Violation: Section 653 (o) C.P.C.  
It is unlawful to .....possess with intent to sell, or to  
sell within the state.....sea turtle.

Complainant: Warden Stephen L. Conger  
350 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, California 90802

Synopsis: On December 4, 1973, I seized 305 lbs. of sea turtle meat  
stored in the cold storage room at Shamrock Seafoods, 120  
West "G" Street, Wilmington. A formal complaint was subsequently  
filed against Shamrock Seafoods for possession of a restricted  
species.

Fact Situation: At approximately 1100 hours, on December 4, 1973, I was conducting  
a routine inspection of Shamrock Seafoods, 120 W. "G" St., San  
Pedro. When I entered the cold storage room, accompanied by  
Mr. Lowry, the owner, I observed six boxes marked "Turtle Meat".  
A closer inspection revealed that each of the six cases were  
marked "Product of Ecuador-Packed by Empacadora Shayne-54 lbs.". There was also a lot number (11090) stamped on each case. Five  
of the cases were still sealed; the sixth case was opened and  
contained seven 5 lb. packages of turtle meat, totaling 35 lbs.

I informed Mr. Lowry that I was placing the turtle meat under  
seizure pursuant to Section 653(o) of the California Penal Code  
(Possess with intent to sell restricted species, to wit: turtle  
meat).

On December 11, 1973, I picked up the six cases containing a  
total of 305 lbs of turtle meat and stored them in a Fish and  
Game evidence locker.

---

Warden S. L. Conger



George Nishimura  
P.O. Box 245  
Kannakakai, Molokai  
96748

Jan. 27  
1974

Dear Mr. Nishimura,

Let me answer your letter on turtles and clams as quickly as I can.

On turtle farming, I know almost as little as I do about clams. But you might follow-up on this by contacting Mr. George Balazs, HIMB, U. of H., Honolulu Hawaii, 96822. George has been doing most of the turtle work at the University and could give you titles of articles that say the most about farming.

I think you will have several problems with regulations on turtles. One of these will involve where you might get hatchlings or eggs (in other words you may have to worry about restrictions on importing turtles). The other is that the law in Hawaii currently says that no one can take turtles under 36" in length. This probably means that eggs or hatchlings from anywhere in Hawaii would be



There are also some special regulations that aquaculturalists must follow that affect the quality of water that leaves their ponds and enters the ocean. I know the Ken Kato of Fish Farms Hawaii has had to follow these regulations. To find out what these mean you might write to the state, Department of Health either in Honolulu or Wailuku. <sup>in EPA</sup>

So far as funding is concerned, I know of two directions that are "possible." The first is a loan program run by the State's, Department of Agriculture. This is just like their farm loan program except that it is for aquaculturalists. For information on that program you should write directly to the: Department of Agriculture  
State of Hawaii  
P.O. Box 5425  
Honolulu, HI 96814

The other source of funding would be to use your ponds in cooperation with whatever research might be going on here. George Balazs would know the most in this



area, but I don't think anything will come of it for a while.

Part of the information, that I hope George Balazs could help you find, would give you a little better idea of the economic feasibility of turtle farming in the Caribbean. These people, I think, were feeding a feed a lot like ~~turtle feed~~ chicken feed. As you may know chicken feed is very expensive right now so you may want to wait just because of that.

I know nothing about harvesting or culturing clams. Someone on Molokai had a pond which was producing clams. You might look up that person. Also it seems to me that someone said that after you dig the clams they should be kept in clean sea water so that they can pump out the grains of sand that the animals have in their gut.

Now for an opinion on turtle farming. Let me give you my own ideas that many people might disagree



with. First I think there probably could be more turtles around Hawaii than there are now. This is because they have lost so much of their nesting sites in the main islands. This means that, since many people think the wild population is in danger of overharvesting, ~~that~~ the first push should be to increase the numbers in the wild. The new regulations are designed to do this. However, I personally think that this is too slow. I think we should attempt some programs with a little more imagination. One of these might be to take the hatchlings from the beaches and carry them outside the reef. That would get them around the sharks, ulua, etc. that feed on them right at the shore line.

But I also think that part of the hatchling turtles should be introduced to the other islands. Maybe right after hatching; maybe right after a month's culturing



so that we start with good strong healthy animals. Here is a role for your ponds, but there really isn't much chance of support of this for a while.

I also think, that under normal legal & economic conditions, turtle farming could be feasible in Hawaii. But we have some legal problems that need to be taken up with the state, the Federal Government, and the County. On top of that feed costs are high. Another factor is that the ponds, for "modern aquaculture" usually are built with concrete rather than with natural ponds like you have on Molokai.

So, right now it isn't worth your money for the headaches that you will face. What has to happen first is for all of us that are interested in turtles and other aquacultural operations to get together and improve the legal, water quality, zoning, etc. situations



that are the headaches now. I think we're missing some real potential here, but laws and regulations have to be designed for aquaculture first.

In closing let me just say that if people keep pushing something may come in the end. One of the people that might help you on other marine problems is Rick Gaffney who will be working out of the Wailuku, Cooperative Extension Office. He has the responsibility of getting marine information, when it exists, <sup>to</sup> the people in Maui County. He'll be on Molokai quite a bit so get in touch. (He's part of my staff and you could leave a message for him at the Cooperative Extension Service office in Kaunakakai.)

I'm not sure that is a whole bunch of help but I tried. We'll put you on our Newsletter mailing list so if some changes come about you'll know about them.



Sincerely

John Ball

cc: G. Balazs-HIMB

R. Gaffney

J. Nagata (please add Mr. Nishimura's  
name to Newsletter)

file copy

JOHN A. BURNS  
GOVERNOR



WALTER T. YAMASHIRO  
DIRECTOR

GLENN IKEMOTO  
KAUAI INVESTIGATOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
CONSUMER PROTECTION

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
115 JUDICIARY BUILDING  
3059 LIMI STREET  
LILUOKE, KAUAI, HAWAII 96766

January 16, 1975

Mr. George H. Balazs  
P.O. Box 1346  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Re: Complaint against Green Garden Restaurant

In response to your letter of December 26, 1974, our office conducted an investigation of the Green Garden Restaurant in Hanapepe. As a result of this investigation, it was discovered that the Green Garden Restaurant no longer sells turtle steaks. Previously, under permit from the State, the restaurant had been selling frozen turtle steaks which were acquired prior to the effective date of the Fish & Game regulation.

On January 2, 1975, the Division of Fish & Game made an inspection of the Green Garden Restaurant and found that there were no longer any turtle steaks in supply. Consequently, the Division inspector instructed the restaurant to amend their ads in the tourist newspapers.

However, all tourist publications are laid out a month in advance. This means that the publications for the month of February are already at the printers. Therefore, any changes in the ads will probably not appear until March 1975.

The Division of Fish & Game has assured us that they will be watching for changes in the ads.

We hope that this letter will have answered all of the questions that were raised by your complaint.

Very truly yours,

GLENN Y. IKEMOTO  
Investigator



...established to protect you and your family.