

16

1980-1981 HIMB PART 1 of 2
INCOMING LETTER OF
G. H. BALAZS



SIND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

P.O. Box No: 3722
Karachi (Pakistan)

July 7, 1981.

Mr George H. Balazs,
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
P.O. Box 1346,
Kauai,
Hawaii 96744,
U. S. A.

Dear Mr Balazs,

I have received no reply to my last letter to you, dated May 4, 1981 and sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service address, and wonder if you ever received it ? I enclose a copy for your reference.

I am also sending a copy of the first day cover issued, as scheduled, in June, and turtle stamps. Please accept these with our compliments.

I enclose a copy of the CV of my Co-Investigator and myself, as these may be of relevance when you answer the query regarding Ph.D. supervision.

Many thanks for your help.

Yours Sincerely,

Aban Marker Kabraji
(MRS ABAN MARKER KABRAJI)
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR,

MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION PROJECT,
SIND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD,
P.O. BOX 3722 KARACHI (PAKISTAN).

SIND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

DCF/GEN/81/1151
P.O. Box No: 3722
Karachi (Pakistan)
May 4, 1981.

Dr. G. H. Balazs,
National Marine Fisheries Services,
Southwest Laboratory,
P.O. Box No: 3830,
Honolulu,
Hawaii 96812.

Dear Dr. G. H. Balazs,

Thank you for your letter and the papers you sent .
They are all very informative and useful. We were particularly
amused by the lovely photograph of the Monk seal and turtle
napping, and would be very keen to have a copy of the original
photograph, if at all possible . If it is possible to loan us the
negative, we would have it " blown up " into a print, and then return
the negative to you.

I will arrange to send you the first day cover and stamps
of the green turtle when they are issued.

I'm afraid your last letter erroneously elevated me to the
position of 'Dr.' , which I am not. However, it does give me an
opportunity to ask if you can advise us on the procedure of obtaining
a Ph. D. Both my co-investigator and myself are keen to use the
information obtained during the course of the programme towards
obtaining this qualification, but would appreciate knowing whether
you, (or others who you may recommend) could supervise us ?

Thank you for all the help.

Yours sincerely,

A.M.K.
(Mrs. A. Marker Kabraji)
Principal Investigator,

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: ABAN HANIF KABRAJI

Sex: Female.

Marital Status: Married.

Date of Birth: March 12, 1953.

Place of Birth: Quetta, Pakistan.

Present Address: 1 Bath Islami Road, Karachi-4, Pakistan. Phone 532119

Primary and Secondary Education: St. Joseph's Convent, Quetta 1962-1968. Quetta Grammar School Quetta 1969-1970: Karachi Grammar School, Karachi 1971.

G.C.E.'O'-Level Examination taken. 1968
(University of Cambridge examination Board).

Result: First Division.

Subjects: English Language, English Literature, Urdu, History, Geography, General Science, Mathematics, Hygiene and Physiology.

G.C.E.'A' level Exams taken 1971
(University of Cambridge Examination Board).

<u>Subject:</u>	<u>Result:</u>
Biology	B
Chemistry	B
English Literature	B

University Education: Queen Mary College, University of London, London, England. October 1972 - June 1975.

Degree achieved: B.Sc.(Hons) in Biology.

Courses taken: Principles of Biology, Principles of Ecology, Principles of Genetics, Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to organic Chemistry, Vertebrate Functional Anatomy, Comparative and Environmental Physiology, Brain and Behaviour, General Virology, Applied Microbiology, Microbiology Special Study- Experimental Project, Insects - Physiological and Ecological Aspects, Organisms and the Environment, Fresh Water Ecology, Marine Biology, Advanced Marine Studies.

Employment/Activities Record since Graduation.

1. Consultant on Women's Affairs: Ford Foundation, Islamabad, September to December 1975.
Publications: 1. Survey on Housing Problems for Women in Pakistan.
2. Women in Pakistan and other Islamic countries. A selected Bibliography with Annotations.
2. Trained in Biological Quality Control at Fisons Pharmaceuticals, Cheshire, England. June to August 1976.
3. Manager, Biological Quality Control, Marker Alkaloids, Quetta, 1976-78.
4. Sindh Wildlife Management Board, Turtle Conservation Project, Voluntary basis 1979- June 1980.
5. Principal Investigator. IUCN Project 1451 - Pakistan-Conservation of Turtles, Hawksbay and Sandspit. July 1980 - June 1983.
6. Centre for Population Activities "Women in Management" Training Programme. Washington D.C. May to June 1979. UNFPA Fellowship.
7. Teaching Biology at the Academy School to G.C.E.'O' and 'A'-level students.
8. Free-lance Writing on Women's Issues and Wildlife for the newspapers, Books, Journals etc.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: FERNIDA FIRDOS

Sex: Female.

Marital status: Single.

Date of Birth: 1st July 1954.

Place of birth: Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

Present address: P-340 People's Colony near North Nazimabad Block H, Karachi, Pakistan

Primary & Secondary Education (S.Sc.) Karachi Board. St. Joseph's Middle and Normal Convent School, Serghodha 1960-1963.
Government Girl's Primary School, Karachi 1964.
Bannaque Islam Girl's Secondary School Karachi 1965-1969.

Result: 1st Division.

Subjects: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, English, Urdu Mathematics, Islamiat.

Higher Secondary Education (H.Sc.) Karachi Board. Karachi College for Women, Karachi 1970-71.
Results: II Division.
Subjects: English, Urdu, Chemistry, Physics, Biology.

Education at Graduate Level (B.Sc.) Karachi University. Government College for Women, Karachi. 1972-73.
Results: II Division.
Subjects: Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, English, Urdu, Islamic Theology.

University Education (M.Sc.) Karachi University. 1. Master's Degree in Marine Biology 1974 - 1976.
Results: 1st Division and 1st Position. Grade - A.

Courses taken: Introduction to Marine Biology, Physical Oceanography, Marine Microbiology, Marine Botany, Biology of Phytoplankton (Dinoflagellates and Diatoms), Advanced Invertebrate Biology, Fisheries Biology, Biochemistry of Marine Animals, Physiology of Marine Animals, Shellfish Biology, Marine Ecology, Biogeography of Marine Animals, Biological Statistics, etc.

2. Master's Degree in Zoology 1977 - 1979.
Result: 1st Division and 1st Position. Grade - A.

Courses taken: Advanced Invertebrate Zoology, Chordate Biology, Comparative Anatomy of Vertebrates, Evolution and Paleontology, Animal Behaviour, Ecology, Elementary Statistics in Biology, Genetics and Cytology Animal Physiology, Animal Biochemistry Zoogeography.

Specialisation in Parasitology.

Cestode Morphology and Pathology, Trematode morphology and Pathology Nematology, Haematology and Staining Techniques, Protozoology, Introduction to Animal Parasitology, Fish Pathology and drugs, Experimental parasitology, Immunology and Serology etc.

Training Courses: Advanced Regional Training course in Biological Oceanography held in Karachi 1978 sponsored by UNESCO.

At present: Engaged by Sindh Wildlife Management Board, Karachi as Co-Investigator Marine Turtle Conservation Project.

OTHER ACTIVITIES.

1. Participated in science Exhibition in Karachi College for Women 1971.
2. Worked on Marine Prawn Taxonomy and Sexual Dimorphism in the Institute of Marine Biology 1975.
3. Worked on Oyster Biology and Taxonomy in the Institute of Marine Biology Karachi University 1977.
4. Worked on Chromosome study of Marine Gastropods in the Institute of Marine

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

DATE: 21 Aug.

MEMO TO:

George

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Enclosed is a copy of a recent report to NMFS. Did AC tell you what happened to our last one? (green cover, March '80) Peter Bacon gleaned out all the nesting locality data, among other things, and published it in an FAO pub. I'm still seeing red. Then he mentions our report, + says it was a big contribution, but "ambiguities" and lack of statistical treatment seriously weaken it. He takes our data,

uses abbreviations for μ
puts them in boxes, and then
that's statistical!

Anyway, we're thinking about
sending out copies of both that
report and the enclosed one to
everyone we can think of -
just to tide us over until we
turn it into something really
publishable. Why let jerks
like Bacon clean us out
when we did all the damn
work?

Bacon's publ. came out on eve
of due date of this latest report,
so I re-did my entire
sections (Panama, Leeward Is.,
Los Roques) and took out all
the data I could. I'm going to
save it for the final report, and
maybe publish some of the stuff
simultaneously ^(or sooner) in a journal, if
NMFS agrees. Larry thinks they will.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

(2)

DATE:

MEMO TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

just talked to Larry. NMFS
is going to publish both
of our reports in a technical
memorandum as soon as
we can get ~~them~~ ^{them} to him ^{in a revised edition}. We need
to cull out some stuff that
is outdated, ~~and~~ as well as
some comments on enforcement.
~~The~~ We can also rename our
first report "interim". It never
was intended to be final - only
called that to resolve some technical
difficulty they had with financing
a new contract.

Good news.

Regards,
Anne

SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

September 9, 1981

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

Dear George:

Many thanks for your letter of August 31. There are pros and cons to including the Sea Turtle Conservation Strategy in the Conservation Manual; the pros are that it contains a great deal of valuable information; the cons are that the Strategy is so detailed that it stands to be dated within a few years, as specific tasks are completed; that much of the information is not relevant to any given country trying to use the manual; and that the manual is already twice as long as many people think it should be and should not be made longer. I do not have strong views either way, and will leave the decision to Berry and Lankford.

Regarding the circumstances of the difficulty I encountered in getting the Strategy put in the Recovery Plan: these stemmed in part from the Team simply wishing to have the Plan represent its own original work throughout, rather than including what would amount to a massive quote. However, the real problem I encountered was that people wanted time to go through it line by line before they would consider including it; one Team Member made the observation that Wayne King's name on the Strategy made it immediately suspicious, and several other members then added that they would not support its inclusion without having time for a line-by-line analysis. The issue then more or less dropped, since there was not time for the analysis at the meeting, and I don't think the issue has come up again since.

Perhaps the reason I did not fight harder for it (and I did argue for about half an hour) was that I understood the note of revulsion with which Wayne King's name is increasingly received in conservation circles. He and I used to be friends, but he decided that I was public enemy no. 1 when I was a party to a plan to save Kemp's ridley by establishing a captive breeding colony at Grand Cayman. This prompted what I still regard as the most intellectually intolerant act that it has been my fortune to witness, namely his attempt (which he told me about personally) to have me kicked off the Recovery Team

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

921 Lake Sybelia Drive • P. O. Drawer 7 • Maitland, Florida 32751
(305) 647-2615

because of my initiatives on Grand Cayman. His effort failed. Since then, Wayne has tried to blackball me and hold me up to public ridicule whenever he can. In India, he loudly criticized me to a whole busload of distinguished conservationists for taking a photograph of a snake charmer for my son; and immediately after I spoke in plenary session in favor of the inclusion of Dermatemys in Appendix I, he stood up and, with no reference or apology to what I had just said, argued that it should go in Appendix II (even though the arguments for its inclusion were even more imperative than for the flatback, since it was biologically endangered as well as a loophole for smuggling sea turtle products).

Wayne's actions have of course not gone unnoticed by others, and it is no secret that his much-sought chairmanship of the SSC was given to another because of his vindictive habits, not because of the technicality that was presented publicly at the Gainesville SSC meeting. There is an extensive story behind this which I can tell you if you wish when we next meet. So while what happened as regards the inclusion of the Strategy is indeed "patently ludicrous", as you wrote, it is also understandable.


I am afraid I am not going to follow your recommendation that I have the "offending members" of the Recovery Team removed. I simply do not subscribe to the philosophy of attempting to eliminate people from committees or anything else just because I disagree with them. This intellectual totalitarianism may be Wayne King's technique, but it is not mine. Meanwhile, please feel free, as a concerned individual and friend, to give me unsolicited advice whenever you wish; you do not need to refer to your position as a Consultant to the Recovery Team to justify this, and rest assured that any recommendations you give me will be welcome, will be read, and will be considered. Agreement I cannot guarantee in advance, but I imagine this will be the case more often than not.

Meanwhile, if the Kemp's ridley (the only sea turtle species currently threatened with world-wide extinction) survives after all, I beg you to ask yourself honestly whether my efforts since 1968, or those of Wayne King, were the more contributory.

I am not sending copies of this letter to anyone else, but if you wish to, I suppose there is nothing here that I am not prepared to defend in a public forum.

P.S. A couple of points of interest: i) I hear that WWF USA is giving \$3,000 to the Cayman Turtle Farm to provide feed for the colony of 150 Kemp's ridleys. It is good to know that the conservation establishment is basing its actions on species survival rather than on more petty considerations. ii) I hear that Suarez pleaded guilty to the numerous sins of which the US Government accused him, and plea-bargained for a \$10,000 fine rather than submit himself to trial by jury.

Sincerely,


Peter C.H. Pritchard, Ph.D.
Vice President - Science and Research

PCP/rmp

Namua
P.O. Box 1532.
Apia
N/Samoa
8/8/81

(8-30 p.m)

AT

Dear George,

Say hello to you and the family. How's Christian and Linda? Hope you're all fine same as us in here. I sent you two letters and you didn't write. I was so sad the day I leave you and Christian at the airport because I want to take a photo of myself at the airport. But Art don't want to come early that day. I know it's better to be finished it's waisting my time of thinking him. I wrote him a letter last ~~two~~ month and three jams from Alafua and a koro shillee sauce it was made at the Food Processing I gave them to my girl friend ^{side} to take them to Art you know she came back and rang me to tell me all about Art I'm not angry about all what she told me about him because I'm not a jealous type. I'm working at the Tripan Hotel I leave my work at Alafua because it too far and only one bus to go there. George ^{would} you please do me a favour. make my photos large to decorate the house if you don't mind I give you some money if you come to Samoa. I'm very lazy of writing. I lost my note book where all my friends addresses and their phone numbers I'm so stupid I found your address at the back ^{my photo} Please George would you write my the ~~number~~ ^{phone number} of yours I'm very kind of writing. I hope everything go well with you ~~and~~ Linda and Christian. Tell them my best regards. Hope you to hear from you soon.

Best wishes to you all

Love Yoga.

10/10/11
10/10/11
10/10/11

(P. 20 P)

From Camp

TOGA. TEKNI.
P.O. Box 1532
AP IX.
W. SAMON.

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the ...
and further to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.
I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. Samon.

W. Samon



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Science and
Education
Administration

Agricultural Research
North Central Region
Northern Regional
Research Center

1815 North University Street
Peoria, Illinois
61604

September 9, 1981

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Your question on the authentication of sea turtle products is one that has been raised several times in the past few years, but as far as I know, there is no method for doing it now. There certainly appears to be an area of research here that could lead to such a method if some agency or university cared to pursue it. I discussed this problem with some colleagues and one of them suggested that a difference in compositions of metal ions might exist between fresh and salt water turtles, and that atomic absorption might be the means to measure these ions. Of course, research would be necessary to prove that such a difference exists and to establish a technique.

I am sorry that I cannot be of further help. If you find through your inquiries that a method does exist for this determination, I would appreciate knowing about it so that I can pass the word along.

Sincerely,

G. F. SPENCER, Research Chemist
Instrumental Analysis Research
Horticultural and Special Crops Laboratory



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Science and
Education
Administration

Agricultural Research
North Central Region
Northern Regional
Research Center

1815 North University Street
Peoria, Illinois
61604

September 9, 1981

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

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Sincerely,

G. F. SPENCER, Research Chemist
Instrumental Analysis Research
Horticultural and Special Crops Laboratory

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

September 10, 1981

Mr. Colin Limpus
National Parks and Wildlife
Service
Pallarenda
Townsville. 4810
Australia

Dear Colin:

(Many thanks for your letter.)

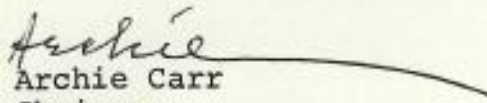
I'll send a formal proposal and request for an invitation to hold the Turtle Group meeting in Australia when I return from Tortuguero in ten days.

The turtle season was very poor this year; not the worst, but among the lean ones in the 26-years of our project. And, as you may recall, last year was the best. What do you make of it?

Hope your turtle courting and cooting studies go well this season.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,


Archie Carr
Chairman
Marine Turtle Specialist Group,
IUCN

xc: George Balazs
F. Wayne King

AC/ljw

ECMPRO/52/1/104

22nd August, 1961

Dr. Wayne King,
Director,
The Florida State Museum,
Museum Road,
University of Florida,
Gainesville 32611,
U. S. A.

Dear Wayne,

Many thanks for the copy of your letter to Bob. I hope the Director General will be able to finalise this long standing matter.

In this regard I am enclosing a letter received by me from Tan Sri Jayawardiya regarding the International Turtle Sanctuary. That explains our position.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,



G. S. de Silva

c.c. Dr. Archie Carr
✓ Dr. George Balass



TAMAN NEGARA SABAH

SABAH NATIONAL PARKS

BOX 626, KOTA KINABALU, SABAH, MALAYSIA. TEL: 54452

97

Your Ref:— ECNPRO/52/1/96

Our Ref:— TJ/FY

13th June, 1981

Mr. G. S. de Silva,
East Coast National Parks
Regional Office,
P. O. Box 768,
Sandakan, Sabah.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear de Silva,

Sabah/Philippines International Turtle
Sanctuary

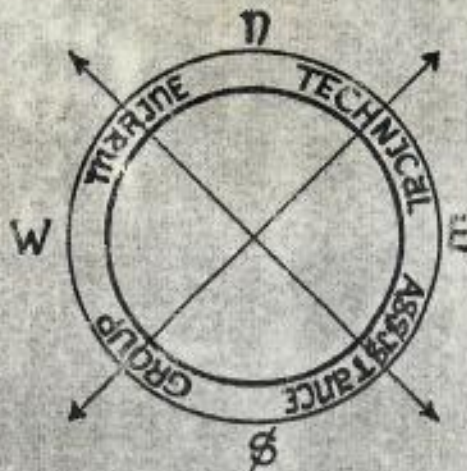
Thank you for your letter dated the 23rd April forwarding your report on the discussions held at New Delhi. I appreciate the problems with the Philippines but I am very interested in the outcome of Dr. Wayne King's visit, and if there is anything that I as Chairman or the Government can do please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

(Tan Sri Datuk Thomas Jayasuriya)
Chairman

c.c. Director,
Sabah National Parks.





DAVID CREAR
 AECUS
 46-132 KAHULIWA ST.
 KANELOHE, HAWAII

2 AUGUST 1981

DEAR MR. CREAR;

RE: COMMUNICATION OF 17 July 1981

OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS I HAVE RECEIVED BITS & PIECES FROM YOUR OFFICE IN REFERENCE TO C.O.M.A.N.D.S. THE LAST COMMUNICATION SEEMS TO BE A COMPOSITE OF INFORMATION SOUGHT. I SHALL ANSWER YOUR INQUIRIES AS BEST I CAN.

I AM BASICALLY A COMMERCIAL SPORT FISH BOAT MASTER AT THIS TIME AND NOT AN ICTHYOLOGIST SO I SHALL ALSO RELATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING MY KNOWLEDGE.

WHILE OPERATING WITHIN \approx 275 mi. RADIUS OF CABO SAN LUCAS, BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR. MEXICO I HAVE OBSERVED MANY DRASSERS OF THE MEXICAN FISHERY, LONG LINE FISHERMEN, SEINERS ETC. I ALSO DIVE EXTENSIVELY ON THE GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES WITHIN MY DEPTH RANGE. IT COMES TO MIND THAT I HAVE SEEN MANY MILK FISH WHILE DIVING, NEAR SHORE MOSTLY. (A DIVING FRIEND OF MINE CLAIMS TO HAVE SPEARED A RECORD SPECIMEN)

THE MEXICANS IN THE C.S.L. BAJA AREA DO NOT HAVE

A FISHERY SPECIFICALLY FOR CHANDS. HOWEVER, THEY FISH A LOT WITH SMALL GILL NETS AND CATCH SOME OF MOST EVERYTHING THAT SWIMS. (I BELIEVE THEY WANT MOSTLY TURTLES EVEN THOUGH THE FISHERY IS SUPPOSED TO BE LIMITED TO INCIDENTAL CATCH).

I HAVE SEEN SOME OF WHAT I BELIEVE ARE VERY LARGE "MILKFISH" AS A RESULT OF NET FISHING (6' m. in length & PROBABLY 20-25 lbs. in weight) I DID NOT HAVE A PROPER GUIDE OR KEY FOR IDENTIFICATION. I ALSO SAW ONE VERY LARGE SPECIMEN WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT DEAD IN A NET TOO LONG AND SUBSEQUENTLY DISCARDED BUT IT WAS HUGE.

I SPOKE WITH DON WILKIE A FRIEND WHO IS CURATOR OF SCRIPTS INST. AQUARIUM AND PROBABLY HAS THE BEST WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF CAPE REGION FAUNA. HE AGREES WITH ME AND CONFIRMS PRESENCE OF C. CHANDS IN THAT AREA.

AT THIS TIME MEXICO IS OPENING UP FISHERIES ON A LARGE SCALE. MANY WESTERN COASTAL AREAS ARE ALL BUT NAKED FROM INTENSE FISHING PRESSURE BY SMALL "PANGA" (SKIFF) FISHERMEN ARMED WITH UNMODIFIED GILL NETS. ALL SPECIES HAVE BEEN SEVERELY DEPLETED IN THE 0-100FM. ZONE.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT CONSUMPTION OF THE FISH AT ALL, BUT SUSPECT THAT IT WOULD BE MORE COMMON AS A FOOD FISH FURTHER SOUTH ON THE MAINLAND - THERE ARE ALSO MANY MORE LAGOONS ETC. IN THAT STRETCH OF COASTLINE.

HOPE THIS HELPS - IF MORE INFO NEEDED PERHAPS I CAN CALL YOU WHILE IN HAWAII ~ SEPT 5-10
SINCERELY, W.H. Price



AECOS

46-132 Kahuhipa Street, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Phone (808) 235-6494

August 24, 1981

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

Dear George,

Please find enclosed a photocopy of a letter from a dude running a commercial fishing boat in Baja, Mexico. He has an interesting reference to fishing for turtles on the second page. He is going to be visiting Hawaii in a few weeks if you want to talk to him.

I hope this note finds you well.

Sincerely,

David Crear

enclosure

DC:ir

BRITISH CHELONIA GROUP

PROSPECTUS FOR 1981/82

Objects of the Group

To promote the welfare of, and interest in, Tortoises, Terrapins and Turtles both in captivity and in the wild, and to fulfill these objectives by meetings, contacts and publications. This is the only Group in the United Kingdom to cater solely for the chelonia enthusiast.

Membership and Subscriptions

Membership is open to all persons interested in chelonians. Annual subscriptions are as follows :-

Adult.....	£3.50
Family.....	£3.50
Junior (under 16).....	£2.00
Overseas.....	£6.00

Subscriptions run from April 1st 1981 to March 31st 1982.

Any additional donations towards the Group's running costs are gratefully received.

Meetings

Informal meetings are held at approximately 2/3 month intervals.

Publications

The Newsletter is issued 6 times per year and contains details of meetings, short articles, correspondence, news items and veterinary notes. The journal TESTUDO is published annually and contains articles and papers on the care, feeding, breeding, housing, maintenance, behavioural, veterinary and conservation aspects of all chelonians. A balance is deliberately aimed at between basic and more advanced articles in order to appeal to all interests.

Library

An expanding library is maintained containing both books and papers. These are available to members attending meetings or by postal loan.

THE BRITISH CHELONIA GROUP

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

NAME: MR/MRS/MISS.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

.....

AGE: (Junior applicants only)

SIGNED..... DATE.....

Please return to the Treasurer: Mike Cross, Esq.,
6 Crossmead,
Woolavington,
Bridgwater,
Somerset.



Cheque/postal order for subscription/donations made payable to
"THE BRITISH CHELONIA GROUP" for the sum of

TRAFFIC (U.S.A.)



1801 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 Telephone: (202) 797-7901 Cable: PANDA FUND Telex: 64505

August 21, 1981

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

Dear George,

The situation you present in your 16 July memorandum is just one of a number of absurdities we've heard about in trying to prosecute violators and deter illegal wildlife trade. As you probably know, the U.S. government lost a large case in Texas by not being able to chemically prove that turtle meat imported as Dermatemys mawii was actually sea turtle meat.

Colin Limpus is pursuing the same question in Australia and I've enclosed all correspondence.

Good luck in your pursuit.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Mack".

David Mack
Assistant Director

Enclosures



BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600
TELEPHONE:
Reply to Comptroller-General
Quote

6 May 1981

Ms Nicole Dupaix
Traffic USA
1601 Connecticut Ave, NW
WASHINGTON DC 20009

Dear Ms Dupaix,

You have been recommended to my Department by Mr Colin Limpus of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service. Mr Limpus is involved in turtle research in Australia and is a member of the Sea Turtle Specialist Committee.


Mr Limpus has identified a problem which exists here in relation to the sale of imported products which purport to contain turtle extracts. In the main these products are cosmetics (turtle oil creams) and turtle soups (said to be based on turtle meat).

The provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora are administered by my Department and as turtles are covered by these provisions we are keenly interested in identifying if indeed these or similar products contain turtle extract.

I seek your assistance in this matter particularly in regard to methods which would assist in identifying the presence of turtle by-products. As I am sure you would understand it is difficult for my Department to prohibit the importation of these products without having some firm scientific basis for so doing.

I would appreciate any assistance you could afford in this matter.

Yours faithfully,


(JOHN E. MOLLER)
for Assistant Secretary
Inspection & Controls

THE INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC FOUNDATION
3979 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, Florida 33149

We acknowledge and thank you for your:

letter . . . 1 X
manuscript
photographs
transparencies . . . 12 . . .
book
brochure

You will be hearing from us soon.

Very truly yours,

Date 4 Sept. 1981

Jean Bradfish e.a.
Editorial Department

SCIENCE
AND THE
SEA



Mr. George H. Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346 Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 90744

File - Sea Turtles
Common

TRAFFIC (U.S.A.)

1601 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 Telephone: (202) 797-7901 Cable: PANDAFUND Telex: 64505

May 26, 1981

Mr. John E. Moller
Bureau of Customs
Department of Business & Consumer Affairs
Canberra 2600
Australia

Dear Mr. Moller:

We have received your request of 6 May, for information relating to sea turtle product identification.

A similar problem exists in the U.S. where law enforcement officials have seized several thousand kilos of sea turtle meat which was imported under the guise of a non-CITES freshwater turtle species, Dermatemys mawii. Based on chemical analysis, Dr. Sylvia Braden has devised a method of determining the species of sea turtle from even a small piece of sea turtle meat. However, she has yet to perfect a method of distinguishing sea turtle meat from any other reptile meat: this has been the stumbling block in our test cases.

In addition, Dr. Gayland Spencer has been trying to isolate chemicals in turtle oils which may be specific to marine turtles, but we have no further information on his findings. We have requested both scientists to send information on their testing methods directly to your office. From our talks with U.S. Law Enforcement officials, no process has yet been developed which will stand up in a U.S. court of law. But it is only a matter of time for this situation to change.

Please contact us again should you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Nicole Duplaix

Nicole Duplaix
Director

cc: Colin Limpus

Enclosures



WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-U.S.

TRAFFIC (U.S.A.)—Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce—is a scientific information-gathering program monitoring trade in wildlife, plants, and their products. It is funded by World Wildlife Fund-U.S.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Science and
Education
Administration

Agricultural Research
North Central Region
Northern Regional
Research Center

1815 North University Street
Peoria, Illinois
61604

June 2, 1981

RECEIVED JUN 12 1981

AIRMAIL

Mr. John E. Moller
Department of Business and
Consumer Affairs
Bureau of Customs
Canberra A.C.T. 2600
Australia

Dear Mr. Moller:

Ms. Duplaix of Traffic USA has asked me to respond to your questions on the identification of turtle products in formulations. This problem has gotten increased interest in the past few years, but as yet, I know of no chemical methods for such identifications. Although I have no experience with the analysis of meats or soups, I have been involved in the analysis of fats and oils for the past several years. One of the problems in the identification of turtle fats is their similarity to fish oils. I conducted a proximate analysis of three sea turtle fats and found no compounds that were unique to turtles. However, examination of trace components might reveal such a compound.

Another problem that occurs to me is that no study has been conducted to find out what variations (in turtle chemistry) might be due to species, diet, age, sex, or environmental parameters. In addition, trade in fresh water turtles is legal in the U.S., so one would need to prove which species the suspected product comes from.

In spite of these difficulties, I believe that there may be ways to do the job by chemical means if some agency is willing to undertake the research necessary to find them. I recently sent samples of turtle oils to another chemist who may be attacking the problem. He is:

Mr. Pete Clements
U.S. Customs Laboratory
1-3 E. Bay Street, Room 208
Savannah, Georgia 31401

I am sorry that I have no actual answers to your questions, but you might contact Mr. Clements and see what research he envisions.

Sincerely,

GAYLAND F. SPENCER, Research Chemist
Instrumental analysis Research
Horticultural and Special Crops Laboratory

cc:
Nicole Duplaix, Traffic (USA)



Colin J. Limpus

Home: P.O. Box 189
Aitkenvale
Townsville. 4814
Australia
Telephone 73-2674

Business: National Parks and Wildlife Service
Pallarenda
Townsville. 4810
Australia
Telephone 74-1411

31st July, 1981.

RECEIVED AUG 11 1981

Director,
Anti smuggling Operations,
Bureau of Customs,
Canberra. A.C.T. 2600.

Dear Mr. Bennett,

re importing of sea turtle products into Australia

In the last few weeks I have again checked on the availability of cosmetics based on turtle oils in the local shops. I find that all of the products I brought to your Department's attention in my letter 2 March 1981 are still on sale in the relevant shops.

In addition two more turtle oil based products have joined them now in the shop displays.

Winlo Turtle Oil Night Moisturing Cream (see attachment A.). This is being marketed through Pharmacies and other stores marketing the other Winlo products.

Starlet Turtle Oil Moisturing Hand Creme (see attachment B.). This may be a repackaging of the previously reported Starlet product. This is being marketed through Coles Stores.

I am still interested in knowing what the conditions are that allows the importation of turtle oils into Australia. Is there a problem which requires research to provide the necessary information before regulation of imports can be implemented? If so, could you advise me so that I can pass the problem on to the Sea Turtle Specialist Group.

Would it be possible for you to inform me of the countries of origin of the turtle oils/cosmetics involved?

Yours sincerely,

C.J. LIMPUS,
Member I.U.C.N., S.S.C. Sea Turtle Specialist Committee.

Nicola,

Copy for your information.

Any suggestions or support through other organisations would be appreciated.

F. WAYNE KING, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR



George - Any suggestions?

FLORIDA STATE MUSEUM

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, FL 32611

(904) 392-1721
SUNCOM 322-1721

Wayne

*Letters sent
early Sept 81*

ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 3650 Washington, D.C. 20007

May 25, 1981

Georgia Charuhas de H.
Calle 62, No. 484
Merida
Yucatan
MEXICO

Dear Georgia Charuhas:

Thank you for your letter telling us about your friend, Sr. Luna.

At this time we are not able to come to Mexico to meet your friend, but I have contacted several other people in the U.S. who are actively working on turtle issues to see if they will be able to take advantage of your offer. When I have heard from them, you will be contacted.

I am taking Spanish lessons now and can make rough translations of letters and articles we receive. When necessary, we can employ a translation service.

It is most important that Mexico become a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). There are currently 69 countries in this treaty, many of them from Central and South America.

Enclosed is information on the Convention for you to read, and I would appreciate your ideas on ways to help encourage Mexico to join this Convention.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

Fran Lipscomb
Executive Assistant

/fl

P.S. Christine Stevens in out of the country for several weeks.

Georgia Charuhas

Calle 62 No. 484 Mérida, Yucatán, México.
Teléfono 3-04-95

Couture

April 27, 1981

Miss Christine Stevens
Animal Welfare Institute
P.O. Box 3650
Washington, D.C. 20007
U.S.A.

Dear Christine Stevens:

I have a friend who has been involved with conservation of species here in Mexico, his position at this time is researcher for a Zoo, that is being planned in a place called "Caleta Zel-Ha" (on the caribbean coast) Quintana Roo, Mexico, this man is familiar with the nesting grounds, and the cruel habitual killing of the nesting turtles. He could, with certain official backing be a strong force on conservation of marine species in Mexico. This gentleman is a sincere, honest, knowledgeable person, he does speaks some English, he is also a guide for tours that go through the jungle in this area.

Mexico needs the professional and official help of your organization to start a really serious conservation program. This person could work or cooperate with your organization and open doors with contacts in the Government, to try to establish real laws that will help these people realize that they are destroying their own natural beauty on a national scale.

If I had more time and money I would devote myself to be more aggressive in my help to you, however since I am a working person, it is difficult for me, so through Cesar you may accomplish a great deal. I would suggest a Spanish speaking person from your organization with official documents - of his identity and position and sufficient documental material, movies, letters, existing official forces and conservation in other countries, etc.

You could also go to the American Embassy if you needed letters of introduction, do you have someone who could work with or use the help of this person?

Can you interpret into Spanish the many informative letters that would pertain to the endangered species in Mexico?

georgia charuhas

Calle 62 No. 484 Mérida, Yucatán, México.
Teléfono 3-04-95

Couture

Page # 2

Miss Christine Stevens
Animal Welfare Institute.

Maria
My other suggestion in which I may be able to help, if you could prepare of all wild life problems that would pertain to Mexico, we can ask for an audience with Mr. President Jose Lopez Portillo, or at least inform him personally of the situation and the professional work that your organization is doing. We could ask his direction and his suggestions for Mexico. I know this is possible and I do believe it could be important for world conservation.

Cesar
I am including names of different people to whom he has been working on a Government level in this country, politics are always involved in this type of project, and it is necessary to work with them.

Sincerely,

Georgia Charuhas de H.

P.S. these animals I am listing, are the one's that my friend Cesar is aware of, that exist in the areas where is working.

Tapir, deer, acelayed turkey, wild pheasant, the ocelot, the margay, the spider monkey, jaguar, the puma, jaguarandi, aguti, the alpaca, the jabali, the censo, turtles, alligators and manati.



GCH/mc

Mr. Cesar Clairin Luna

Age: 42 years.

Address: Apartado Postal 358, Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico

Work: Tour guide specialist in wild life tours.

Studys: Agriculture & Cattle raising,
Tour Guide,
Director of plans for native Zoo in Cozumel & Caleta
Zel-Ha Quintana Roo, Mexico.

References: Dr. Jaime Rojas, Direccion de Pesca,
Director de conservacion de fauna marina.

Sr. Andre Prunedia, Arquitecto, Director del Fideicomiso
Caleta Zel-Ha, Quintana Roo.

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the florida
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gainesville
32611
904/392-1721

10 August 1981

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


Dear George:

I still am unable to locate my copy of the "3-Year Term of Office" letter from IUCN, but I have enclosed a draft of just such a letter that I used to send out to the members of the Crocodile Specialist Group when I was chairman.

I won't be able to stop off in Hawaii on the way to Christchurch, but I will have a day or two layover on the way back. The dates aren't firm yet, but it will be around 24-26 October. There are some things I have to do during my stopover but I'm hoping that I can spend one of those days with you looking at sea turtles and turtle habitat.

I haven't heard a word from Lucas Chin since our last letters.

Sincerely,



F. Wayne King
Director

FWK:ss

Enclosure

Anne

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the _____ Specialist Group
FROM: _____, Chairman
SUBJECT: Term of Appointment for IUCN Commission Members

Article VIII 2 of the IUCN Statutes and paragraph e) of its implementing regulation define the term of office of all Commission members as:

"The normal term of appointment of Commission members shall be the period between the constitution of the Commission after one ordinary session of the General Assembly and the constitution of the Commission after the next ordinary session of the General Assembly. Members appointed after the constitution of the Commission shall serve for a period between their appointment and the constitution of the Commissions after the next ordinary session of the General Assembly. Members may be reappointed on the expiration of their terms."

The 15th General Assembly of IUCN will be convened in Christchurch, New Zealand 11 to 23 October 1981. In accordance with the statutes and regulations the appointments of the members of the Species Survival Commission, together with its Specialist Groups, will expire at that time. Members may be reappointed, but renomination is not automatic. Regulation g) implementing Article VIII 2 states:

"Once each year, each Commission Chairman shall review with his Commission names of members, correspondents and consultants who have been inactive or unresponsive. Each Commission is empowered to recommend to the Council in the case of members and the Chairman of the Commission in the case of correspondents and consultants the termination of appointments of these individuals."

During General Assembly years, this mandated review of membership takes place during the General Assembly. Therefore some members of the Species Survival Commission and its Specialist Groups may not be reappointed. The final decision is the responsibility of the Commission Chairman and the IUCN Council.

Members who are reappointed will be notified by letter from the Chairman of the Commission, Grenville Lucas, or he may ask Chairmen of Specialist Groups to notify their members.

The purpose of this letter is not to forecast or imply any particular change in _____ Specialist Group membership. It is simply to remind all members of normal operating procedure within IUCN.

The _____ Specialist Group has been effective on a number of conservation fronts since the last General Assembly. I have been especially fortunate in being chairman of the Group and in being able to call on the expertise of various members when particular issues arose. I wish to thank each member for the assistance he or she gave, and I look forward to working with the Group during the coming triennium.

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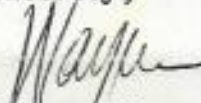
10 August 1981

Dr. Robert Scott
IUCN Headquarters
Avenue du Mont Blanc
CH 1196 Gland
Switzerland

Dear Bob:

What is the status of the Director General's visit to the Philippines on the way to or from the IUCN General Assembly in October? You will recall that we discussed his stopping off in the Philippines in order to promote the development of a cooperative Philippine/Sabah program of sea turtle conservation. In fact, Chew Wee Lek even wrote to the Philippines to announce that an October meeting was in the works. Time is growing short and if we're going to do anything we need to get on with the scheduling. I still think it would be best if George Balazs could meet the DG in the Philippines in order to provide him with the expertise to answer any questions that might arise.

Sincerely,


F. Wayne King
Director

FWK:ss

cc: Grenville Lucas
George Stanley de Silva
George Balazs
Archie Carr

SIND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

P.O. Box No: 3722
Karachi (Pakistan)

May 5, 1981.

Dr. G. H. Balazs,
National Marine Fisheries Service,
Southwest Laboratory,
P.O. Box 3830,
Honolulu,
Hawaii 96812.

Dear Dr. Balazs,

Thank you for your letter and the papers you sent. They are all very informative and useful. We were particularly amused by the lovely photograph of the Monk seal and turtle napping, and would be very keen to have a copy of the original photograph, if at all possible. If it is possible to loan us the negative, we would have it "blown up" into a print, and return the negative to you.

I will arrange to send you the first day cover and stamps of the green turtle when they are issued.

I'm afraid your last letter erroneously elevated me to the position of 'Dr.', which I am not. However, it does give me an opportunity to ask if you can advise us on the procedure of obtaining a Ph. D. Both my co-investigator and myself are keen to use the information obtained during the course of the programme towards obtaining this qualification but would appreciate knowing whether you, (or others who you may recommend) could supervise us ?.

Thank you for all the help.

Yours Sincerely,

Aban Markar Kabraji
(Mrs. ABAN MARKAR KABRAJI)
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR,

MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION PROJE
SIND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
P.O. BOX NO: 3722,
KARACHI (PAKISTAN).

to open cut here.

Sender's name and address:—

Mrs. Aban Marker Kabraji ,
Principal Investigator,
Marine Turtle Conservation Project 1451,
Sind Wildlife Management Board,
P.O. Box No: 3722
Karachi (Pakistan).

— Fold here —

BY AIR MAIL

AEROGRAMME

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.

Under Postal Certificate



Dr. G. H. Balazs,
National Marine Fisheries Services,
Southwest Laboratory,
P.O. Box 3830,
Honolulu,
Hawaii 96812.



INTERNATIONAL TURTLE & TORTOISE FOUNDATION
Publishers of Chelonologica

I.T.T.F.

P.O. Box 125
8700 AC Bolsward
The Netherlands

reference: 81-037/v

date: 8-7-1981

Phone: 05157-2795

Mr. G.H. Balasz
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
Natl. Oceanic and Atmospheric Adm.
Natl. Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Fisheries Center
Honolulu Laboratory
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu
Hawaii 96812

Dear Mr. Balasz:

Thank you for your interest in one of the articles published in one of our periodicals.


However, concerning your request I have to disappoint you, because offprints are only available from the author(s) that has written the article.

However, in this case the article you requested for has not been published yet because of a considerable delay in publishing and for receiving too late the illustrating material.

Around half august you may contact Mr. Villanueva about offprints, because about that time he should have received offprints of his article.

In case you do not have his address: A. Villanueva O.
Instituto Nacional de la Pesca
Alvara Obregon 269
10^o Piso
Mexico (7) DF

Sincerely yours,



J.H. du Pon,
President/Editor



National Zoological Park · Smithsonian Institution · Washington, D.C. 20008

August 31, 1981

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

Dear George:

If the cans advertise Green Turtle and if it is not legal to do commerce in this country in any sea turtle, then the case seems simple. If our legislative procedures are so pedantic as to negate this, then prosecute them under false advertising!

How about biochemical studies? Ask Hendrickson, Rainey, the NMFS woman in SE (long red braids).

Good luck,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jack".

Jack Frazier
Research Associate

MAILGRAM SERVICE CENTER
MIDDLETOWN, VA. 22645

Western Union

Mailgram



4-0166318230002 CP/18/81 ICS IPYMTZZ CSP JAXR
1 9043921250 MGX TDMT GAINESVILLE FL 08-18 1053A EST

UFL A CAPP
DEPT ZOO U FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE FL 32611

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

LT TDMT GAINESVILLE FL 69/63 08-12 1053A EST
INT LT PC MR COLIN LIMPUS, NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
TAPPALENDIA TOWNSVILLE
QUEENSLAND4810 (AUSTRALIA)

REGRET DELAY REPLYING YOUR INQUIRY ABOUT PLANS TURTLE GROUP MEETING.
SINCE RETURN IN GAINESVILLE HAVE FOUND NO ENCOURAGEMENT LOCATING
SOURCES TRAVEL FUNDS. REGRETFULLY BELIEVE IMPOSSIBLE ASSEMBLE ENOUGH
MEMBERS FOR MEETING AT TIME OF SSC MEETING AS HOPED. PLEASE CONSIDER
RENEWED INVITATION FOR YEAR FROM NOW. REGRET INCONVENIENCE TO YOU.
REGARDS

ARCHIE CARR

COL QUEENSLAND4810

1056 EST

MGKCCXP MGX

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

20 Aug. 1981

Dear George,

Sorry not to write more often. This summer is turning out a bit disappointed. Thanks for the Pakistan stamp - it's really a nice one. That's encouraging that places like Pakistan are responsive to requests such as yours. I'm anxious now to see the postcards!

It's too bad the ^{MTG} meeting fizzled out for this year. I couldn't really figure out AC's response, which was less than 100% enthusiastic, but I think it's just the overwhelming difficulty of generating funds. I hope Limpus isn't discouraged. It sounds as if he put a lot into the planning. I think Heron Is. is ideal, but I can see Limpus' point about the added expense. Another U.S. meeting doesn't seem too far, either. I don't have any other ideas, really.

Hope your field work is going well. I am trying to get some lab work done this summer, and Karen and I are trying to get out a belated, short paper on loggerhead data from Melbourne, Fla., which we have in our files. Wish I knew more about loggerheads!
Take care, Anne

over

Enclosed is sequel to my criticism of Pritchard's
manual. Note how quickly he responded. He
certainly is sensitive to criticism, I really
resented the implication that I was
a raving protectionist. (Maybe I am,
but I sure didn't express those thoughts
in my criticisms -).

SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

Anne Meylan
Department of Zoology
University of FLORIDA
Gainesville
Florida 32611

9 June 1981

Dear Anne:

Many thanks for sending the copy of your letter to Fred Berry. I am sure Fred and Bob Lankford will give your concerns careful consideration. Meanwhile, since I was the author of the wording in question, let me give you my thoughts on why I included it originally and proposed that it be kept.

Firstly, we received a stern lecture in Costa Rica at the meetings last year to the effect that a totally protectionist document was not what IOCARIBE had in mind, and would be ignored by most Caribbean fisheries officers if it turns out that way.

I do think you need to bear in mind that our target audience for the manual is fisheries officers whose constituents are only interested in turtles as things to kill and eat, and who, in many, cases, do not regard turtles as even in danger. Many of those who do realize they are diminishing still feel that it is better to clean them out and get a one-time use from the resource rather than protect it forever on aesthetic grounds. You and I disagree with this philosophy, but we must argue our case persuasively. A document that is protectionist all the way will simply be of no interest to the people whom we wish to influence; even with the "offending" sections, we still have an exceedingly conservative document. My philosophy of dealing with people who are determined to exploit turtles is to tell them how to do it in ways that will not exterminate the population - and this may well incorporate total protection for a time to allow stocks to recover - since they will simply laugh you out of town if you tell them turtles are "special" and should never be exploited under any circumstances. It is like the dilemma you might face if you had a young teenage daughter who was sleeping with her boyfriend; you could preach the virtues of abstinence, and be totally ignored; or you could give her some tips on birth control, and at least she might not end up pregnant.

My own philosophy of turtle exploitation, as you probably know, is extremely protective. I have never eaten turtle, or preached in favor of turtle farming, or offered public comment on the excellence of turtle as a food item. I have

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

921 Lake Sybelia Drive • P. O. Drawer 7 • Maitland, Florida 32751
(305) 647-2615

never even killed turtles for scientific purposes (even though I was urged to get used to doing this by my academic committee year ago), and while I do confess a weakness for pet keeping, many of the turtles in my care have been with me for fifteen years or so now, so I am not really a significant consumer. However, the more I travel around, the more I realize that the world in general does not share my sentimental views on turtles, and is not about to assume them, so I have to adopt biological rather than "personal ethic" arguments. And biologically, I believe turtles are pretty tough, and will survive unless complete mayhem is committed on their populations, especially on the nesting grounds. Ecologically, turtles are not super-sensitive creatures like dodos or flightless rails; they have high reproductive potential and the ability to survive despite predation and setbacks of many kinds.

Regarding your technical points: it still seems to me to be common sense to take the earliest nests if you have to put up with some exploitation of turtle eggs (though, as I mentioned in the manual, even overcrowded nesting grounds are better used as study areas to determine means of natural population control). Indeed, if this were done at really heavily nested sites like Nancite and Ostional, I would not be at all surprised if the season ended up with considerably more hatchlings reaching the sea than otherwise, since when a turtle nests on top of an older nest, both nests are likely to fail. Read Cornelius' and Robinson's excellent report on last season to see what I mean.

I remain unconvinced that some turtles only nest once in a lifetime, unless their life is cut short by predation; it makes no biological sense for an animal to take so long to mature and then nest only once, especially when other, seemingly similar, turtles of the same species may nest a dozen or two times in a lifetime. I think the observation is an artifact of metal-metal tagging; some people conclude that if they do not find a tagged turtle nesting again, then that turtle only nested once in its life. Objections to this reasoning are fairly obvious, and include the following:

- i) It may have nested once or more before it was tagged.
- ii) It may have nested subsequently and not been seen.
- iii) The tag may have dropped off, and the scar healed up.
- iv) It may have been killed by man or another predator before it had a chance to nest again.

And while as you know I am a sworn enemy of repressing "dangerous" information, if people are told that many turtles nest only once in a lifetime, they will invent spurious ways of identifying such turtles, and cart them off for slaughter immediately after their one and only nesting, claiming absolutely no harm to the breeding population or to the species as a whole.

But... giving you all possible benefits of the doubt, there is absolutely no way of allowing every turtle that is hatched to grow into an adult turtles that survives to reproduce. Genetic diversity is thus bound to be lost, and Darwinian principles suggest that it should be lost with every generation of a prolific species; few mutations are beneficial, and surely you do not argue for the retention of the anencephalics, kyphotics, cyclopiacs, albinos, and all the other genetic junk that sea turtles are liable to produce. Less dramatic, but equally a candidate for selective elimination, should be those turtles with severely impaired reproductive systems, that fail completely after a single nesting - if such animals really exist. I would certainly rather select against them than against individuals that reproduce many times in a lifetime, since the former take up ecological space that could be occupied by turtles that were more productive.

Another thought - how do we know for sure that these one-time nesters only nest early in the season? If their nesting were spread out through the season, we would not be selectively disadvantaging them by allowing early eggs to be taken; and if they nested late in the season, their productivity might be enhanced by having a beach with fewer earlier nests to nest it.

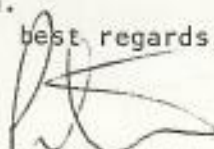
Regarding your point that arribadas may fail to appear subsequent to an early one from which I would propose that people would be allowed to collect eggs: we know that ridleys often nest twice in a season, sometimes three times, and something very funny has happened if a large arribada occurs only once in a season. And of course total loss of a season's eggs is not unprecedented in nature (e.g. when a hurricane denudes Aves Island of sand in mid-season), though naturally I would not advocate that we duplicate such natural disasters as a matter of policy.

I agree that we have not yet reached the point where we can tell people how many eggs can safely be culled from a given beach; Indeed, as any Game Department can tell you, most animal management is still a matter of trial and error - you allow people to take what seems a reasonable number, and if subsequent monitoring shows that you allowed them to take too many, you tighten quotas or close seasons altogether subsequently - but always remembering to feed the actual take rather than the legal take into population equations. So what do we do when a group of eager egg-gatherers ask us at the beginning of a season how many eggs they can take? We will be lucky enough if we even get asked, and will lose all possible credibility if we say you can't take any at all if it is clear that there are lots of turtles nesting and eggs are being lost to erosion and to later nesting turtles. Of course, when there is only light nesting we have to tell them the sad truth - no egg collection - and try and sell them on that thought as best we can. I am sure you will agree with me that, in the countries of South America as a good regional example, the only individual nation where turtles have good prospects of survival is Surinam, despite the calumny that has been heaped on the heads of Schulz, Reichart, etc, for dabbling in turtle ranching. Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, and other nations "protect" sea turtles, but I am sure you have seen what happens in reality.

Regarding the manual not accurately representing the views of turtle conservationists in general: this is always a problem with multi-coauthor productions; if everyone signs off on every word said it is likely to be very bland and non-committal. I prefer to make a few potentially controversial statements and let others do the same; people do not have to agree and it is often more healthy if they don't. But please don't call sections "weak" just because you disagree with them!

This is a long rambling letter; please excuse. I would value your reply if you have time. And please remain assured that, despite the vigor of the intellectual points I have raised in debate, my affection for all you good guys in Bartram Hall remains undimmed.

All best regards,



Peter C.H. Pritchard Ph.D.

Vice President - Science and Research

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

24 July 1981

Dr. Peter C.H. Pritchard
Florida Audubon Society
P.O. Drawer 7
Maitland, FL 32751

Dear Peter:

Your letter arrived while I was in the field in Panama. Please excuse my delay in responding.

I regret missing the IOCARIBE "lecture session" in Costa Rica. Perhaps, if I had attended, I would have a better understanding of the underlying philosophy of the symposium. I must admit that at times the objectives are a bit fuzzy. I like to think, anyway, that we are striving towards research and conservation goals.

I am a bit puzzled that you have interpreted my comments as protectionist. They are not intended to be. I'm appealing only for a document that is neutral on the subject of exploitation. It is my understanding that this is the position of the sponsoring organizations. The conservation manual they issue will be a very influential document, and there is little doubt that it will set the guidelines for turtle management practices in the Caribbean for some time to come. My feeling is that these countries don't need any encouragement in exploitation. There are plenty of people who can and will give them that. I see our role as an educational one, to provide the most up-to-date information on population trends, threats to survival, and conservation techniques, to avert the further decline of turtles in the region.

I remain unconvinced of the wisdom of your suggesting that eggs laid early in the season be harvested. I have some reservations on biological grounds which I have expressed previously, and from a practical point of view, you would have to admit that the chances for abuse in such a harvesting program are enormous. But these are not the issues I was drawing to Fred's attention. Rather, I question the appropriateness of your recommendation in the context of a conservation manual. I'm afraid that the mere suggestion of such a possibility would make fisheries officers feel obligated at least to consider implementing such a program, as a way of making proper use of their countries' natural resources. And in any case, there are probably very few beaches in the Western Atlantic where the recommendation would have any reality.

As a general observation I must say that I don't think we have to lace our comments with talk of exploitation in order to engage the attention of our audience. I think you may be underestimating the good sense of the average Caribbean fisheries officer. Granted, my experience has been primarily with fisheries

officers in the Eastern Caribbean; and perhaps they are less exploitation-minded than those in the larger Central American countries. But, for the most part, they seem intelligently open-minded on the subject of sea turtles, and many are aware of the regional decline in turtle populations. Some countries have recently made the first steps toward stewardship of their turtles, by beefing up existing laws, setting up marine parks, and enforcing CITES regulations. It is my opinion that these fisheries officers have at least a germ of interest in turtle conservation, and will be quite satisfied with a manual that deals only with the practical aspects of research and management in the conservation sense.

I certainly can't take issue with your philosophy of recommending the least injurious methods of exploitation in specific cases where guidance is sought by an exploiter. This is an ideal approach for dealing with people like Suarez. However, it seems to me that, in general, to recommend exploitation to an audience that is not avidly resource oriented is - to modify your analogy - like telling your daughter to sleep with her boyfriend when she has no inclination to do so.

I hope that you will try to see my point of view, whether or not you accept it. I certainly do not want to be quarrelsome, but I do think it is important that the founding document for this symposium doesn't make the job of promoting turtle conservation more difficult than it already is.

Best regards,

Anne

Anne Meylan



CROCODILE BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT
Lake Dale, Rajendranagar Road, Hyderabad-500 264, India.



Grams: MAKARA

Tel: 48160

IBB/74/046/

12 June 1981

Mr. Chris Powch
Dept. of Zoology
University College London
Gower St.
London WC1E 6BT

Dear Mr. Powch,

Thank you for your letter dated 4th January 1981 sent to me at the Australian National University from which it was forwarded by sea mail to India.

I enjoyed reading your letter and would like to see you enter this field. Unfortunately, I am no longer in Australia and we have our own Indian personnel working in sea turtle here. However, the work which I initiated in Australia is being continued and greatly expanded under the very able leadership of Dr. Collin Limpus to whom I am marking a copy of your letter together with copy of my reply. It may be that he will be able to help you. Kindly write to him.

direct. His address is:

Mr. Colin J. Limpus
National Parks & Wildlife Service
Pallaresca
Townsville 4810
Australia

NB → Please do get in touch with him anyfuture because I like your ideas very much. No doubt you read the British Journal of Herpetology. In the Society's Bulletin many articles are now appearing on turtle farming including one by myself about now. The Society is also publishing a booklet later this year on the subject of turtle farming. This will no doubt also be of interest to you and I will also be contributing a paper.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. H.R. Bustard)
Chief Technical Adviser

cc: Dr. Colin J. Limpus, Townsville, Australia.

George,
You might like to pass this info on to whom it concerns in USA. I suspect the "turtle farmers" are going to push their own importance further..

Col.

38d Agusut 1981

Mr. Robert Scott,
Executive Officer,
IUCN/WWF,
Gland,
Switzerland.

Dear Robert,

May I remind you that my grant proposal on hatchery practices and determination of sex in sea turtles has been with IUCN for well over 3 years now. It has been with you for at least 18 months. Over this 3 years I have still received no decision despite several inquiries, including previously to Dr. Munro.

I have also repeatedly asked for information about projects that IUCN/WWF are funding on marine turtles in Brazil. Again no answers.

For IUCN/WWF as an organization I think this kind of thing, which of course is not confined to my own case, does incalculable harm. Reactions of people who have interacted with IUCN/WWF, at least a number I have encountered, generally range from derision to a feeling that it is high time for it to go extinct and its functions to be taken over by other organizations.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Mrosovsky,
Marine Turtle Group

C.C.
Carr
Balazs



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

RFS/PC/3

Dr. George H. Balazs
Deputy Chairman
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii
USA 96744

23 July 1981

Dear George,

I have seen your very pertinent 9 July 1981 enquiry to Pat Chable, focussing on the lack of feedback to specialists who, like yourself, contribute immensely - and often - to the IUCN/WWF project screening process.

You have succeeded in identifying yet another function that IUCN ought to be doing better - or in many cases, doing, period. I have been here long enough now to discover that many such things are not a question of convenience but just flat out lack of time and people to get to. Too often, we let the urgent things shoulder aside the important.

However, IUCN has been examining this very important feedback question lately, in overhauling a number of procedures. It is now established that copies of field project reports, when they are submitted here, will be sent back to the same persons that screened the project originally. This will close the loop on at least some of the projects and give you a chance to evaluate results against your expectations.

We may very well be able to develop also a simple way of letting reviewers know what happens to all of the projects they screen.

I shall be looking into this further, and will get back to you.

cc: HJungius
GLucas
PSand

Sincerely yours,

Robert F. Scott
Executive Officer
Species Survival Commission

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

Animal Behaviour Research Group

Reader in
Animal Behaviour
D. J. McFarland, D.Phil.

South Parks Road
Oxford OX1 3PS

Telephone:
Oxford 56789

9th April 81

Dear George,

I forgot to ask in my letter :

Is it right you have a translation of Scmidt's 1916
paper ? I noticed from Rebel's book that he also
discussed leatherbacks . If I'm correct on this, then
I would much appreciate a xerox of the title page and
pages on leatherbacks from your translation .

yours


Nicholas Mrosovsky

PAKISTAN : SEA TURTLE STAMP

A postage stamp depicting a green turtle is to be issued in Pakistan sometime in June 1981 according to Khair Muhammed Khan (Sind Wildlife Management Board, Karachi, Pakistan) and G. Balazs (Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, Kaneohe, Hawaii, USA).

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

Animal Behaviour Research Group

Reader in
Animal Behaviour
D. J. McFarland, D.Phil.

South Parks Road
Oxford OX1 3PS

Telephone
Oxford (0865) 56789

8th Feb.

Dear George,

Thanks for the note, I will put something along the lines of the enclosed into the MTN...OK?

But I doubt it will be out before June --- probably the fall -

Photos: we certainly cannot afford them on a regular basis. The ones in the last were somewhat of a trial to check for quality, cost etc. We might have photos on special occasions, or if they were really worth a 1000 words.....

If we had more money that would be different. Don't you think IUCN should contribute something towards this publication? They benefit by getting a lot of information distributed that they would want distributed anyway. Lists of the group have been published etc... How can anyone in IUCN possibly think the MTN is not a good thing? I think that would be a constructive gesture on their part ?

yours,

V. J. Wiley
P.S. What was your impression of Cites??

12 May 1981

Dear George:

Thank you for your last letter and peropes. It's really nice to receive things like that, since one feels isolated out here in the mid-Indian Ocean -- especially after spending so many years in Archie's office which is such an information center. Much appreciated!

The proposal of Frazier's was interesting to me, and I will keep it to myself. Why does Frazier keep doing that -- asking for vast sums of money to analyze his data? Since when does one need \$93,604 to analyze 10 years of nesting beach data? There are only an average of about 75 emergences at Cousin each year! I realize that he's only requesting \$30,354 -- but still. You know, George, I have such mixed emotions about Frazier. In a way, I really feel like a shit to have taken this job instead of maybe encouraging Frazier to take it. He did work hard out here, and is very infatuated with the area. But

he behaves so oddly. When I read his proposal I started feeling less sympathetic to him.

Things are going quite well for me here. I've been travelling to the outer islands lately -- Platte, Coetivy and Des Roches. I'll send you a map of the Seychelles so you will know what I am talking about when I write to you about different islands. The marine life is fabulous at these islands. I still haven't been to the really good green turtle islands + near Aldabra. (That's coming at the end of the month.) But the fish, shells, etc. are fabulous! You don't know any good guides to the corals of the Indian Ocean? I doubt there are any. I would love to learn the submarine flora + fauna, but no one here knows any more about it than I do -- esp. the corals + algae. I'm pressing herbarium specimens of algae + seagrasses, and there are pretty good fish guides, but corals, sponges, etc. are problems.

I'm truly impressed with how many hawksbill they still have here, considering how many they are killing.

Take care. I enjoy getting news from you.

Best wishes

JEANN

6th April 1981.

Dear Mr. Balazs,

I should like to thank you most sincerely, for so kindly mailing to me, your publication: SYNOPSIS OF BIOLOGICAL DATA ON THE GREEN TURTLE IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Strange as it may seem, I am in the garage business here in England so in no way a professional "turtle man" but I am very concerned about the conservation of the wild life of the world and I feel that the turtle may be neglected. So to try and keep myself informed about the turtles of the world I try and collect all the information I can about them. Hence my request for your paper.

I belong to THE MARINE TURTLE SOCIETY from whom I receive a NEWSLETTER (which you probably know all about)

I have just returned from a Bird-Watching expedition in Costa Rica and was hoping to see marine turtle there - but no luck. I did manage to see a few species in a tank in Miami!! I have several books on turtles by Archie Carr, Clifford H. Pope, Thomas P. Rebel and Robert Bustard.

Again thanking you for your kindness and generosity.

My kindest regards.

P.S. If you or your organisation

FILED DOWN

Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

P.O. Box 3830,

Honolulu Laboratory,

National Marine Fisheries Service,

Mr. George H. Balazs,



Be properly addressed
POSTCODE II

By air mail Air letter
Par avion Aerogramme

An air letter should not contain any enclosure

Mr. E. H. Down,

"Grey Plover's"

Hendon Wood Lane,

Mill Hill,

London. N.W.7.

Would any of the papers in the bibliography be available
Sender's name and address (Please show your postcode) please?

To open slit here

To open slit here



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

July 16, 1981

TO: Drs. Carr, King, Ehrenfeld, Hirth, Bjorndal, Dodd, Meylan, Ogren, and Moll
Environmental Defense Fund
Traffic USA
Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund

FROM: George Balazs *Seay*

A senior enforcement agent of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Honolulu recently contacted me to ask if I was aware of any technique for identifying canned meat or soup as being derived from green turtles, or sea turtles in general. I was unable to offer a solution, but indicated that I would contact others to see what information might be available.

The particular law enforcement case that this identification problem relates to involves the interstate commerce during early 1981 of canned "green turtle" meat and soup in New York, Hawaii and other states. The company of origin, Moore Soups of New Jersey, claims that the products were all canned in 1972. However, under sea turtle regulations of the U.S. Endangered Species Act, interstate commerce was prohibited in 1979 following a one-year grace period when producers and distributors had the opportunity to liquidate existing stocks.

Confiscations of the canned meat and soup have been made in this case, but prosecution may not be carried out, and the goods may have to be returned to commerce, if it is not possible to identify the contents as being derived from green turtles or one of the other species covered under the Act. As strange as it sounds, I have been told that such identification is deemed essential for a court case, even though the labels on the cans state "Green Turtle Meat", "Clear Green Turtle Soup", "Direct from Sea to Kettle", in addition to having a drawing of a sea turtle (see attached copies of labels).

If any of you can offer suggestions or provide further information on this predicament, I would certainly appreciate hearing from you.

24 July

George:

All I can suggest is that J. Hendrickson told me at the World conference that he had been working on such problems. I believe that his concern at that time was distinguishing ^{tissue from} Commercial from that of wild caught species. His Lysine: Histidine Ratios of turtle shells has of course been published. My memory is cloudy on the subject but it seems the meat was also being examined. whether sea turtles muscle has been compared to ^{with a check} ~~fresh~~ turtles I don't know. Possibly

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



DEPARTMENT OF LANDS, SURVEYS AND ENVIRONMENT

WILDLIFE DIVISION

TELEPHONE:

P.O. BOX 2585,
KONEDOBU,
PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

ALL IUCN MARINE TURTLE
SPECIALIST GROUP MEMBERS

Date: 17 June, 1981.
Our Reference: MTSG/IUCN
Action Officer:
Designation:
Your Reference:
Date:

Dear

George

I need your help. The proposal to declare the Leatherback Turtle Dermochelys coriacea "totally protected" (the first species to be offered total protection) in Papua New Guinea has been approved by the Minister for Environment and Conservation, Mr. Yano Belo. The Gazettal Notice is now being drafted by the Department of Justice.

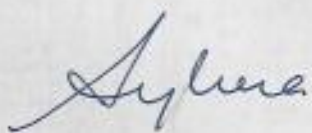
My task now is to let as many people in PNG as possible know about the Leatherback: why it is being protected, and what "total protection" means. This will mean contacting people at village, community, government and public levels. The public level will be contacted through the four newspapers in the country, and the National Broadcasting Commission. There is no television in PNG. The most important levels will be the village and the community levels. These are the people who are most likely to encounter a Leatherback and the people who will make the decision to kill, or leave it alone.

I have a very limited budget, and a staff of one - myself. I need ideas, suggestions, information, and copies of any PR material concerning Leatherbacks which you may know of. Maybe a similar programme was carried out in your country. If so, please let me know.

This Public Awareness Programme is essential in Papua New Guinea to give the Leatherback the protection it needs. Without this programme, the declaration of its protected status would just be a piece of paper.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



SYLVIA SPRING
Biologist-in-Charge,
MARINE TURTLE PROJECT.

P.S. Hope your wife is OK.
Was lovely to see Archie wasn't
it?





ACAR
GIB/025
SETU.



CROCODILE BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

(A Project of the Government of India with assistance from United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations)



CENTRAL CROCODILE BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE

19-4-319, Lake Dale, Rajendranagar Road
Hyderabad-500 264, A.P., INDIA.

Gram: MAKARA

Tel: 48220

IND/74/046/

19 June 1981

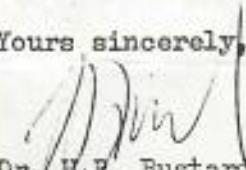
Mr. Tony Mense
Executive Officer
Survival Services Commission
IUCN
1110 Morges
Switzerland

Dear Tony,

... I enclose herewith an information sheet on the discovery of a second mass nesting ground for the Pacific ridley sea turtle in Orissa, India, by one of my Indian Ph.D. students. No doubt this information will be of interest to the Commission and to Members of the IUCN Marine Turtle Group.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dr. U.R. Bustard)
Chief Technical Adviser



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

SSC/PC/3

Sa/3/4

Dr. H.R. Bustard
Chief Technical Adviser
Crocodile Breeding & Management
Project
19-4-319, Lake Dale
Rajendranagar Road
Hyderabad 500 264
A.P.
India

6 July 1981

Dear Dr. Bustard,

Many thanks for your letter of 19 June, together with the information sheet on the discovery of a second mass nesting ground for the Pacific ridley sea turtle in Orissa.

This interesting report has been copied to the Chairman of our IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group and to our Species Conservation Monitoring Unit at Cambridge, U.K. (SCMU).

May I kindly draw your attention to the fact that IUCN left Morges in October 1979 and is now sharing headquarters with WWF in Gland, at the address indicated below.

The Executive Officer for SSC, which is now named Species Survival Commission, is Mr. Robert F. Scott.

Furthermore, Tony Mence is now based in U.K. He is Manager of the new IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre (219 C Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL, UK), of which SCMU is a unit.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Chable
Species Survival Commission

cc: A Carr
G Balazs
J Mence

DISCOVERY OF SECOND MASS NESTING GROUND FOR THE
PACIFIC RIDLEY SEA TURTLE (Lepidochelys olivacea)
IN ORISSA, INDIA

Bustard (1974, 1976) reported on an enormous Pacific ridley sea turtle rookery at Gahirmatha, Orissa, where over 150,000 nesting females are estimated to have laid in the 1975/76 nesting season. Subsequent nesting figures for this beach for the years 1977-1979 were provided by Kar (1980) and Kar and Bhaskar (in press).

Bustard pointed out that this was only one of a number of potentially important nesting areas for the Pacific ridley in Orissa. A second mass nesting ground has now been discovered at the other end of Cuttack District of Orissa, between Nadiakhia muhana and Akasia muhana (Lat. $19^{\circ}98'N$ - $20^{\circ}1'N$ and Long. $86^{\circ}4'E$ - $86^{\circ}45'E$) approximately about 100km south of the Gahirmatha rookery. This nesting ground extends over about 3 to 4km and about 100,000 female ridleys have been estimated to lay annually.

The addition of this nesting population to the area already discovered at Gahirmatha, which has been monitored by me since 1977 together with important areas of nesting beaches between Hukitola island, Paradwip, Astaranga, Konark (Chandravaga beach), Puri, Paluru and Gopalpur on sea brings the conservatively estimated nesting population of this species in Orissa alone to 300,000 per annum.

The Gahirmatha population is protected by its inclusion in the Bhitarkanika Wild Life Sanctuary declared by the Government of India/FAO/UNDP Project, Crocodile Breeding and Management in 1975.

REFERENCES

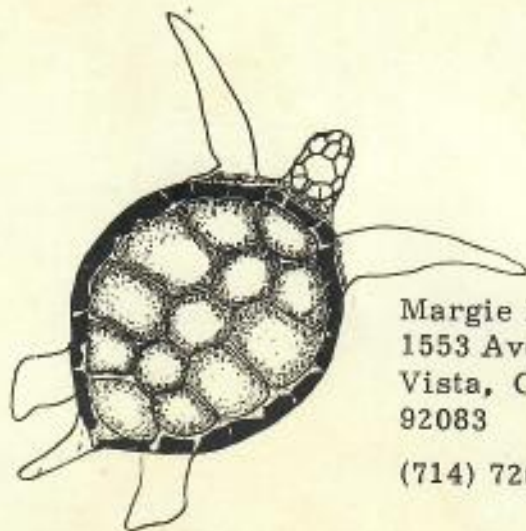
Bustard, H.R. (1974).

Bustard, H.R. (1976). World's largest sea turtle rookery?
Tigerpaper 3(3)

Kar, C.S. (1980). The Gahirmatha turtle rookery along the
coast of Orissa, India. IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Newsletter
No. 15: 2-3.

Kar, C.S. & S. Bhaskar (in press). The status of sea turtles in the
eastern Indian Ocean. Proc. World. Conf. on Sea Turtle
Conservn. Washngton, D.C. 1979.

Chandra Sekhar Kar
Gahirmatha Marine Turtle Research
& Conservation Centre
Post: Satabhaya 754 225
Via Rajnagar, Cuttack Dist.
ORISSA, INDIA



Margie L. Stinson
1553 Avocado Dr.
Vista, California
92083

(714) 726-2228

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

26 July 1981

Dear Dr. Balazs:

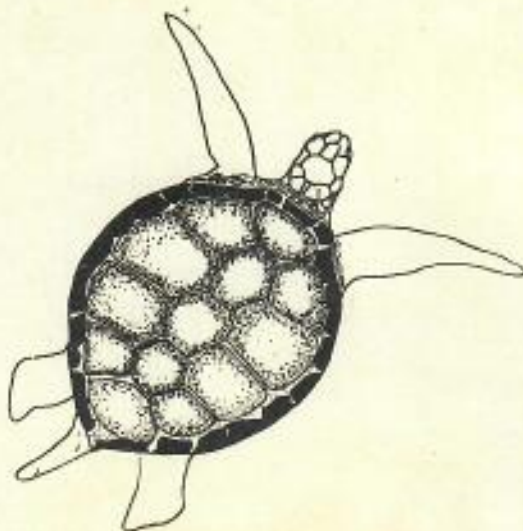
Thank you for your kind letter (26 November 1980) and reprints. I spent most of the winter and spring in Mexico and am only now catching up on data and letters. I have enclosed a letter, which I received as a result of my sea turtle sighting program, involving a Hawaiian sighting-- it is out of my area and hopefully can be of some use to you.

Last year I started my sea turtle sighting report program and distributed copies of the brochure to coastal universities, museums/aquaria, departments of fish and game, as well as to yacht clubs and to commercial fishermen as far north as Alaska. I am hoping to continue this type of program annually.

I am plotting the distribution of the sightings with oceanic temperature, prevailing seasonal ocean currents, fathom contours and distance from shore in hopes of establishing some general biology patterns of sea turtles in the northeastern Pacific. This research is an offshoot of my thesis project involving a population of Chelonia which annually spend November-April in San Diego Bay.

I captured six of these turtles and using a Boston Whaler and temperature-sensing ultrasonic telemetric devices I tracked the turtles locally on a daily and seasonal basis and was able to monitor both body and ambient temperatures simultaneously. I began observations on the population in 1976, captured animals in 1979 and tracked turtles in the 1979 and 1980 seasons. I am now completing the writing of the thesis and hope to graduate from the masters program at San Diego State University this fall.

Balazs -2-
26 July 1981



The San Diego Herpetological Society helped pay some of the printing costs of the brochure and the National Wildlife Laboratory of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service helped in buying some of the telemetric equipment-- for which I am very appreciative. I have personally financed the rest of the project.

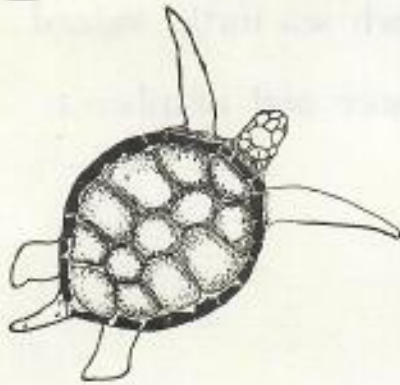
I have received very good response and cooperation not only from the scientific community here but also from the commercial and sport fishermen both here and in Canada. The number of sightings reported seem to indicate that sea turtles are a real part of our coastal environment--we just happen to know very little about this part. I would like very much to stay in touch with you and certainly hope your projects are going well.

Sincerely,

Margie L. Stinson
1553 Avocado Dr.
Vista, California 92083
(714) 726-2228



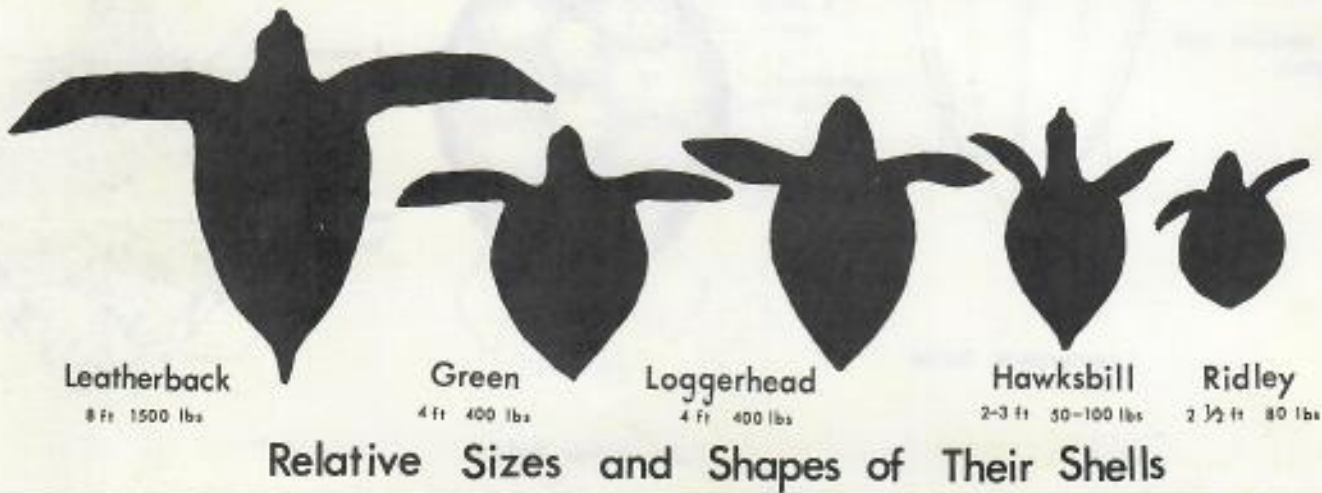
DEVOTED TO THE STUDY, APPRECIATION,
AND CONSERVATION OF LOCAL AND
EXOTIC AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES



Sea Turtle Sighting

Margie L. Stinson
1553 Avocado Drive
Vista (San Diego Co.) California
92083

Report SEA TURTLE Sightings



Please tell me anything you can remember of turtle sightings during past years (no matter how far back).

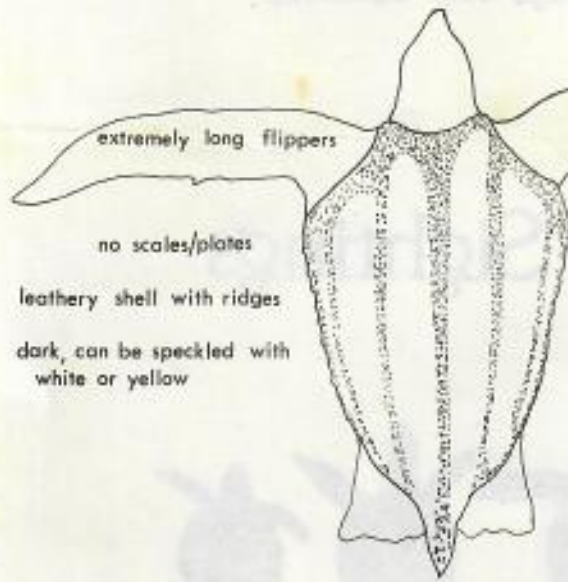
Ridley
Green
Hawksbill

Loggerhead

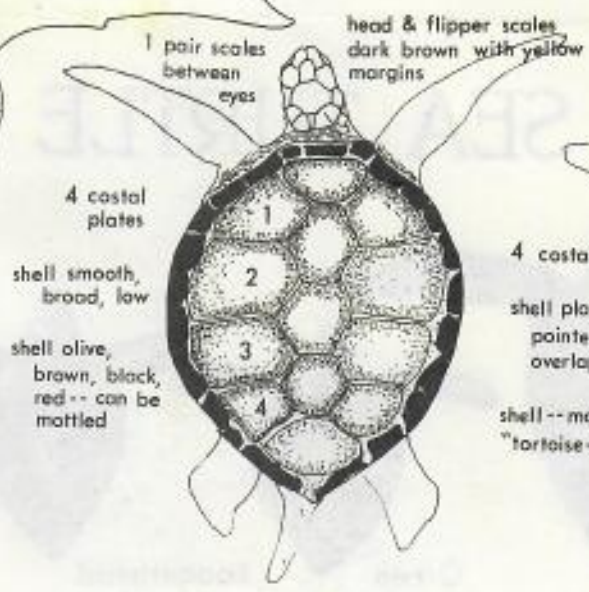
Ridley
rare off California, north

Loggerhead

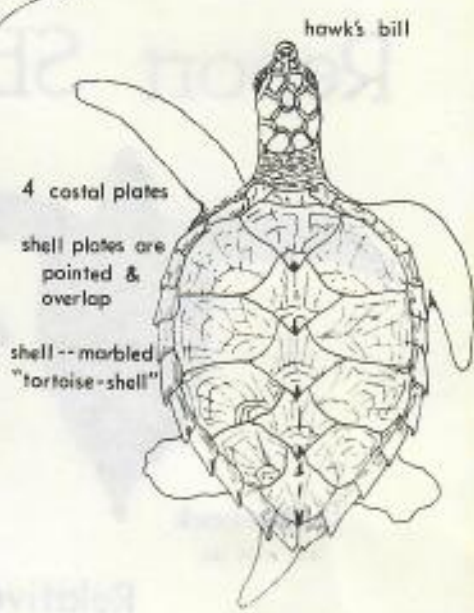
Tropical sea turtles have been reported as far north as Alaska and frequently are seen off southern California. I need information about each sea turtle sighted in order to learn more about their migratory routes, abundance and distribution in the northeastern Pacific Ocean.



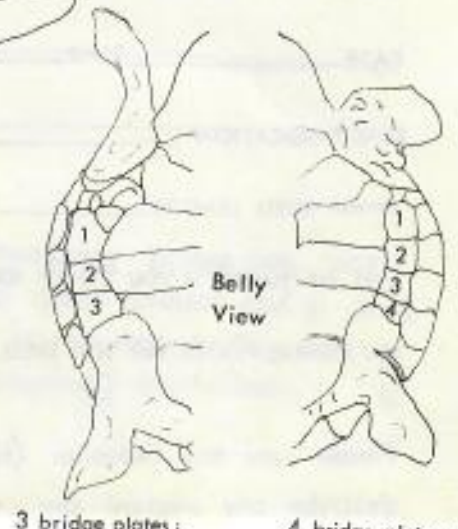
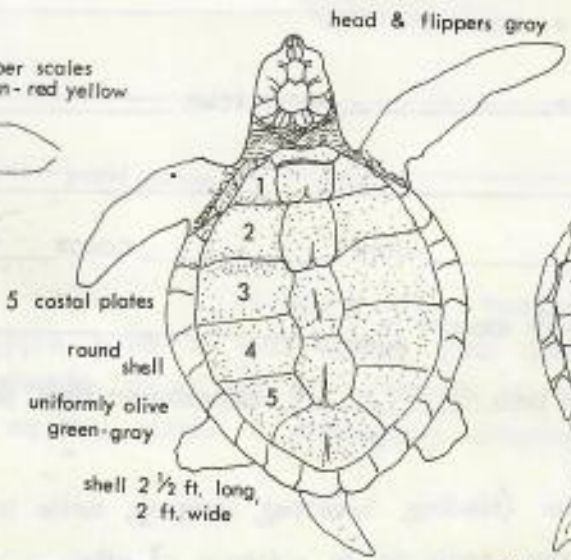
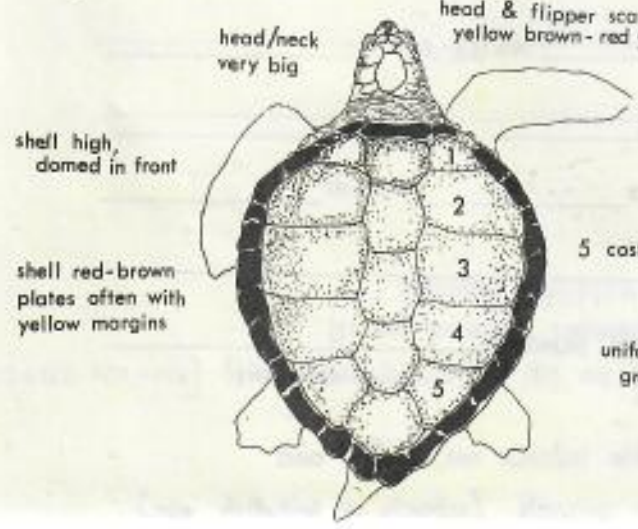
Leatherback Turtle



Green Sea Turtle



Hawk's bill Turtle has not been reported off California



3 bridge plates : 4 bridge plates

COPY

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Coconut Island • P. O. Box 1346 • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

November 26, 1980

Margie L. Stinson
1553 Avocado Drive
Vista, California 92083

Dear Ms. Stinson

One of your "Sea Turtle Sighting" sheets has recently been forwarded to me, therefore I thought I would take this opportunity to establish communication with you concerning our mutual interests in sea turtles. The enclosed reprints describe some of my research activities here in the Hawaiian Islands and at other sites in the Pacific region. When your time permits, I would greatly appreciate hearing of your own special interests and the findings thus far obtained. Is your work financially supported by the San Diego Herpetological Society? Are you currently working on an advanced degree?

Best regards.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Enclosures

26 January

Dear Margie Stinson -

I wonder if you ever received this letter (and reprints) that I sent off to you two months ago? I hope that your work is going well, and I look forward to hearing from you. Sincerely, George Balazs

P.S.

going through my reprints
I find an abstract from.

Am. Zoologist. 19(3) p 983. (1979)

of paper from Annual Meeting Am. Soc. Zool.

Wayne Frazer, The Kings college.

Brascliff Manor N.Y.

on electrophoresis of Turtle blood.

P.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY

The Agassiz Museum



HARVARD UNIVERSITY · CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 · TEL. 617 495-2466

28 July 1981.

Dear George,

Concerning your recent inquiry about identifying turtle products - Wasn't Bill Rainey doing either protein analysis or immunology. ? either of these would quickly demonstrate ^{sea} turtle or non ^{sea} turtle and probably establish at least generic status. The other group who were into that sort of thing was Hendrickson - Owen - perhaps they can help.

I saw Mike Bean in Washington the other day who tells me that Cayman T.F. are beating the ^{DC} hallways again to get the ban on their product raised. Given the outrageous attitude of this administration they might succeed. Mike is preparing for another battle and may need reinforcements soon.

back to the confiscated soup - whose was the meat's origin? Does Traffic USA know about this? My guess would be either from the farm or ridleys from Mexico but it would be nice to know. I've corresponded a bit with Pete Bitchard who seems to be becoming more reasonable. Apparently Suarez thinks Pete let him down somehow and is after his ass (!)

all else is going well I now have four (!) M.S. in typed form and undergoing peer review and rewriting.

- green turtle nesting in Oman
- green turtles on feeding grounds in Oman.
- sex ratio in adult greens (Oman) and implications of Temperature dependent sex determination.
- Loggerheads nesting in Oman.

I hope to have at least two of these sent off before the summer end. I am on leave of absence from the whale/sail job till September and still looking for a more stable position.

I failed to get a job at U. Connecticut. and have written to WWF. Australia inquiring possibilities. I have grant proposals in with NMFS to do juvenile turtles in the Atlantic and with WWF to do a study of Pseudemys felis in the Bahamas.

I bought a small yacht (20') and spend all my spare time sailing which is good for my soul but murder on my bank balance.

A final thought on turtle soup - if all else fails what about a taste test? - a panel of experienced experts. Archie, Peter, the Lord Mayor of London, James Beard etc, cans with the labels artfully concealed in white napkins, identical silver soup spoons, a statistically valid double blind test.? Oh well, just a thought. I Trust all goes well with you. keep in touch.

Regards Penon.



SILLIMAN UNIVERSITY
DUMAGUETE CITY, 6501
PHILIPPINES

July 8, 1981


Dr. George H. Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Honolulu Laboratory
P. O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812
U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Many thanks for your publications. I would have cited them in my paper but they were not available to me at the time of writing. I will do so in the next paper.

Enclosed is a copy of my paper on the Hawksbill. Unfortunately, the printer and the editor made a mess of it. Sorry.

Sincerely yours,


A. C. ALCALA
Professor of Biology
and Vice President
for Academic Affairs

**National
WILDLIFE**

Editorial offices: 225 E. Michigan Milwaukee, Wis. 53202 Phone: 414/273-2486
Publications of the National Wildlife Federation

**International
WILDLIFE**

July 24, 1981

Dear George:

Thanks so much for the calender. It's the first one I've seen that shows the tides. I was also surprised to see, in your photos, that not all of the Leewards are flat atoll-like islands.

I read, not long ago, about the large number of great white shark attacks on humans that have occurred over the years off the coast of California. One reason, apparently, for the large number is that the U.S. Navy has kept track of them in California--whereas in other countries, records are not kept. Are you familiar with anyone who might be aware of attacks by great whites off Hawaii? Do you know any scientists there who are studying these creatures (not for attacks, but for other purposes)? I've become interested in the subject and I'd like to put a piece together on great whites for NW. The attacks would be just part of the discussion; I'd also go into natural history and current research. If you have any thoughts or leads, I'd appreciate hearing.

Here are the two most recent issues.
Best wishes,


Mark Wexler

Mr. & Mrs. Arnold L. Howard

P.M.
June 30. 81

P.O. BOX 4
PAHALA, HAWAII 96777

Dear Balag,

Received reading materials and nice letter today. Although we have not as yet gone into full reading of magazine and about Shark attacks but by running through the pages quickly here + there, it looks like we will be enjoying it. Thanks, a lot. Also, can't remember if I thanked you or not but do want to say Mahalo for the calendar and picture of Christian. He's gonna be a handsome looking boy.

We are proud great-grand parents of a baby boy a week ago today.

How about that (tagged) 1977 Kaalualu Turtle going all the way to Frigate Shoals to nest. Really something.

If you are planning to come over this month, hope it will be before the 30th as we will be leaving for a 2 1/2 wk. vacation to San Leandro Calif., returning August 18th. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
A. Howard's



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

8/7/81

To: George

From: Larry

Excuse the note. Appreciate all the copy & interesting news you send from your hemisphere! Will encourage conservation measures you suggest — we must not get too deep into surveys & research and forget about the necessary practical applications of common sense measures. I circulate all your ideas to "active" NMFS employees in western Atlantic system.

(over)

TRANSMITTAL FORM CD-82A (10-87)
PRESCRIBED BY DAO 214-2

Best ever Larry

Ms Coleman is active in sea turtle protection. However, she does get her facts screwed up vis-a-vis OCEANS. You saw Mike Webers reply; I was thinking of doing it myself, gently, but did not get around to it. Mike should be congratulated.

Recovery Plan still being typed. Am sending you one of the sections I wrote before it was edited by others. Too wordy! More data on subject is now contained in a recent Draft Supplemental EIS yet to be released. You should get a copy... about regs for excluder trawl. write if you don't opt one!

33d Agusut 1981

Mr. Robert Scott,
Executive Officer,
IUCN/WWF,
Gland,
Switzerland.

Dear Robert,

May I remind you that my grant proposal on hatchery practices and determination of sex in sea turtles has been with IUCN for well over 3 years now. It has been with you for at least 18 months. Over this 3 years I have still received no decision despite several inquiries, including previously to Dr. Munro.

I have also repeatedly asked for information about projects that IUCN/WWF are funding on marine turtles in Brazil. Again no answers.

For IUCN/WWF as an organization I think this kind of thing, which of course is not confined to my own case, does incalculable harm. Reactions of people who have interacted with IUCN/WWF, at least a number I have encountered, generally range from derision to a feeling that it is high time for it to go extinct and its functions to be taken over by other organizations.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Mrosovsky,
Marine Turtle Group

c.c.
Carr
Balazs



RFS/PC/3

Dr. George H. Balazs
Deputy Chairman
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii
USA 96744

23 July 1981

Dear George,

I have seen your very pertinent 9 July 1981 enquiry to Pat Chable, focussing on the lack of feedback to specialists who, like yourself, contribute immensely - and often - to the IUCN/WWF project screening process.

You have succeeded in identifying yet another function that IUCN ought to be doing better - or in many cases, doing, period. I have been here long enough now to discover that many such things are not a question of convenience but just flat out lack of time and people to get to. Too often, we let the urgent things shoulder aside the important.

However, IUCN has been examining this very important feedback question lately, in overhauling a number of procedures. It is now established that copies of field project reports, when they are submitted here, will be sent back to the same persons that screened the project originally. This will close the loop on at least some of the projects and give you a chance to evaluate results against your expectations.

We may very well be able to develop also a simple way of letting reviewers know what happens to all of the projects they screen.

I shall be looking into this further, and will get back to you.

cc: HJungius
GLucas
PSand

Sincerely yours,

Robert F. Scott
Executive Officer
Species Survival Commission



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs
Division of Fish and Wildlife

101 ESTATE NAZARETH
ST. THOMAS, VIRGIN ISLANDS 00801

July 30, 1981

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

Dear Dr. Balasz:

Belated thanks for your letter of February 2 written in regards to the research on Leatherback turtles which we were then proposing to undertake. The Leatherback project is now coming to a close, and the words of wisdom offered by experts in the field such as yourself have been most helpful. I have enclosed a draft of the annual report which summarizes the data which had been collected; perhaps you will find it of some interest.

I have made plans to continue the Leatherback research at Sandy Point and to institute an egg relocation program there next year. Although Federal funds are severely limited, support has been granted by The Center for Field Research (Earthwatch). We have also solicited the interest of World Wildlife Fund and other environmental agencies. It is my hope that a hatchery program will not only yield greater information on mortality factors limiting the reproductive success of the species, but will serve to help its recovery.

Dr. George H. Balasz

July 30, 1981

- 2 -

As a personal note, I am planning to return to graduate school in the fall of 1982 to work towards a doctoral degree. I would like to try and use the information I have acquired during this last season and the data I hope to obtain next year in my thesis. I would appreciate any suggestions you might have, both concerning the University of Hawaii as a potential institution for graduate studies, and the work itself.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tundi Agardy

Tundi Agardy
Endangered Species Coordinator

TA:kb

Enclosure

FORM CD-14 (2-76) Prescr. by DAO 214-2	U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE TRANSMITTAL SLIP	DATE 8/7/81
TO: G. Balogh		REF. NO. OR ROOM, BLDG.
FROM: L. Ogren		REF. NO. OR ROOM, BLDG.
ACTION		
<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE	<input type="checkbox"/> PER OUR CONVERSATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN TO ME	<input type="checkbox"/> PER YOUR REQUEST	
<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN WITH MORE DETAILS	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR APPROVAL	
<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND SEE ME ABOUT THIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE ANSWER	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR COMMENTS	
<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> INVESTIGATE AND REPORT	

COMMENTS:
 Ms. Coleman apparently means well but does get her facts mixed-up w/a vis Oceans magazines (see correspondence)

SEFC, Panama City Laboratory
3500 Delwood Beach Road
Panama City, FL 32407

March 26, 1981

F/SEC5:LHO:rb

TO: F/SECx4 - Herb Kumpf
THRU: F/SEC5 - Eugene Nakamura
FROM: F/SEC5 - Larry Ogren
SUBJ: Incidental catch problems with constituents

From time to time this office receives information regarding violations of the Endangered Species Act. Clearly these are matters for our law enforcement division and in the past, the informant has been referred to either state or federal law enforcement agencies. However, the evidence is usually hearsay and after the fact, and there are simply not enough agents available to respond to all the complaints. For example, last week we were asked to clarify the prohibitions against the taking and killing of sea turtles listed as "endangered" or "threatened." A member of a northwest Florida Chamber of Commerce had been informed that local fishermen were killing and consuming "threatened" species of sea turtles because they believed the law prohibiting these actions only pertained to those turtles listed as "endangered." Another similar situation apparently exists in the Florida Keys (see enclosed correspondence). Similar violations are reported to occur regularly in other gulf coast counties of north Florida.

Perhaps more attention should be paid to this problem by other NMFS and state offices if it is as widespread as it appears to be. In the past, and for other states, cooperation by the fishermen was sought from industry representatives and organized fishing groups. This approach was suggested for Florida and Texas (see enclosed letters). Additional efforts towards educating the public and seeking assistance from the fishing industry might help the situation rather than depend solely upon punitive actions and sanctions against violators. My suggestion is to forward this information to the Regional Office for appropriate action.

Enclosures

cc:
F/SECx4 - F. Berry

F/SEC5:LHOgren:3/26/81

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

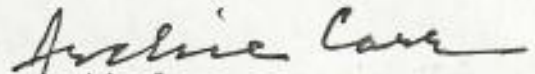
March 20, 1981

Ms. Felicia C. Coleman
25 Legare Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Dear Ms. Coleman:

Please excuse the delay in my reply to your letter of February 15. I have circulated word of the disturbing violations of the laws protecting sea turtles in Florida waters, and also of your wish to generate an alliance among shrimpers and fisheries agencies. Your letter to me has been copied and sent to selected offices and I'll let you know what comes of this. I'm confident it will yield some helpful results.

Sincerely yours,


Archie Carr
Graduate Research Professor

AC:ljw

RECEIVED

MAR 25 1981

NATIONAL MARINE
FISHERIES SERVICE
Panama City Laboratory
Panama City, Florida

Dr. Archie Carr
Florida State Museum
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32601

5 February 1981

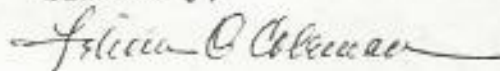
Dear Dr. Carr:

I worked for NMFS this past fall monitoring incidental turtle catch by shrimp trawlers off Rockville, South Carolina. Co-operation from the shrimpers was noteworthy and their interest in helping save marine turtles sincere. They have asked me to inform them of any research done as it pertains to turtles.

A number of South Carolina shrimpers have been fishing off Key West since the season closed here. They were appalled to find Florida fishermen still butchering turtles. They immediately contacted me. The fishermen they met were apparently unaware of the consequences of their actions. I was told that they were also oblivious of impending restrictions and regulations which may be imposed on them. I find it rather hard to believe that they do not keep abreast of issues affecting them so directly. Nonetheless, I appeal to you to help me find out if the Florida Shrimper's Association (or whatever organization is involved) informs the fishermen of these things. South Carolina fishermen would like to start some form of alliance between the shrimpers and the Marine Resource divisions of the southeastern states.

Any suggestions you could offer would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,



Felicia C. Coleman
25 Legare Street
Charleston, S.C. 29401

About the Authors



Bry

C. J. Bry is a research assistant at the Fish Physiology Laboratory of the French Agronomical Research National Institute (INRA) where his research focuses on the physiology of stress in salmon and pikes and practical problems of intensive fish culture.

He has also been an enthusiastic diver and a fascinated fish watcher. As an underwater photographer, he is primarily concerned with shooting behavioral sequences of fish activities in their natural environment. His story on young remoras and their hosts is a typical example of the latter interest.

Felicit Coleman has completed the master's program in marine biology at the College of Charleston and is currently free-lance writing. Her research dealt with the systematics and reproductive biology of fishes. She spent her early years around salt marshes which kindled her strong interest in wading birds. Her second article for *Sea Frontiers* concentrates on Drum Island, South Carolina and the effects of dredging on the birds nesting there.

Dolly Connelly lives on Discovery Bay of the Olympic Peninsula south of the charming nineteenth-century town of Port Townsend, Washington. A free-lance writer, she has been a correspondent of the publications of Time, Inc. for many years. She has written extensively about her travels throughout the world and has visited, written about, and photographed such exotic places as Siberia, the Arctic, Fiji, New Zealand, the Strait of Magellan, and Peru. In her current article for *Sea Frontiers*, she explores the mysteries of Easter Island.



Coleman



Connelly



de Sylva



Gibson



Penrose

Donald P. de Sylva is a researcher and professor of Oceanographic Sciences and is involved in projects as ciguatera in fishes, artificial reefs, and the effects of environmental changes on coral reefs. He has published over 100 articles in the United States and Asia, and has been a frequent speaker at international conferences. His research interests include the effects of human activities on coral reef ecosystems. He is currently continuing his research on coral reef ecology.

Mark E. Gibson is a marine biologist at the University of South Carolina. He is an underwater photographer and his writings have appeared in many magazines. He is also a naturalist and has written for *Norcal Geographic*. Mr. Gibson is currently completing his solo bicycle trip around the world.

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well. Mr. Prybot is to be congratulated for his sensitive portrayal of the fisherman's life at sea.

I would certainly look forward to seeing a future issue devoted to the fishing industry!

Anne L. Medico
Gloucester, Massachusetts

DOLPHINS TEMPERED BY REASON

I want to commend you upon the publication of the brilliant "Delphinus Sapiens" article by Zihlman and Lowenstein in the March/April issue of your magazine. I teach a college-level class on marine mammals at Orange Coast College. I am constantly frustrated by the overwhelming number of articles published each year, which my students always seem to read, that present incorrect or misleading information about dolphins.

Don't get me wrong. I believe dolphins are very intelligent and deserve our attention and consideration. It's just that there are so many articles and T. V. programs that come out each year which totally misrepresent our scientific knowledge about dolphins. Even worse, I have seen many programs or articles which attribute humanlike behavior or intelligence to dolphins. I personally believe that does a disservice to dolphins and whales. Their intelligence and behavior is of a special type, an ocean variety. Anyone that pretends to understand this or naively attributes a human or terrestrial intelligence to dolphins is really, in my opinion, just demonstrating his own ignorance. Thank you for publishing a most "intelligent" description of our present (mis)-understanding of these amazing organisms we call dolphins.

I would really like to see OCEANS dedicate an issue to my favorite "forgotten" bit of United States Oceanographic history. I am referring to the "Great American Exploring Expedition" of 1838-1842.

Professor Dennis L. Kelly
Marine Science Department
Orange Coast College
Costa Mesa, California

TURTLE RESCUE

We are writing concerning Felicia C. Coleman's article "Shrimpers and Turtles" in the March issue of OCEANS. Besides several errors of fact, the article is misleading in several respects.

Please note the following factual errors. The average number of nests laid by sea turtles in the southeastern United States is two to four, not six. Also, the average number of eggs deposited in a nest is 110-120, not 200.

Secondly, most of the sea turtles which have been caught in shrimp nets are immature animals and not adults. As a result, the impact of this taking upon the reproductive capacity of U.S. loggerhead populations will not be felt for a number of years.

Many turtle scientists are concerned about the incidental mortality of sea turtles, contrary to Ms. Coleman's assertion in her article.

Finally, while further investigation is needed, there is evidence that some of the sea turtles found stranded in the Chesapeake Bay area were drowned in pound fish nets.

One need not gloss over the potential magni-

tude of the incidental take of sea turtles in shrimp nets in order to avoid pointing "an accusatory finger" at shrimpers. There is strong evidence that the shrimpers are incidentally taking large numbers of sea turtles in their nets.

First of all, the number of strandings over each of the last several years has increased markedly when the shrimping season has begun. Secondly, many turtles brought aboard shrimp vessels are not just comatose, but dead. Finally, those turtles which are found stranded and dead on shore represent only a fraction of those drowned in nets. Others either sink or drift out to sea or drift ashore in inaccessible areas or are covered with sand by the tides before they are discovered.

While incidental take is not the only problem confronting the recovery of sea turtle populations off the southeastern U.S., it is certainly a clear and avoidable threat.

There does appear to be a means of reducing incidental take without reducing shrimp catch. The Turtle Excluder Device (TED) which has been developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service is nearing perfection. The TED will reduce the incidental take of sea turtles by about 90%, so that far fewer sea turtles requiring attention end up on shrimp boat decks.

What is more, the TED has reduced the shrimp catch only marginally in some tests and has, remarkably, increased shrimp catch in others. Further refinements in the TED may not only eliminate any marginal loss in shrimp catch, but may also reduce the incidental take of non-target species of finfish and crustacea. In many cases, the millions of pounds of such "by-catch" are simply thrown overboard as "trash." Surely this is an assault on the health of our coastal ecosystems which should be avoided. Additionally, there is evidence that the sea life which is thrown overboard attracts sea turtles, which are then in the path of the nets.

The Sea Turtle Rescue Fund (STRF) is committed to a resolution of the incidental take problem. We are supporting the construction and use of the TED by several shrimp fishermen in the southeastern U.S. This project will aid in the perfection of the TED at a time when federal budget cuts threaten to undo recent progress. Using this device will be far less burdensome than restrictions on when and where shrimpers may set their nets.

While we do not mean to minimize the impact of certain types of coastal development, the threat which coastal development poses sea turtles is not so black and white as Ms. Coleman puts it. Public awareness campaigns in Florida, for instance, have brought rather dramatic results. In a number of developed areas, the rate of hatching success is much higher than it is in wild areas. This is largely because the beaches are monitored by concerned residents.

The role of the STRF is, at this time, supportive, rather than adversarial. The shrimpers are the only people who can directly reduce incidental take. We are doing our utmost to help them.

Michael Weber
Sea Turtle Rescue Fund
Washington D. C.



MONITOR

THE CONSERVATION, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND ANIMAL WELFARE CONSORTIUM

1506 19th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 234-6576
July 1981

Dear Friend of Monitor,

I need your help. It will take only a few minutes of your time.

I'd appreciate if you would write me a short letter stating how valuable you find the Monitor information packets you have been receiving.

Monitor has survived and grown because it provides a unique service to the conservation community. We receive financial support from our member groups, foundations and individuals because of our role as information clearing-house and action-coordinator on marine mammal and endangered species issues.

Inflation and our expanded services require that we seek funding from more sources. A statement from you will help demonstrate how vital Monitor is to the cause of wildlife conservation worldwide.

You and more than 150 conservation leaders receive our Monitor packets. They are also distributed to key environmental reporters at leading newspapers, magazines and TV networks. U.S. Government officials in Congress and the executive agencies are also supplied our information.

Leading conservationists in Europe, Africa, Latin America, Asia and Australia are kept informed about U.S. and global issues through the bi-weekly Monitor mailings. Many conservationists have already expressed how extremely useful they find the Monitor service. As one says, "A well-informed conservationist is an effective conservationist."

By gathering and disseminating information on wildlife and related environmental issues from across the U.S. and around the world, we are able to give you a broad perspective of the state of the natural world. We will continue to do this if we can have the full support of you and other conservationists.

Could you take a few minutes to write me your comments on Monitor? Thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "CRAIG". The letters are stylized and slanted.

Craig Van Note
Executive Vice President



MONITOR

THE CONSERVATION, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND ANIMAL WELFARE CONSORTIUM

1506 19th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 234-6576

IN THE DEFENSE OF MARINE MAMMALS AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

-- The Monitor Story --

Monitor is a consortium of more than thirty conservation, environmental and animal welfare organizations in the United States (see list on reverse). It acts as an information clearing-house and action-coordinator for its member groups and other conservationists around the world for the protection of marine mammals and endangered species.

Monitor was formed in 1972 and 1973 when several public interest groups joined in Washington to work for the passage of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. These landmark U.S. environmental laws led to the creation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), signed in Washington in 1974. More than sixty-five nations have ratified the treaty since then.

Weekly Meetings -- Every Monday at noon, representatives of the Monitor member organizations meet in Washington to share information and coordinate strategies on the protection of wildlife and its habitat. By developing common positions and strategies, and pooling the diverse resources of the interested groups, we have been able to effectively influence governmental and commercial activities both nationally and worldwide.

Information Service -- Monitor serves as the eyes and ears of conservationists across the U.S. and around the world, "monitoring" the status of all species, from the great whales and elephants to birds and plants. Every two weeks, packets of information are mailed out to more than 130 key environmentalists, officials and journalists in the U.S. and overseas.

Representatives from the Monitor consortium regularly meet with U.S. government officials to participate in policy-making under domestic laws as well as treaties. Monitor groups' leaders often serve as observers at or on the U.S. delegations to CITES, the International Whaling Commission, the Migratory Species Convention, the North Pacific Fur Seal Convention, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (for dolphin protection) and other treaty organizations.

Monitor groups have organized and led the campaigns to save the whales, dolphins, seals, sea otters, wolves, vicuna, kangaroos, elephants and many other endangered species.

The Monitor office is run by Craig Van Note, executive vice president, and Kristina Harper, program director. The Monitor operation is supported financially by its member groups and by grants from foundations and interested individuals.

The board of directors of the Monitor consortium is:
President - John Grandy (Defenders of Wildlife); Vice President - John Hoyt (The Humane Society of the United States); Secretary - Christine Stevens (Animal Welfare Institute); Treasurer - Lewis Regenstein (The Fund for Animals); Members - Milton Kaufmann (Let Live); Robert Hughes (Sierra Club); David Clafin (Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals); Donna Hart (International Fund for Animal Welfare); and John Frizell (Greenpeace U.S.A.).

####

Member Organizations of the Monitor Consortium (1981)

1. American Cetacean Society
2. American Littoral Society
3. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
4. Animal Welfare Institute
5. Audubon Naturalist Society
6. Birmingham Marine Animal Protection Society
7. Center for Action on Endangered Species
8. Center for Ocean Studies
9. Committee for the Preservation of the Tule Elk
10. Connecticut Cetacean Society
11. Defenders of Wildlife
12. Friends of the Sea Otter
13. Friends of Whales
14. The Fund for Animals
15. Georgetown University Biology Club
16. Greenpeace U.S.A.
17. The Humane Society of the United States
18. Institute for Delphinid Research
19. International Fund for Animal Welfare
20. International Primate Protection League
21. Let Live
22. Massachusetts Audubon Society
23. Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
24. Montgomery County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
25. National Parks and Conservation Association
26. Rare Animal Relief Effort
27. Save the Dolphins
28. Sierra Club
29. Society for Animal Protective Legislation
30. Washington Humane Society
31. The Whale Center
32. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center

Participating Organizations

1. Florida Audubon Society
2. Natural Resources Defense Council
3. The Wilderness Society

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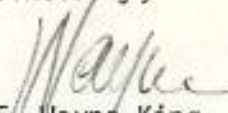
July 1, 1981

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

Dear George:

I am unable to find the copy of this year's letter that went out from IUCN Headquarters reminding commission members that their appointments expire on the occasion of the General Assembly. However, I am sending you a copy of the Statutes and Regulations of IUCN, they are printed on the left-hand pages and right-hand pages respectively. Please note page 18 concerning Article 8, para 2 (e). In addition, I'm sending you a copy of the Organization and Functions of the Species Survival Commission. Both of these documents explain the three-year term of office. If you need to send out a letter, all you have to do is keep it totally impersonal and quote from the Statutes and Regulations.

Sincerely,


F. Wayne King
Director

FWK:ss

Enclosures

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

June 4, 1981

Mr. Fred Berry
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Fisheries Center
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, Florida 33149

Dear Fred:

I regret that I have only recently been able to read the *Manual of Sea Turtle Research and Conservation Techniques* carefully. One section of this seems weak, and although my comments are late, I would like to bring several points to your attention. The section is D.1.5 94 of the First Edition (pages 94-96; see attached photocopy). The marked portion of the text on pages 94 and 95 bears on an entirely extraneous topic, namely exploitation. The symposium is supposedly focusing on research and conservation. Why recommend exploitation? Moreover, the tacit assumption that the viewpoint presented is shared by most sea turtle biologists may not be justified.

I also disagree strongly with the recommendation that eggs laid early in the season could be harvested. There are a number of points involved here. One important one is the maintenance of genetic diversity. A considerable percentage of turtles nest only once in their lifetime, and if their eggs are harvested, their genes are lost from the population. Why not encourage transplanting these to safe locations? Also, what if all the early eggs in a season are harvested, and later *arribadas* fail to materialize? I don't think we have reached the point where we can predict what a season will bring, and how many eggs can safely be culled. In any case, there are very few places where nesting is dense enough for this to be a topic of concern. My primary objection, however, is that all this discussion concerns exploitation, which is not in any way relevant to the theme of the section, namely techniques of conservation and management. I think the entire marked text could profitably be deleted. Dr. Carr and Dr. Bjorndal share these convictions.

The same criticism of irrelevance and inappropriateness also applies to paragraph 2 on page 95, in the same section. Whether or not the recommendations are valid, they do not belong here.

I also think that paragraph 2 on page 96 should be slightly reworded to emphasize the danger of decreasing hatching rates.

Again, I apologize for submitting these comments late, but they seem to me to be sufficiently important to warrant consideration for incorporation into the current version that will be distributed to the national delegates.

Sincerely yours,

Anne Meylan
Research Assistant to Dr. A. Carr

cc: P. Pritchard
L. Ogren

SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

Anne Meylan
Department of Zoology
University of FLORIDA
Gainesville
Florida 32611

9 June 1981

Dear Anne:

Many thanks for sending the copy of your letter to Fred Berry. I am sure Fred and Bob Lankford will give your concerns careful consideration. Meanwhile, since I was the author of the wording in question, let me give you my thoughts on why I included it originally and proposed that it be kept.

Firstly, we received a stern lecture in Costa Rica at the meetings last year to the effect that a totally protectionist document was not what IOCARIBE had in mind, and would be ignored by most Caribbean fisheries officers if it turns out that way.

I do think you need to bear in mind that our target audience for the manual is fisheries officers whose constituents are only interested in turtles as things to kill and eat, and who, in many, cases, do not regard turtles as even in danger. Many of those who do realize they are diminishing still feel that it is better to clean them out and get a one-time use from the resource rather than protect it forever on aesthetic grounds. You and I disagree with this philosophy, but we must argue our case persuasively. A document that is protectionist all the way will simply be of no interest to the people whom we wish to influence; even with the "offending" sections, we still have an exceedingly conservative document. My philosophy of dealing with people who are determined to exploit turtles is to tell them how to do it in ways that will not exterminate the population - and this may well incorporate total protection for a time to allow stocks to recover - since they will simply laugh you out of town if you tell them turtles are "special" and should never be exploited under any circumstances. It is like the dilemma you might face if you had a young teenage daughter who was sleeping with her boyfriend; you could preach the virtues of abstinence, and be totally ignored; or you could give her some tips on birth control, and at least she might not end up pregnant.

My own philosophy of turtle exploitation, as you probably know, is extremely protective. I have never eaten turtle, or preached in favor of turtle farming, or offered public comment on the excellence of turtle as a food item. I have

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

921 Lake Sybelia Drive • P. O. Drawer 7 • Maitland, Florida 32751
(305) 647-2615

never even killed turtles for scientific purposes (even though I was urged to get used to doing this by my academic committee year ago), and while I do confess a weakness for pet keeping, many of the turtles in my care have been with me for fifteen years or so now, so I am not really a significant consumer. However, the more I travel around, the more I realize that the world in general does not share my sentimental views on turtles, and is not about to assume them, so I have to adopt biological rather than "personal ethic" arguments. And biologically, I believe turtles are pretty tough, and will survive unless complete mayhem is committed on their populations, especially on the nesting grounds. Ecologically, turtles are not super-sensitive creatures like dodos or flightless rails; they have high reproductive potential and the ability to survive despite predation and setbacks of many kinds.

Regarding your technical points: it still seems to me to be common sense to take the earliest nests if you have to put up with some exploitation of turtle eggs (though, as I mentioned in the manual, even overcrowded nesting grounds are better used as study areas to determine means of natural population control). Indeed, if this were done at really heavily nested sites like Nancite and Ostional, I would not be at all surprised if the season ended up with considerably more hatchlings reaching the sea than otherwise, since when a turtle nests on top of an older nest, both nests are likely to fail. Read Cornelius' and Robinson's excellent report on last season to see what I mean.

I remain unconvinced that some turtles only nest once in a lifetime, unless their life is cut short by predation; it makes no biological sense for an animal to take so long to mature and then nest only once, especially when other, seemingly similar, turtles of the same species may nest a dozen or two times in a lifetime. I think the observation is an artifact of monel-metal tagging; some people conclude that if they do not find a tagged turtle nesting again, then that turtle only nested once in its life. Objections to this reasoning are fairly obvious, and include the following:

- i) It may have nested once or more before it was tagged.
- ii) It may have nested subsequently and not been seen.
- iii) The tag may have dropped off, and the scar healed up.
- iv) It may have been killed by man or another predator before it had a chance to nest again.

And while as you know I am a sworn enemy of repressing "dangerous" information, if people are told that many turtles nest only once in a lifetime, they will invent spurious ways of identifying such turtles, and cart them off for slaughter immediately after their one and only nesting, claiming absolutely no harm to the breeding population or to the species as a whole.

But... giving you all possible benefits of the doubt, there is absolutely no way of allowing every turtle that is hatched to grow into an adult turtles that survives to reproduce. Genetic diversity is thus bound to be lost, and Darwinian principles suggest that it should be lost with every generation of a prolific species; few mutations are beneficial, and surely you do not argue for the retention of the anencephalics, kyphotics, cyclopics, albinos, and all the other genetic junk that sea turtles are liable to produce. Less dramatic, but equally a candidate for selective elimination, should be those turtles with severely impaired reproductive systems, that fail completely after a single nesting - if such animals really exist. I would certainly rather select against them than against individuals that reproduce many times in a lifetime, since the former take up ecological space that could be occupied by turtles that were more productive.

Another thought - how do we know for sure that these one-time nesters only nest early in the season? If their nesting were spread out through the season, we would not be selectively disadvantaging them by allowing early eggs to be taken; and if they nested late in the season, their productivity might be enhanced by having a beach with fewer earlier nests to nest it.

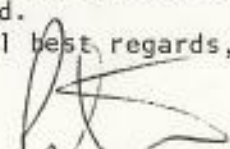
Regarding your point that arribadas may fail to appear subsequent to an early one from which I would propose that people would be allowed to collect eggs: we know that ridleys often nest twice in a season, sometimes three times, and something very funny has happened if a large arribada occurs only once in a season. And of course total loss of a season's eggs is not unprecedented in nature (e.g. when a hurricane denudes Aves Island of sand in mid-season), though naturally I would not advocate that we duplicate such natural disasters as a matter of policy.

I agree that we have not yet reached the point where we can tell people how many eggs can safely be culled from a given beach; indeed, as any Game Department can tell you, most animal management is still a matter of trial and error - you allow people to take what seems a reasonable number, and if subsequent monitoring shows that you allowed them to take too many, you tighten quotas or close seasons altogether subsequently - but always remembering to feed the actual take rather than the legal take into population equations. So what do we do when a group of eager egg-gatherers ask us at the beginning of a season how many eggs they can take? We will be lucky enough if we even get asked, and will lose all possible credibility if we say you can't take any at all if it is clear that there are lots of turtles nesting and eggs are being lost to erosion and to later nesting turtles. Of course, when there is only light nesting we have to tell them the sad truth - no egg collection - and try and sell them on that thought as best we can. I am sure you will agree with me that, in the countries of South America as a good regional example, the only individual nation where turtles have good prospects of survival is Surinam, despite the calumny that has been heaped on the heads of Schulz, Reichart, etc, for dabbling in turtle ranching. Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, and other nations "protect" sea turtles, but I am sure you have seen what happens in reality.

Regarding the manual not accurately representing the views of turtle conservationists in general: this is always a problem with multi-coauthor productions; if everyone signs off on every word said it is likely to be very bland and non-committal. I prefer to make a few potentially controversial statements and let others do the same; people do not have to agree and it is often more healthy if they don't. But please don't call sections "weak" just because you disagree with them!

This is a long rambling letter; please excuse. I would value your reply if you have time. And please remain assured that, despite the vigor of the intellectual points I have raised in debate, my affection for all you good guys in Bartram Hall remains undimmed.

All best regards,



Peter C.H. Pritchard Ph.D.
Vice President - Science and Research

29 June 1981

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

Dear George,

Just got back from a month in Panama. It was a great trip - but exhausting! Peter and I spent a week out at Chiriqui Beach, a week out on Bastimentos Island, and another 2 weeks visiting places around Chiriqui Lagoon - operating out of Bocas. Lots of turtle news - too much to say in a letter. Chiriqui Beach had over 800 leather-back tracks, and I'm sure that's only a fraction of this year's total. The beach has been wiped clean by high tides, and it is really the tail-end of the season. The hawkbill news isn't so good. About a 1/2 dozen h'bills nesting nightly on the 18 mile beach. And that is sufficient to keep a velador system in operation. Each mile has been leased out and is patrolled nightly by Guayami Indians. The Panamanian govt. is scared to death of interfering with the Indians, so the slaughter goes on ^{at Bocas} incidentally, if the catch of Tort. green turtles is any indication (and I think it is), the green turtle season is on the slim side. We'll see.

Enclosed is ~~some~~ a fairly pointless volley of communication on the Sea Turtle Conserv. Manual. I sent ~~to~~ my letter to Fred Berry, but Pritchard

ended (instantly!) as senior author. I think
we missed my point, which was not to argue the
validity of the recommendations he makes, but
to point out their irrelevance in a conservation
manual. Now, that's not being an ultra protectionist
is it? Anyway, I haven't heard if Berry has made
any decision on it.

I saw ~~off~~ that you were looking for the ^{Aust.} turtle
management paper - we had 6 copies, originally,
from Limpus (the good guy). Parmenter really
sounded crabby and tight in his letter.

A sea turtle meeting in Australia sounds too
good to be true. AC hasn't called Limpus
yet, but he did say he thought it should be
held in conjunction with the Oct. SSC-UCN
mtg. in New Zealand, in order to improve
funding possibilities. He is in N. Carolina
for a week - I think he'll attend to it
upon return.

Did you get an IUCN proposal on ^{the} Solomons?
I haven't read it yet. Don't that Bonger's
business a bunch of crap! Now he wants
IUCN to fund that boondoggle!

Have to run. Will try to keep in touch more
regularly. Ist should be in Gainesville for
a good while. (I hope).
Best regards, Anne

Sorry to hear of Linda's miscarriage. I hope she is OK now.

EAST COAST NATIONAL PARKS REGIONAL OFFICE
TURTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
BOX 768, SANDAKAN, SABAH, MALAYSIA.
CABLES "NATAPARK", SANDAKAN. TEL. 2188

Your Ref:-

Our Ref:- ECNPRO/52/1/102

Date: 20th July, 1981

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



Dear George,

Many thanks for your letters and the reprints which reached me today. Regarding the consultancy, should funds become available, it will still be open if you change your mind. Anyway, I will keep you informed.

Regarding the Turtle Islands National Park - the park still and will exist under its own name, but as this office controls other parks in addition to the Turtle Islands, the name change was necessary for administrative reasons.

Will keep you informed regarding the Philippines situation.

With all good wishes and regards.

Yours sincerely,

Stanley
G. S. de Silva



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

← Second fold here →

East Coast National Parks Regional Office

Sender's name and address: Turtle Islands National Parks

P. O. Box No: 768 Sandakan,

Sabah, East Malaysia



AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
 ENCLOSURE: IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
 OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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George Balazs
 1980 . 5 . 10

skin diver

8490 SUNSET BOULEVARD • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90069 • (213) 657-5100

July 13, 1981

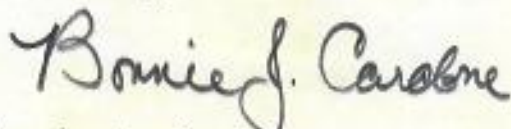
Mr. George H. Balazs
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, HI. 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thank you very much for your recent letter, and the enclosed article. Your material is being returned to you with this letter as we are unable to use it at the present time.

Thank you for your interest in SKIN DIVER.

Sincerely,



Bonnie J. Cardone
Senior Editor
SKIN DIVER Magazine

BJC:ra

Encl.



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3200

YOUR REFERENCE
U VERWYSINGSNOMMER

PLEASE QUOTE OUR REFERENCE E. 6/1 Turtles
MELD ASSEBLINF ONS VERWYSINGSNOMMER

18 June 1981

*Send
Need copy of
Mike BERN
correspondence*

Dr 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 your letter of 29 April and the comments regarding papers. I agree and shall endeavour to supply as and when (and perhaps if), I can produce any in the near future. Hope that you are well,

Yours sincerely,

J. D. Hughes
For : DIRECTOR

(Very good that was automatic.)

GRH/klh

George

PER LUGPOS
BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION



NATAL PARKS, GAME AND FISH PRESERVATION BOARD



**AËROGRAM
AEROGRAM**

AAN
TO

DR GEORGE BALAZS,
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA,
HAWAII INSTITUED OF MARINE BIOLOGY,
P.O. BOX 1346,
COCONUT ISLAND,
KANEOHE, HAWAII, 96744



TWEEDE VOU—SECOND FOLD

NAAM EN ADRES VAN AFSENDER
SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

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RAAD VIR DIE BEWARING VAN NATALSE PARKE, WILD EN
P.O. BOX/POSBUS 662
PIETERMARITZBURG
SOUTH AFRICA
3200

INSLUITINGS WORD NIE TOEGELAAT NIE
ENCLOSURES ARE NOT PERMITTED

VERSEËL EERS DIE TWEE SYKLAPPE, DAN HIERDIE EEN—SEAL THE TWO SIDE FLAPS FIRST, THEN THIS ONE

SNY HIERDIE KLAP EERSTE OOP

TO OPEN, CUT THIS FLAP FIRST

EERSTE VOU—FIRST FOLD

Zona Arqueologica del Tajin
Tajin Archeology Zone
Papantla, Ver. Mex.

7/3

George,
Memories of Mt. Albam!
(However much smaller... I've
now finished my work at Rancho
Nuevo and, except for the flooding
of some nests at the edge of one
cove during a storm, things went
very well indeed. We even had a
crabada of over 200 turtles!
Traveled for a week with Carl
Woody (Jack's daughter) and am
on my own here for another week
+ 1/2. After that, I go to Maine for a
marine biology course til mid-August.
really too bad. I'll get in touch with
you when I get home to see how things
are going (know my slide is safe) Take care
George

Sr. George Balams
US Dept. of Commerce
NOAA, NMFS, POB 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii
USA ~~95122~~





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

Commission du service de sauvegarde - Survival Service Commission

SSC/PC
Sa/3/2
SSC/54/80

Sir Peter Scott
Chairman Emeritus SSC
The Wildfowl Trust
Slimbridge
Gloucestershire GL2 7BT
England

17 June 1981

Dear Sir Peter,

At the recent SSC meeting in Gland, it was agreed to send the enclosed letter of intervention to President Reagan on incidental take of sea turtles by southeastern U.S. shrimp fishermen.

In view of the fact that you signed the letter to President Carter on the same subject, we would appreciate if you signed this letter on our behalf.

Many thanks in advance.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Chable
Species Survival Commission.

Encl.

cc: GLucas
ASchultz

LMTalbot/Psand

FWKing

A Carr

GBalazs



THE NEW GROUNDS
SLIMBRIDGE
GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Tele : Cambridge (045-389) 333
Cables : Wildfowl Dursley

International Union for Conservation of Nature & Natural Resources
Species Survival Commission

The purpose of this letter is first to commend the U.S. Government on its efforts and plans to reduce the mortality of sea turtles due to incidental take in trawl nets by southeastern U.S. shrimp fishermen and secondly to urge promulgation by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of the final U.S. Regulations designed to reinforce the voluntary efforts of many fishermen.

At the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation held in Washington, D.C. in November 1979 the programme was commended, and at the meeting of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) at Gainesville, Florida, 1-4 October, 1980, it was noted that over 1850 endangered and threatened sea turtles (mostly the threatened loggerhead turtle) were washed up dead on southeastern U.S. beaches from April through August of that year. However, the Commission received an encouraging report on an "Emergency Sea Turtle Meeting" held in Charleston, 18 September 1980, attended by shrimp fishermen, government officials, conservationists and scientists.

The leaders of the U.S. shrimping industries at the Emergency meeting committed themselves to do everything they could to develop an effective industry-wide programme to reduce sea turtle incidental take mortality. A consensus was reached that turtle mortalities in the southeastern U.S. correlated with shrimp trawling activity in that region.

We note with concern that the NMFS Regulations have not been promulgated despite the fact that the trawl tests have been completed and the design for the release panel trawl has been confirmed. We urge the U.S. Government to promulgate the strong regulations drafted by NMFS to eliminate turtle mortalities resulting from incidental take. It is already too late to prevent the loss of many turtles during this year's spring brown shrimp fishing season, but still further losses can be prevented by acting now.

We believe that such regulations will be an important precedent worldwide. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources would be pleased to work with the U.S. Government, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to disseminate information to world fishing fleets on the U.S. research and development of turtle release panels and devices, as soon as they become operational. A number of governments have already indicated an interest in using the turtle release trawls developed by the U.S.

Chairman Emeritus
Species Survival Commission

Mr. George Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Post Office Box 3830
Honolulu Hawaii

7 July 1981

Dear George:

From the copy you sent to me, your June 2 letter to the Corps seems eminently reasonable. In speaking with you over the phone last week I was particularly impressed by your point that the long-term impact (increased boat traffic passing through the limu pastures) is much more likely to significantly affect the turtles than is any instantaneous action (i.e. blasting, construction). Should you be drafting another letter on this or a similar project, you might wish to place more emphasis on this contrast.

Unless you have any objections I will hang on to the copy of your June 2 letter as a reminder to myself. Some of your points may appear in the comments I'll be drafting on the Kaulana small boat facility proposal--you might even be able to recognize some of the wording. I also hope to take further advantage of your turtle experience by future calls for qualitative sighting information regarding other, specific, project sites.

Some of us peon-level staffers are hoping to expand the frequency and range of such informal contacts in order to ease the insularity with which we are sometimes perceived. I hope that this exchange regarding Barking Sands and Kaulana marks the initiation of a more effective exchange of our respective information and assessments in general. With luck, informal communications which prove useful and unobjectionable to the higher-ups may develop into more official channels.

In any event, thanks again for the information on Kaulana; good luck with your efforts in getting through to the Corps on Nohili ditch.

Sincerely,

Dave
Dave Eckert

Keith Harding

Telephone: Tavistock (0822) 832637

5 Drakewalls Place, Gunnislake,
Cornwall, PL18 9EJ, England.

9th July, 1981.

Dear Dr. Balazs,

Please will you kindly send
me a copy of your paper "Synopsis of
biological data on the green turtle
in the Hawaiian Islands" NOAA
MEM. NMFS (NOAA-TH-NMFS-SWFC-7),
1-141.

I would also be most
grateful to receive any other
available herpetological papers.

With many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harding

Sent
7/14/81

Commission du service de sauvegarde — Survival Service Commission

~~Comité des plantes menacées~~ ~~Threatened Plants Committee~~ c/o the Herbarium,
c/o Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AE

Mr George Wilson,
Principal Wildlife Officer,
Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service,
P O Box 636,
Canberra City, .
A.C.T. 2601, Australia.

17th June, 1981

Dear George,

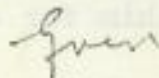
SPECIES SURVIVAL COMMISSION

I am sorry to have taken so long to reply to your letter of 4th May. Now that the June SSC meeting is over I have a little more time to deal with my correspondence.

Thank you very much for letting me know about Dr Boden and Mr Jenkins and I certainly agree with you that they should be involved with SSC. Dr Boden is certainly well known to us and although the Threatened Plants Committee does not have a membership as such, Dr Boden's work is used by them. With regard to Mr Jenkins, I will suggest to the Chairmen involved with herpetology that they might like to consider him for inclusion, and I will also mention this to the Chairman of the Marine Turtle Group.

I look forward to meeting you again in New Zealand.

Yours sincerely,



Gren Lucas
Chairman, SSC

c.c. Dr R Whitaker
Dr R Honegger
Dr G Balazs & Prof A Carr *PTO*
Dr H Campbell
R F Scott, SSC
F W King

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Smith Street, Darwin, N.T. 5704
Phone (089) 815299
Telex 4485100

Our ref:
Your ref:

Mr Grenville Lucas,
Chairman of the Species Survival Commission,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
KEW TW9 3AE,
U.K.

4 May 1981

Dear Gren,

You may remember in New Delhi that I mentioned to you that I knew of two Australians whom I felt could make a contribution to the specialist groups of the Species Survival Commission. You will no doubt be aware of one of them, Dr Robert Boden who is the Director of the National Botanic Gardens and who has played a role in the deliberations of the Threatened Plants Committee to date. However, I believe that he may not formally be a member of the Committee and I would like to suggest to you that you consider him as a potential member.

I would also like to draw your attention to the expertise of Mr Robert Jenkins of this Service. Robert has worked for some time as a herpetologist and has recently published a book on the reptiles of S. E. Australia. He has also had considerable experience in the Northern Territory working with crocodiles. I believe he would be a valuable member of the specialist groups concerned with crocodiles, amphibians and marine turtles and would like to suggest that you also consider him for nomination to the appropriate specialist groups.

Yours sincerely,

G. R. Wilson
Principal Wildlife Officer

April 17

George -

I'm VERY, VERY sorry I haven't written to you with a caption yet (that I'm still not!) It's just been a crazy time here (in a lot of ways) and now I'm leaving for Rancho Nuevo. Did you know that?

I think anything I would have written would have been pretty "standard" anyway -- same thing that's been written about these beasts ~~everywhere~~. However, if it's important that I do it, I can write to you from Mexico (I'll certainly have time there between arrabadas)

I liked the photos of the other species you selected. At the same time, I understand the problems you're having because I saw Rob Truland at a "turtle-talk" recently and he explained to me his preference for "action shots." I hope it all works out.

If you ~~need~~ want to send the slides back, send them to my parents address: Tangley, 4020 Javins Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310. If you want to write to me I'll be at: Lista de Correos, Aldama, Tamaulipas, Mx. Meanwhile, I'll keep in touch with you.

Again - I'm sorry for being such a delinquent (?) about this

Aldama
Tangley



Stansley
4080 Jarvis Dr.
Alexandria, VA
22310

Trumpeter Swan *Olor buccinator*

Photograph by Dick Randall
Published by

Defenders of Wildlife
1244 19th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

SINCE NINETEEN-HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

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

February 6 1981

Dear George:

Many thanks for your letter of January 28. I am happy to enclose the requested leatherback slide herewith; I hope it will be suitable for the postcard project. If you want some text to go on the back of the postcard, how about something like

Reaching a weight of up to 1300 pounds, the leatherback turtle (Dermochelys coriacea) is the world's largest and most distinctive sea turtle species. Although generally rare, important nesting grounds for this spectacular animal are now known in Malaysia, French Guiana, Mexico and elsewhere.

Some interesting news I just received from Glenn Ulrich: the Cayman Turtle Farm has apparently decided to accept my advice and cease international trade in sea turtle products once their existing stock of about 60,000 turtles has been reduced by 90% (there is a massive slaughter program already under way). They will stay in business as a turtle exhibit, research and breeding center, and will also supply meat for domestic consumption on Grand Cayman. Their costs will drop enormously as they are laying off the majority of staff, will only need 10% of the feed currently purchased, and presumably will need far less fuel to operate pumps for the reduced turtle stock. I tried to convince the Mittags that, with sale of souvenir items and tee shirts and by providing visitors with a worthwhile exhibit for their money, they may be able to operate without losing money. However, I have not heard any direct confirmation yet of this information; it came from a friend of Glenn's who works at the farm but expects to be laid off soon. It is sad to think of all those turtles getting killed in the weeks ahead, but it would have been hard to support a program of release of essentially hybrid or mixed stock, and I don't think it would have been possible (or necessary) to feed and keep all the turtles alive on the farm without the income from product sales. Have not got any recent news on the status of the yearling ridleys they are raising.

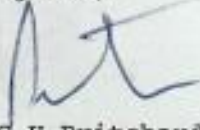
I am still hoping to go to New Caledonia during the winter of 1981/82 if I can align suitable funding, and still hope you will be free to join. I have also

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

over

invited Truland if he can get free then.

Best regards,



Peter C.H. Pritchard Ph.D.
Senior Vice President

3/1/81
response

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32816 (305) 275-2141

16 March 1981

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

Dear George:

One of these days I'm going to find the time to write you a longer letter and let you know what's going on around here. But not today. Suffice it to say that things really look bad for the summer nesting season. I expect that this will be a big year in so far as the turtles are concerned but there doesn't seem to be any money anywhere, so our string of years of work on the Merritt Island nesting beach may end at eight. I still have a few possibilities to look into, but it does not look good. Meanwhile, at least I'm getting around to sending you some things I've been meaning to send for a while. Also, here is my suggestion for the caption for the loggerhead. Use it as a starting point and modify as you see fit.

The loggerhead turtle--less tropical than other marine turtles, it nests on beaches well into the temperate zones. Although the wholesale taking of eggs has been partially stemmed, effective measures are needed to mitigate drowning in nets, the loss of nesting beaches to development and the fatal consequences of pollutants.

Hope this is something like what you had in mind. Stay in touch.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. M. Ehrhart".

L. M. Ehrhart



Special Delivery/Insured/Registered

National Zoological Park-Smithsonian Institution-Washington, D.C. 20008

1 February 1980

Department of Zoological Research

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

Dear George,

Thanks for yours of 22 January: in haste I enclose 31 35mm slides

Dermodhelys coriacea: roll 15 - 12; roll 3 - 4; roll 5 1.

Lepidochalys olivacea: roll 18 - 4; roll 17 - 4; roll 3 - 3.

Eretmochelys imbricata: 2

Chelonia mydas: 1.

Of course, I have lots more, but this was what I could sort out quickly and get right to you.


Please, please take care of these slides; I have had too many accidents happen in the past so that I am now rather touchy about losing slides.

Your comment about giving post cards away to "non-profit" organisations has be puzzled. Who will select? How do you know that the organisation truly is non-profit, that funds are not going to give its executive top salaries? trips all over the globe for nothing more than a lark?

I strongly favour having a significant number of cards with spanish captions, as latin america is now one of the most critical areas for turtle conservation. Can you at least have them bilingual? Then your difficulty in selecting who should get cards should be easier - local organisations in latin america that run on next to no funds. Why cant the US organisations pay cost so that a large order can be used to knock down price per card? If you send rough ups to one of the cordinating agencies offering to let them buy a quantity for cost but with orders before x date you might get some ooperation.

must run - swamped with papers

all the best,


Jack Frazier

30 of 31
returned
2/22/81

Since 1900, The Voice of Conservation.

Florida Audubon Society

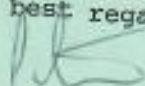
(305) 647-2615 • P. O. Drawer 7 • Maitland, Florida 32751

26 March '81

George -

Thanks for your letter. I am returning the xerox copies of the turtle postcards herewith, with my ranking of which loggerhead and green turtle picture to use. In the latter case, I opted for what looks like a very good "portrait" of a green rather than for the interesting behavioral shots, mainly for the sake of uniformity with the rest of the series, but this was a very subjective decision. The loggerheads and the hawksbill have an awful lot of sand on them - certainly an accurate impression of how they look on the nesting beach, but somewhat obscuring of details of shell textures and scute counts.

All best regards,

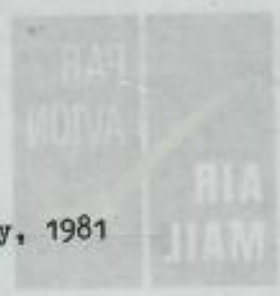


Peter C.H. Britchard

*on
Disover*

why? →

East Coast National Parks Regional Office
TURTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
BOX 768, SANDAKAN, SABAH, MALAYSIA.
CABLES "NATAPARK", SANDAKAN. TEL. 2188



Your Ref:-

Our Ref: **EUNPRO/11/3/**

Date: 23 May, 1981

Mr. George Balazs,
Assistant Marine Biologist
and Deputy Chairman,
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group,
University of Hawaii at Manoa,
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
P. O. Box 1346,
Coconut Island,
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744



Dear George,

Many thanks for the copy of your letter addressed to Lucas Chin and hope that he does something about the matter. In view of the fact that the nesting beaches have been systematically raped for several decades, a moratorium on the harvesting of turtle eggs for a ten year period should be imposed. Lucas must bell the cat!

I was hoping to see you at Christchurch but that seems rather remote for obvious reasons. Anyway, I am attempting to obtain funds to consult a marine biologist regarding turtles. If funds are available, would you be interested in coming here to undertake a joint project? We could do a complete survey of the nesting beaches during a period of 5 months. At the same time we might be able to survey the nesting beaches etc. in Brunei. Please let me have your views.

With all good wishes to both of you.

Yours sincerely,

G. S. de Silva.



Mr. George Balazs,
 Assistant Marine Biologist & Deputy Chairman,
 IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group, University of Hawaii
 at Manoa, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology,
 PO Box 1346, Coconut Island, Kaneohe, HAWAII 96744
 U. S. A.

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East Coast National Parks Regional Office
 Turtle Islands National Parks
 Sender's name and address:
 P. O. Box No: 768 Sandakan,
 Sabah, East Malaysia



AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY
 ENCLOSURE: IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED
 OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

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MELVIN M. PAYNE
CHAIRMAN
EDWIN M. SNIDER
SECRETARY

National Geographic Society
COMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH AND EXPLORATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

June 23, 1981

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

I wonder if we could ask you for an appraisal of the enclosed proposal from Dr. Pritchard. We hate to trouble you, but this seems to be in your field of expertise, and we know your opinion would be particularly helpful to the Research Committee when we consider his application.

An evaluation form and return envelope are provided for your convenience.

As our Committee meets every month, we would appreciate an early reply. We know that your advice will be very helpful to the Committee in deciding whether or not to recommend this grant.

Sincerely,

Marta M. Marschalko

Marta M. Marschalko
Assistant

Encls.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
17th and M Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

The Committee for Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society would appreciate it very much if you will help the Committee by giving your opinion of the application of PRITCHARD, Peter for a grant of \$16,630. Your remarks will be kept confidential.

Please discuss qualifications of the applicant for the proposed research, importance of the proposed research, and any other pertinent information.

I am familiar with the subject matter of this proposal, in that I was one of the lead members of the small party that rediscovered the green turtle breeding colony at d'Entrecasteaux Reef and surveyed other sea turtle populations of New Caledonia by chartered aircraft in December of 1979. After giving careful consideration, for professional reasons that it would be inappropriate to discuss I feel that I would not qualify as an unbiased reviewer of this proposal.

I regret that I can not be of assistance to the National Geographic Society in this particular case. However, I stand ready to offer guidance on any other sea turtle related proposals that you may wish to send to me in the future.

(Dr. Pritchard's proposal is being returned to you under separate cover)

Name and position of referee: George H. Balazs - Assistant Marine Biologist and Deputy Chairman, IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group

Institution and address: Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, Box 1346, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Date: July 3, 1981 Signature: George H. Balazs