

# Sea Turtle Research and Rescue Programs

## What Can We Learn?

### **Tagging, measuring and health assessment**

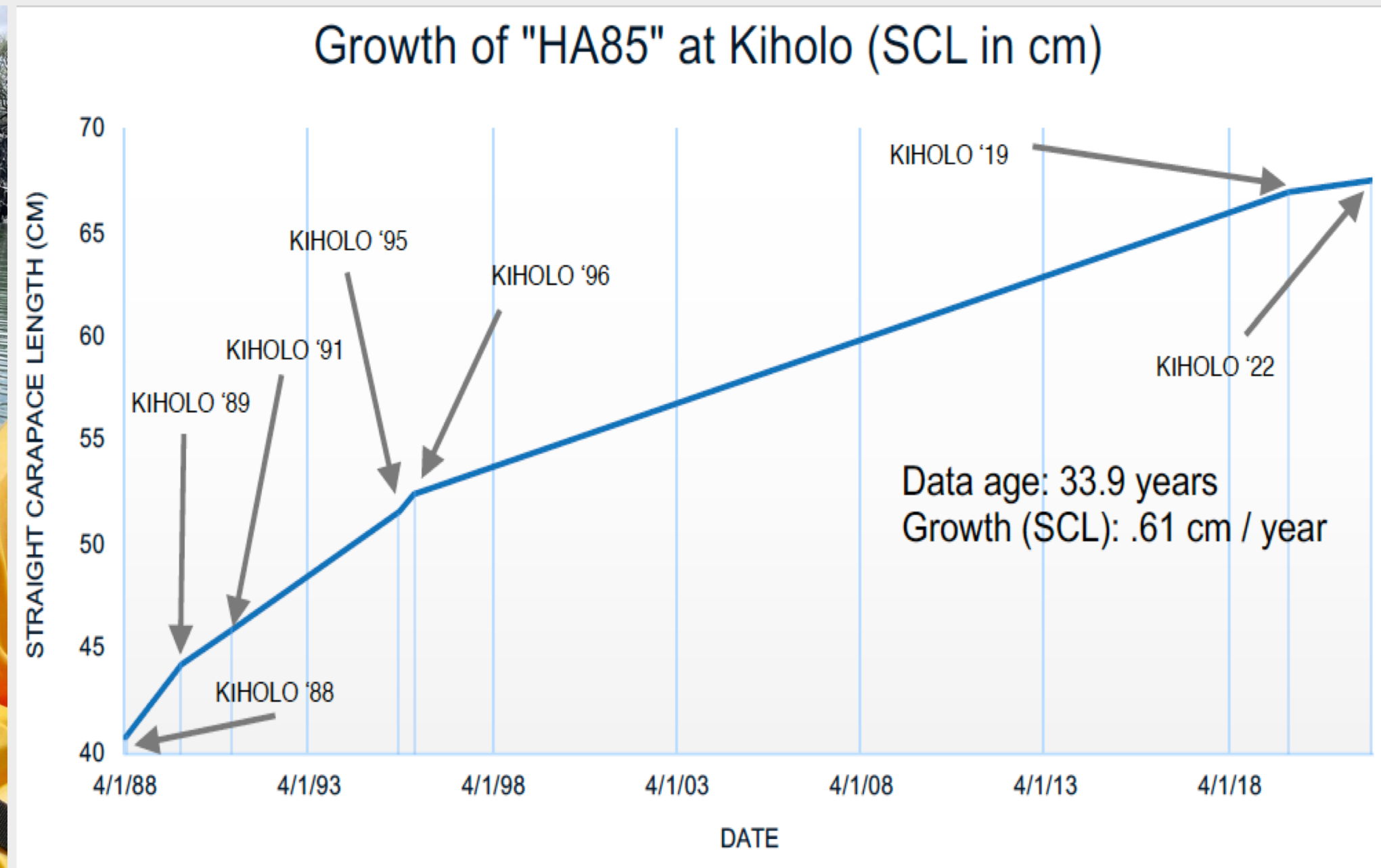
Allows us to monitor individual turtle's health status, growth rate and movement over time.

### **Rescuing and assisting injured turtles**

Saves many turtles' lives and inform us about threats to the sea turtle population in our area.

## **A CASE STUDY- HONU "HA85"**

Turtle HA85 was first tagged at Kiholo in 1988 where she has likely resided for nearly 34 years. She was observed floating at Kiholo and was recovered by HPA STRP and shipped to Maui Ocean Center Marine Institute (MOCMI) for treatment and rehabilitation. She was returned to Kiholo and released on 3/24/22.



HA85 had a buoyancy problem and needed help.

Kaleo with Hui Aloha Kiholo releases HA85 at Kiholo after nearly 4 weeks of treatment and rehab at MOCMI.

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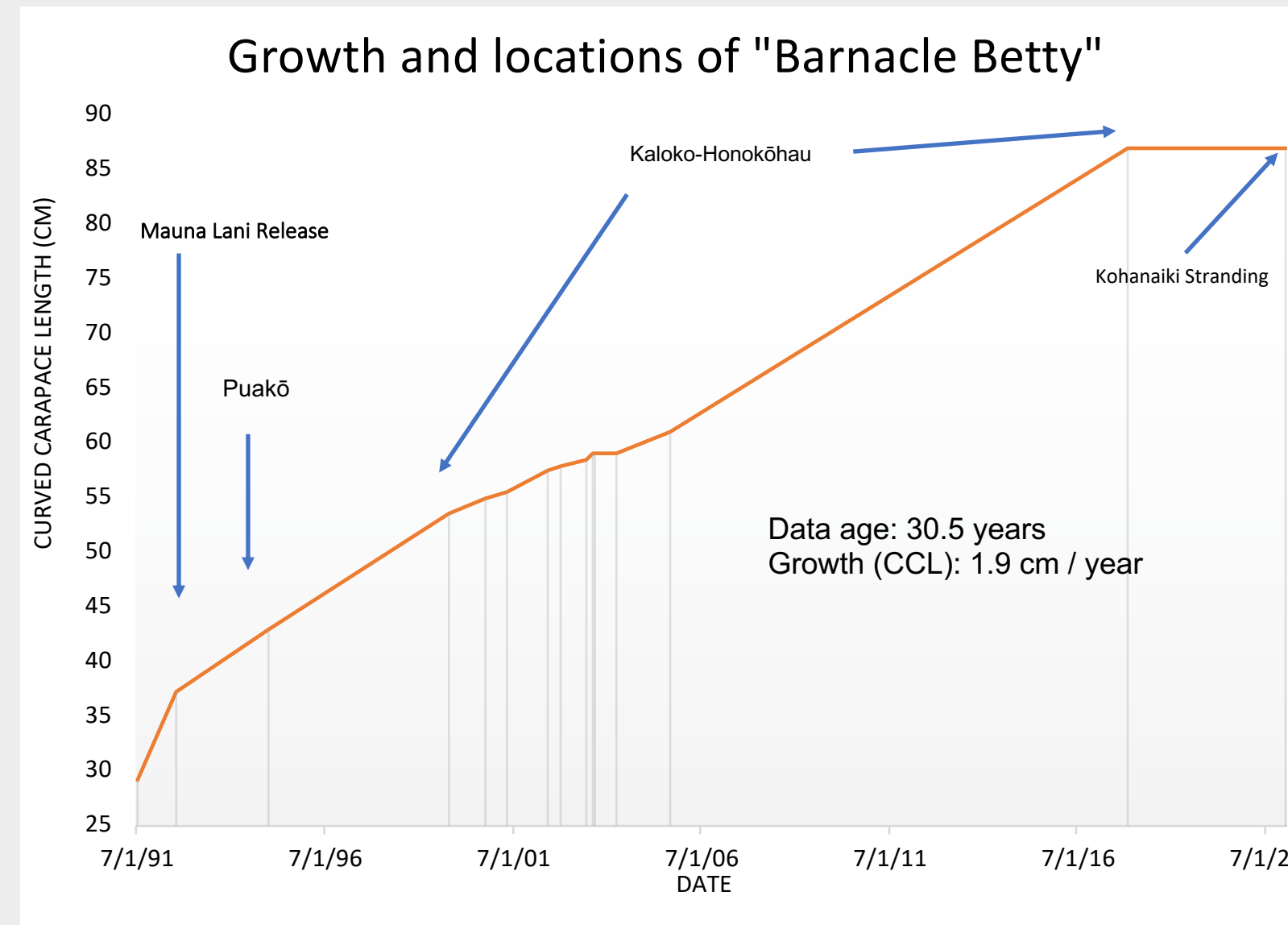
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## **A CASE STUDY- "Barnacle Betty"**

Barnacle Betty was a Mauna Lani released turtle that spent a few years on the Puako reef and then moved to Kaloko-Honokohau where she lived for the next 22 years. Her life history is known because of our research efforts.



*A Honokohau Park Ranger checks the tags on Barnacle Betty on 11/3/17 while she was basking on the beach.*



*Barnacle Betty stranded on the lava at Kohanaiki on January 11, 2022.*

Barnacle Betty was reported stranded on the lava rocks at Kohanaiki (1/11/22) and the HPA STRP staff responded and recovered her. She was alive but had a 3/8" hole in her head (possibly from a spear). She was sent to Honolulu to NOAA for treatment but was too badly injured and was euthanized.