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## More than 30 sea turtles found dead on Kumejima Island - Fishermen admit involvement, with stab wounds to neck, etc.

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#Kumejima



Dead and dying green sea turtles found on the beach in Maja, Kumejima Town on the 14th (Courtesy of the Kumejima Sea Turtle Museum)

On the 14th, around 3:00 pm, 30 to 50 dead and dying green sea turtles were found on the beach about 50 meters offshore from Maja, Kumejima-cho, Okinawa Prefecture. Some of the turtles appeared to have been stabbed at the base of their necks with a sharp blade. A local fisherman explained that "there are situations where we have no choice but to exterminate (kill) the turtles to protect our fishing industry," and acknowledged that fishermen were involved in the incident. Prefectural police are investigating the details of the incident by interviewing those involved.