

SOUTHWEST FISHERIES CNTR.
HONOLULU LABORATORY
2570 DOLE STREET
HONOLULU HI 96822-2396

August 4, 1986

F/SWC2:GHB

Mr. Bruce Ulrich
General Manager
Turtle Bay Hilton
P. O. Box 187
Kahuku, Hawaii 96731

Dear Mr. Ulrich:

While back your hotel complex expressed considerable interest in constructing a display area for sea turtles that would involve captive breeding efforts patterned after the successful project at Sea Life Park. It is my understanding that your plans had to be postponed due to other more pressing priorities.

I am writing to you at this time to express whole-hearted support for a sea turtle project at your facility. The expertise in sea turtles that exists within our research laboratory is available for technical advice and other forms of assistance that may be necessary and appropriate. Please contact me when you are ready to proceed with this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Zoologist

cc: WPPO
Gene Witham
Kimberly Wright
Robert Moore, Sea Life Park

bc: Balazs ✓
HL

MEMORANDUM

February 19, 1985

TO: FILES
FROM: Jasmine *J.*
RE: Turtle Bay Hilton
Proposed Green Sea Turtle Project

Per telephone conversation with Mr. Bruce Ulrich, General Manager, on the date noted above:

He met with their corporate officer last Thursday regarding status of project to date. He was informed that project funds were not approved for 1985. Recent renovation efforts were quite costly and the returns have been slow to come. Since turtle project is considered non-revenue, it is difficult for management here to push for high priority status to get project approved.

He will contact Sea Life Park in the event the project is reevaluated and considered in future years.

Thanks the Park for its interest and support.

cc: Mr. Bruce Ulrich
Bob Moore
Steve Kaiser

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
HONOLULU LABORATORY
P. O. BOX 3830
HONOLULU, HAWAII

May 1, 1984

F/SWC2:GHB

Mr. Steven Kaiser
Mrs. Jasmine Wong
Sea Life Park
Makapuu Point
Waimanalo, HI 96795

Dear Steve and Jasmine,

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 1984 along with the "Preliminary Proposal" for the Turtle Bay Hilton green turtle program. I appreciate being formally included as an advisor. The turtles in captivity at Sea Life Park have periodically served as valuable research animals for my work over the past 10 years. I look forward to the planned display at the Turtle Bay Hilton offering similar opportunities that will also ultimately benefit the species.

While we are still at this preliminary planning stage, I want to suggest that a change be made to more accurately reflect the program we are interested in realistically implementing. Under the "Objective" heading in the proposal, the principal emphasis is now placed on developing "a second captive breeding and head start program." The topics of "education" and "display" seem to be given a lower priority, at least from my reading of the document. I recommend that these priorities be reversed. Captive breeding and head starting are indeed worthy goals to strive for, but as in the case of Sea Life Park, they are likely to be secondary to display and education. An attractive and properly interpreted display, such as at Sea Life Park, is tremendously beneficial to the species by informing the public about survival problems in the wild and natural history aspects. A display at the Turtle Bay Hilton will undoubtedly reach many people who would otherwise never see or learn about these animals. "Display" and "education" as priority objectives are therefore entirely warranted and accurate.

I would be happy to talk with you about this further by telephone if you wish. Again, thank you for including me in your planning process.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Wildlife Biologist

GHB:ey

SEA LIFE PARK



April 20, 1984

Mr. George H. Balazs
Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals & Endangered
Species Program
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Mr. Balazs:

As a result of a meeting on Friday, April 13, with Eugene Nitta of National Marine Fisheries, Kimberly Wright of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Bruce Ulrich of Turtle Bay Hilton, Jasmine Wong and myself of Sea Life Park, we are offering the attached guidelines for loaning some of Sea Life Park's Green Sea Turtles (Chelonia mydas) to the Turtle Bay Hilton. Our proposal outlines the objectives of the program and the steps taken to achieve the results. We are well aware that to implement such a program takes the cooperation of many agencies and we are therefore asking for your input and consideration for approval.

Please review the enclosed proposal outline and provide us with any comments or suggestions that would help us achieve the end result - a breeding and head start program at Turtle Bay Hilton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steven Kaiser".

Steven Kaiser

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL for the purpose of satisfying permit requirements.

Turtle Bay Hilton & Country Club
Loan Agreement, Care & Maintenance of Green Sea
Turtles (Chelonia mydas)

Objective

To develop a second captive breeding and "head start" program for green sea turtles at Turtle Bay Hilton and to educate the public about them. Our main concern is for the health and well being of these animals.

Holding Facilities

Sea Life Park will work with Turtle Bay Hilton's architects supervising the design of a turtle lagoon including but not limited to a nesting beach and haul out area, in order that it meets not only the guidelines of Government agencies but also Sea Life Park's.

Care & Feeding

The care and feeding of the turtles loaned to Turtle Bay will be closely monitored by Sea Life Park's staff and if any irregularities occur, we will reserve the right to cancel any agreement with them and return the turtles to our facility.

Education

Sea Life Park will work with Turtle Bay Hilton on design and information display signs describing the uniqueness of these animals, their endangerment status and the laws regarding their protection.

Mr. George Balazs, National Marine Fisheries Wildlife Biologist has agreed to be an advisor in the project as he has done in the past for Sea Life Park.

List of turtles to be considered for transfer

<u>Tag No.</u>		
3525	Juvenile, sex unknown	S.L.P. 12/80 Hatch.
3524, 6496	" " "	" " "
5105	Male	S.L.P. 1976 Hatch.
3287, 6495	Male	" " "
3285 RFL	Male	Pre-act
2070, 5817	Female	Pre-act
2986 RFL	Female	Pre-act
Blue gearing left distal	Male	Pre-act

Note:

To date we have released 527 captive born hatchlings to the wild, in addition to 47 head start hatchlings, that is hatchlings that were kept from 6 months to a year and then released, hoping their larger size would give them a better chance of survival.

In addition to our very successful hatchling program we have also released 7 large adult turtles that we had deemed excess animals, one of which was later observed nesting at French Frigate Shoals.

Distribution:

Mr. Eugene Nitta
Marine Mammal Coordinator
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Ms. Kimberly Wright
Special Agent
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 50223
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

Mr. Henry Sakuda
State of Hawaii
Department of Land & Natural Resources
Division of Aquatic Resources
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 330
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dr. David J. Gilhooly
Area Veterinarian in Charge
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service/
Veterinary Services
P.O. Box 50001
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

Mr. George H. Balazs
Wildlife Biologist
Marine Mammals & Endangered Species Program
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 3830
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812