SEA TURTLES-CORRESPONDENCE

TESTIMONY BY GEORGE H. BALAZS, HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, CONCERNING SENATE BILL 1530 WHICH RELATES TO THE PROTECTION OF THE HAWAIIAN GREEN TURTLE.

February 26, 1974

Under the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (public law 93-205) an animal may be considered "endangered" due to any of five different factors.

Not less than three of these factors are directly applicable to the present status of the Hawaiian green turtle. These include 1.) present or threatened destruction, modification or curtailment of habitat or range; 2.) overutilization for commercial sporting, scientific or educational purposes; and 3.) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms.

The green turtle has now been reduced to a single nesting site in the Archipelago, that being French Frigate Shoals in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. In the 1920's and 30's green turtles nested in relatively large numbers on the north shore of Lanai and in lesser but still significant numbers in at least four specific locations throughout the major inhabited islands. Today no nesting occurs at any of these sites. Nesting habitat has been both modified and destroyed and the green turtles' range has been curtailed.

State Fish and Game records show that the reported commercial catch has increased in recent years with only a small portion of the actual catch being legally reported. Exploitation for turtle steaks continues to increase due to the dollar incentive provided by restaurants serving this exotic item. If this situation is left unchecked, the only possible outcome can be the complete and irreversible decimation of the Hawaiian green turtle colony. During the 1973 nesting season intensive investigations at French Frigate

Shoals revealed that fewer than 150 females were present. Population estimates made in 1968 placed the size at two to four times the present level. Fewer than 150 females at the only nesting site in the Hawaiian Archipelago is ample reason to wonder if long term survival can continue without the immediate implementation of special measures. All information available indicates that overutilization for commercial purposes has occurred in the past and continues to occur today.

No specific Hawaii State regulations or statutes have ever existed to ensure adequate management of the Hawaiian green turtle colony. No laws presently exist to help protect or perpetuate these marine reptiles around our inhabited islands. For the past year the State Fish and Game Division has supported a regulation that would provide partial protection for marine turtles.

Overwhelming public support has also been displayed for this measure, however, enactment has not been obtained. Whether it ever will be now seems questionable. Without doubt, there is an inadequacy in existing regulatory mechanisms in Hawaii to ensure green turtle survival.

Destruction, modification and curtailment of habitat; overutilization for commercial purposes; and the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms were some of the same major factors cited by the U.S. Department of the Interior when it recently nominated the green turtle for inclusion to the Endangered Species List.

It would therefore behoove the State of Hawaii to at long last take the initiative and afford complete protection to her green turtles. This total protection should continue until such a time that a research management study indicates what level of utilization can take place without adversely affecting the colony. To permit uncontrolled exploitation to take place until a research

management study has been completed would surely be resource mismanagement of the poorest form. In view of recent events and the fact that our green turtle colony is the last in the U.S., it appears highly likely that if the State does not take immediate decisive action, the Federal government most certainly will be justified in doing so. I therefore concur with Senate Bill 1530 and urge its rapid passage along with a slightly modified version of House Bill 1635.

MEMORANDUM

Date 9/11/73

Univ. of Hawsii, HIMB Box 1346, Kancohe, H196744

TÖ

Elmer Auna, P. O. Box 83, Kukuihaele, Hawaii 96758 FROM:

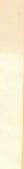
Turtle caught with decal tag SUBJECT:

The turtle weighed approximately 95-100 lbs. On Sunday, September 9, 1973 I caught a turtle with tag #605 at Kiholo, South Kohala, Hawaii. Enclosed is decal.

Elmer Auna

Kukuihaele, Hawaii P. O. Box 83

96758



JAIR W. AVSTORIA

Classical Biological Migration Problem --the Case of the Green Turtle" by Pat Coleman, visiting professor of geology. of Seafloor Spreading Theory to a Oceanography Seminar. "An Application

Seminar Room 2570 Dole Street Thursday, April 12 73 $SR/ ext{World}$ magazine 458 madison avenue New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) 751-7500

Dear L.R. Evans:

Thank you so much for your letter. We hope to be able to find the space to include it in one of our forthcoming "Letters from Readers" columns.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon Fass Editorial Department

Honowai School 94-600 Nonowai St Waipaher - 96797 October 27, 1912

Dear Mr. Balazo,

--- 11

I gave my students an assignment in which they were supposed to write a litter to someone

rentioned in the newspaper, Clan chose you. I am trying to (1) expose my students to people som all walks of life, and (2) make newspaper reading nore interesting and meaningful. This year we have ad visitors like - Mrs. Colette Fujiwara from First wairen Bank, and Dr. Paul Heinberg from the

riversity of Harvair. The children and I would be delighted if you ould visit us, too, We would like to know - (1) your ackground, (2) about your research on tuitles, and) about you responsibilities as marine beologist for

e University of Hawaii,

If you can visit us, please sall me at school-114025 - or at home - 4551785. If you cannot visit 2, Clan well be happy with just a short note om you.

Thank you,

Mrs. Lillian Uyeda Grades 4-5-6

Honowai School 94-600 Honowai St. Waipahu-96797 Oct. 4, 1973

iar Mr. Balaza,

You probably remember visiting our class last war. Well, I gave the same newspaper assignment his year, and Charisse Canne and Stuart Migasato hose you.

I am hoping that you would visit us again is year. We'd like to hear more about your turtles, you can visit us, please call me at school - at 114025 - or at home - 4557785. If you cannot sit us, Charisse and Stuart will be happy with short note from you.

Thank you.

Mrs.) Lillian Uyeda Jr. 4-6, Rm. D-2

Thursday to Survey School

Thursday to Survey

Thursday to survey

Thursday to survey

The project with a line of the project of the project

94- bas Honomai St Waisahy Hiso Dear, Mr George Balazs Hono wai El Ellew. School I and in the grades in my class coom I am in team (4) I wrote to you to tellyouthat I have and a assimenat to do each month to write to 62 someone that is in the newspaper That whole an article about statemen and you in the interespaper so can you Come Towny Class and go to the office please send a letter for any notice if you concome or not. I have Brings turtles back to Howaii Phid you Well It's BYE NOW. Granis P.S Pleasewrite Soon thank you?

Dear George Balans, My name is Stuart Migasato and I go to Honowai Elem. School, I am in the 5th grade. How much eggs can one turtle lay? What does a turtle eat? How small is a baby turtle?

Stuart Miyasato

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HONOWAI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
B4-600 HONOWAI STREET
WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

November 14 th





Mr. Herry Balago - Marine Biologies P. C. Ber 1346 Faneshe -76744



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

1110 MORGES, SUISSE (SWITZERLAND)

C (021) 714401

TELEGRAMMES: UNICORN MORGES

Dr. John E. Bardach
Director, Hawaii Institute of
Marine Biology
University of Hawaii at Manoa
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
U.S.A.

31 May 1974

Dear John,

Thanks for your letter and the information on turtle research. Frankly, I do not know what the prospects for funding are for this kind of study. The project will have to circulate through and receive approval from our Marine Turtle group, and this will be a slow process. Furthermore we have a large number of turtle projects, whereas only a limited amount of money can be budgeted for this group of species. P ojects which will be approved for funding during 1975 will be reviewed over the next three months, since the 1974 project list is filled and was approved last year.

Considering all this, you may wish to take a chance and send in the project. It should be sent to Mr. A.J. Mence, Survival Service Commission, IUCN, Morges. I hope you will be successful in keeping the study going.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Ray

Raymond F. Dasmann Senior Ecologist

cc: Mr. G. Balazs

14-23 11th Street Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410 April 1, 1974

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I was very pleased to learn that the GREEN TURTLE MYSTERIES book has been so well-received by your department. I was especially happy to learn that the letter came from Hawaii, but was sorry to hear that your request to photocopy the book has been denied by the publishing company.

Unfortunately, as an artist, I do not have too much to say after the contract has been signed. However, I inquired about the discount rate for the artist which is forty percent (40 %) of the list price compared to the twenty-eight percent (28%) discount rate for schools.

If you are interested in obtaining copies of the GREEN TURTLE MYSTERIES books at this artist's discount rate, I will be happy to discuss it further with you.

Sincerely yours

Mamoru R. Funai

THOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY, INC. PUBLISHERS / ESTABLISHED 1834

666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019

June 11, 1974

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Returning to the office I found your letter of May 26 with check for \$50 for copies of GREEN TURTLE MYSTERIES.

I shall pass this along at once to the Department of Children's Books.

I am glad that this Crowell book can have a role in a much-needed conservation endeavor.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Crowell

Chairman

RLC: ed



345 HAHANI STREET KAILUA, HAWAII 96734

801 KAHEKA STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

850 KAM HIGHWAY PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782

TELEPHONE 946-1646

April 9, 1974

Mr. George H. Balazs P. O. Box 1346 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96844

Dear Mr. Balazs:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your group of concerned citizens who took the time to write and call us of their concern of the future of sea turtles.

We at Holiday Mart were not aware of the movement to save sea turtles and would like you to know we will support your well presented ideals by not ordering any more fresh or frozen sea turtle products. We will sell out our present stock of 25-30 pounds, but will not advertise this remaining stock as planned in recognition of your work.

We would like you to know that we are sensitive to our customers requests and people who are concerned about Hawaii's future.

Mahalo.

Yours truly,

Woodie A. Reed General Manager

Holiday Superfoods

You've the clocest to the scene of any of us. Com You help this fellow? Parid Thunkerd

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

September 21, 1974

Dr. David. W. Threnfeld Barnard College Columbia University New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

I am a Peace Corps Volunteer trained in wildlife management at Michigan State University and presently working with the Parks and Wildlife Division of the Bureau of Forest Development in the Republic of the Philippines. My assignment has been the formulation of censusing techniques for the wildlife of this country. This task has been made difficult by many factors which seem to plague all developing countries, namely overpopulation and overexploitation of natural resources.

I was recently apalled to learn that the people concerned with the management of wildlife in this country, who have no formal education in wildlifemanagement, were preparing to issue fifty (50) permits for the trapping, sale, and export of Green Sea Turtles, Chelonia mydas. Each permit is to allow the taking of 500 turtles, male or female, and 150 eggs per adult turtle trapped. This would be almost 4 million e gs.

When I questioned them as to their motives, they answered that since they had no research to refer to as to numbers and since they had received reports of a great abundance of turtles from transers, they could see no reason to limit trapping. I teld them of status reports of IUCN and others which placed them on an endangered state. They again countered with lack of research to support any policy on their part and lack of enforcement of game laws which would make a ban on turtle collection an unenforceable law.

It was not until several days later when I came upon your article in American Scientist, Volume 62, on Mariculture and the Green Sea Turtle, that I was able to shake them enough to think about doing some serious research, Particularly your population estimates of as low as 100,000 (our permits could reduce the population by a quarter) and the locations of the last great populations (which placed us right in the middle of it).

The breeding area under Phili pine political jurisdiction is actually in the Sulu archipelago, a region very near Borneo and actually considered closer, biogeographically to Malaysia than the Philippines. Until this time it has been considered unfeasible to start a research project there mostly because of inappeasability and extreme cost. The Philippines has started two very worthshile projects on other endangered spacies, however

with the encouragement and partial financing of IUCH and World Wildlife Fund. To provide the necessary technical as istance, they have used U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers. With this kind of precedence, I am hoping to initiate a program of research on the Green Sea Turtle.

As journals in the field and technical experts are lacking in the Philippines, I am writing mainly to ask for any assistance you and your colleagues can give me, both in the way of technical information on current research and methods and in encouraging the local personnel of the Parks and "illdlife Division to initiate this research. I am continuing to encourage research but until I have more information I can not propose a specific program of research.

I am enclosing the name of the head of the Parks and Wildlife Division and the head of the Wildlife Management Section in hopes that any correspondence you can send their way to encourage this research will be possible.

JEBUR B. ALVARY, JR.
Assistant Officer-In-Charge
(Research, Parks, Range and Wildlife)
Parks, Range and Wildlife Division
Bureau of Forest Development
Diliman, Guozon City, Philippines

1

LUZ P. CASTRO

Head

'fildlife Hanagemen' Section

Parks, Range and Mildlife Division

Bureau of Forest Development

Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

K

I will also add that Luz Castro is familiar with Both the work of J.R. Hendric'son in Sarawak and A. Carr although she has never been able to obtain the results of their research. She does, however, respect these to mens credentials for the study of Green Sea Turtles and any works by them or encouragement from them would be particularly helpful.

The status of wildlife worldwide is often apalling and I find myself struggling to be optimistic in the face of so many injustices to the wildlife. I will be eternally grateful to you for anythin you can do to help. Thank you.

Most sincerely,

Gregory 3. Brower

COOK COLLEGE

Department of Horticulture and Forestry New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

October 3, 1974

Mr. Gregory E. Brower Peace Corps Volunteer P.O. Box 2702 Manilla, Philippines

Dear Mr. Brower:

You were right to be apalled at the idea of issuing permits for the trapping and export of 25,000 green turtles. No population in the world can stand this kind of pressure for very long. Our experience in Costa Rica (the Caribbean side) indicates that even very large populations of Chelonia mydas can be depleted in a decade by the sort of over-fishing that is now about to begin in the Philippines. Even worse, once the populations have been seriously reduced in size it is virtually impossible to restore them because of a constant low level of poaching that is impossible to prevent in remote areas. In other words, if there is to be conservation of the valuable green turtle resources of the Philippines, it must begin while the populations are still fairly high. No permits should be issued until an ecological study has determined the amount of fishing that the population can sustain, and until there is a working program for protecting the nesting grounds, which are the most vulnerable point for the species. This is an elementary principle of game resource and fisheries management -- with proper care there is no reason why the green turtle cannot be fished on a sustained yield basis, providing a permanent benefit to the Philippines.

I have circulated your letter to the five people who are in the best position to provide you with information and assistance. I hope that you will be hearing from all of them soon. Flease keep me in touch with further developments.

Sincerely, Dans w. En

David W. Ehrenfeld Professor of Biology

cc: Jesus B. Alvarez, Jr.
Luz P. Castro
Archie Carr
Peter C.H. Pritchard
Wayne King
Harold Hirth
George Balazs



Por the Better Protection of Wildlife in Hawaii

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 5032 Honolulu M, Hawaii

96814

Dan George

Enclosed is they beloted payment for the tentle shirt are effective and inspiring. for the gleatentle are effective and inspiring. If everyone are on Mani, go to Paia and meet Rene Sylva of Ac St. paky Hemanian man who is a Strong advocate for a total the who is a Strong advocate for a total the more tentle fishing.

Afre lance writer who is resembling a story on a free lance writer who is resembling a story on the tartles in Greensie, and unged her to come to the Sept. 175F. & G. Commissioners Conf. here the Sept. 175F. & G. Commissioners Conf. here and and do stories on our tentle and and and do stories on our tentle and other wildlife. Shis a former editor of the wildlife.

Best Wishes for continued progres

Montgomery



The Fund for Animals

1765 P STREET N.W. WASHINGTON D.C. 20036

19 April 1974

TELEPHONE (202) 234-4002 HOME TELEPHONE (301) 593-0376 Maryland

Dr. George H. Balazs U.S. Hawaii Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology Coconut Island Box 1346 Kaneoke, Hawii

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Many Thanks for all the fine material you sent us regarding marine turtles. I want to assure you that getting these unique and vanishing reptiles placed on the U.S. List of Endangered Species is one of our top priority projects.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which Duke Campbell helped me draft to Mr. Michael Goodier of Mariculture Ltd. Several months later I received a reply from one of Mariculture's consultants saying that he disagreed with everything I said and that he wouldn't be associated with the company if he thought what they were doing had an unfavorable impact on wild stocks of sea turtles. As I expected, he did not attempt to answer any of my questions or refute one single charge I made.

There is presently a hold up on listing marine turtles because of a feud between the Departments of Commerce and Interior about who is going to have jurisdiction. The bureaucratic squabbles can go on for months, so we are doing what we can to help resolve the problem.

Thank you for your interest in the Fund.

Sincerely yours

Steve Seater.

ncc/ss

The Fund for Animals

1765 P STREET N.W. WASHINGTON D.C. 20036

LEWIS REGENSTEIN Executive Vice-President TELEPHONE (202) 234-4002

7 April, 1974

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I read your letter to Mr. Amory with a great deal of interest, and I want you to know that our organization shares your concern for the survival of sea turtles.

Our staff biologist, Mr. Steve Seater, has been deeply involved in this problem, and he is in the process of answering your letter. In the meantime, I thought that the enclosed information might be of interest to you, which indicates that our stand on this situation appears to be substantially the same as yours.

Thanks again for writing.

Sincerely yours,

Lewis Regenstein

encls; as indicated.

The Tabada gada. Wasaasaasa

1765 P STREET N.W. WASHINGTON D.C. 20036

LEWIS REGENSTEIN Executive Vice-President

TELEPHONE (202) 234-4002

14 January 1974

Mr. Lynn A. Greenwalt Director Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife U.S. Department of the Interior Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Greenwalt:

The Fund for Animals fully supports your proposal of 28 December 1973 to add the green sea turtle and the loggerhead to the list of endangered foreign fish and wildlife.

We feel that this action, while long overdue, is necessary if we are to save these turtles from extinction. As your 4 January 1974 news release pointed out, stocks of these turtles in the Caribbean, once believed to have numbered at least 50 million, are now estimated at less than 10,000. It is thus clear, that time has almost run out on these turtles, and any undue delay in listing could have tragic and irreparable consequences.

We hope that your proposed action will be finalized as soon as possible after the expiration of the comment period, and that the inevitable pressures from the cosmetics industry and other vested commercial interest groups, to delay or cancel the listing, will be resisted.

Thank you for considering our views on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Lewis Regenstein

Table C(1)—Table Sincle Lefs, Male, 6 Percent, Showing Commutation Factors for Reducing Arburances

(1)	(2)	(8)
Age	R-factors, male $(\overline{R}_z$ -0.5 \overline{M}_z)	D-factors, male (D _*)
	5515, 8783	1086, 657
Terranson and	4917, 1004	100, 1410
2		1002, 1160
3	4109, 5306	818, 2010
1	3906, 1520	
h	3137, 1474	735, 6324
6	3002, 4521	663, 6012
7	2001, 7794	868, 9002
S	2234,7447	527, 1455
	1501, 0042	465, 1372
P	1600, 1931	407,0381
0	1331, 8528	372,7169
	1005, 2881	302.3136
C	1001, 2004	256, 2600
S		214, 9790
A	712.6180	
S	564, 1128	178, 4800
91	434, 2257	145,7251
W	329, NECC3	116, KT99
83,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	245, 40166	90,86180
	178, 71720	70,65000
9	127, 27025	53, 07500
M	68, 57159	38, 9 000
Heaterman	. 60, 22763	- 27, 70510
B	40,02735	- 19, 30 (2)
Ø	26,01574	13,07901
Hanna consessed	16,553284	8,69/357
6		5,396276
96	10,308376	3,541736
9	6.278518	+ 2, 190000
08	3,720109	
9	2, 170390	1,32200
100	1, 2201974	.778014
101	,6379749	.4480080
102	, 3/299004	, 218080
	1895337	134759
100		.07050732
101	.09050173	.0901380
106	02162818	.0178434
116		00852146
107	.00:098422	.00303150
108	.003559807	
103	.0005500500	,00175034
110	-0-	0

PART 20-ESTATE TAX; ESTATES OF DE-CEDENTS DYING AFTER AUGUST 16, 1954

§ 20.2031-11 [Deleted]

Par. 2. Section 20.2031-11, of which the title only appears, is deleted.

PART 25—GIFT TAX; GIFTS MADE AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1954

§ 25.2512-10 [Deleted]

Pan. 3. Section 25.2512-10, of which the title only appears, is deleted.

[FR Doc.73-27046 Filed 12-27-73;8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[50 CFR Part 17]

CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES AND OTHER FISH OR WILDLIFE

Notice of Proposed Rule Making

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the authority contained in the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969, 80 Stat. 926 (16 U.S.C. 668aa-668cc), as amended by 83 Stat. 275 (16 U.S.C. 668cc-1 to 668cc-6), that the Secretary of the Interior proposes to amend Title 50, Part 17, Appendix A, "The U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Pish and Wildlife," of the Code of Federal Regulations.

This proposed amendment would add the following animals to Appendix A, "The U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife." This proposal is

based upon evidence on file with the Burcau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Washington, D.C., which shows these animals are threatened with extinction due to one or more of the following conditions: (1) The destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment, or the threatened destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment, of its habitat, or (2) its overutilization for commercial or sporting purposes, or (3) the effect on it of disease or predation, or (4) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

REPTILIS

Common name: Scientific name Green sea turtle..... Chelonia mydas. Loggerhead turtle.... Caretta caretta.

The Secretary of the Interior is not foreclosed, at the conclusion of the notice period below stated, from publishing a list which omits one or more of the species herein proposed for listing.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions, or objections concerning this proposed amendment, to the Director, Burcau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Comments received by March 1, 1974 will be considered.

> LYNN A. GREENWALT, Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

DECEMBER 26, 1973.

[FR Doc.73-27257 Filed 12-27-73;8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

[7 CFR Part 726] BURLEY TOBACCO

Determinations on Marketing Quotas for 1974–75, 1975–76 and 1976–77 Marketing Years

Pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended ((7 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.), hereinafter referred to as the Act), consideration is being given to the proclamation of national marketing quotas for burley tobacco for the 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 marketing years and to the determination and announcement for the 1974-75 marketing year, the amount of the national marketing quota, the national reserve, and the national factor. A marketing quota referendum will be held within 30 days after the proclamation.

Section 319(b) requires marketing quotas on a poundage basis be proclaimed and the amount of the national marketing quota for the 1974-75 marketing year be determined and announced not later than February 1, 1974.

Section 319(c) provides that the national marketing quota determined under this section for buriey tobacco for any marketing year shall be the amount produced in the United States which the Secretary estimates will be utilized in the United States and will be exported during such marketing year, adjusted upward or downward in such amount as

the Secretary, in his discretion, determines is desirable for the purpose of maintaining an adequate supply or for effecting an orderly reduction of supplies to the reserve supply level. Any such downward adjustment shall not exceed 5 per centum of such estimated utilization and exports. For each marketing year for which marketing quotas are in effect under this section, the Secretary in his discretion may establish a reserve (hereinafter referred to as the "national reserve") from the national marketing quota in an amount not in excess of 1 per centum of the national marketing quota to be available for making corrections and adjusting inequities in farm marketing quotas, and for establishing marketing quotas for new farms (that is, farms for which farm marketing quotas are not otherwise established)

Section 319(e) provides, in part, that the farm marketing quota shall be determined by multiplying the previous year's farm marketing quota by a national factor obtained by dividing the national marketing quota determined under subsection (c) of this section (less the national reserve) by the sum of the farm marketing quotas for the immediately preceding year for all farms for which buriey tobacco marketing quotas will be determined: Provided, That such na-tional factor shall not be less than 95 per centum: Provided further, That for the marketing years beginning October 1. 1972, and October 1, 1973, the farm marketing quota for any farm shall not be less than the smaller of (1) one-half acre times the farm yield times one-half the sum of the figure one and the national factor for the current year, or (2) the farm marketing quota for the immediately preceding marketing year times one-half the sum of the figure one and the national factor for the current year. The farm marketing quota so computed for any farm for any year shall be increased by the number of pounds by which marketings from the farm during the immediately preceding year were less than the farm marketing quota (after adjustments) : Provided, That any such increase shall not exceed the amount of the farm marketing quota (including leased pounds) for the immediately preceding marketing year prior to any increase for undermarketings or decrease for overmarketings. The farm marketing quota so computed for each farm for any year shall be reduced by the number of pounds by which marketing from the farm during the immediately preceding year exceeded the farm marketing quota (after adjustments) : Provided, That if, on account of excess marketings in the preceding year, the farm marketing quota is reduced to zero pounds without reflecting the entire reduction required, the additional reduction required shall be made in subsequent marketing years.

Section 319(e) provides also, that the farm marketing quota for a new farm shall be the number of pounds determined by the county committee with approval of the State committee to be fair and reasonable for the farm on the basis

EPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release January 4, 1974

Carroll 202/343-5634

GREEN AND LOGGERHEAD TURTLES PROPOSED FOR FOREIGN ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST

The Department of the Interior announced today it is proposing to add loggerhead and green turtles, two species increasingly victimized by man and his activities, to its list of foreign endangered fish and wildlife.

A listing as "endangered" would prohibit the importation of these turtles and their products into the United States for commercial purposes.

Although it is difficult to determine the worldwide population of loggerhead and green turtles since these species exist in many of the world's more remote islands, strong evidence exists that serious declines in their numbers are occurring in many places.

Green turtles are found worldwide in tropical seas and occasionally stray into more temperate waters. Most recorded nesting is along the Mexican coast. In the United States, they occur in Florida waters.

Stocks in the Caribbean, once believed to have numbered at least 50 million, now are estimated at less than 10,000. Reproductive potential may be destroyed in the near future if present harvest levels are maintained.

Of all marine turtles, the green turtle is the most valuable to man.

Its flesh and eggs have been eaten for centuries and the cartilage is used in soup. In recent years, the oil and skin have found increasing favor in the cosmetic and leather industries.

(over)

The major nesting areas for loggerhead turtles are along the east coast of the United States from North Carolina to Florida and to a lesser extent on scattered islands off the Gulf States. Populations here are estimated between 25,000 and 50,000.

Loggerheads are protected in the United States from those who would take them for meat, but the eggs and meat of this species are found in many markets in Central America. With few exceptions, turtle nests are unprotected in the Caribbean.

Some posching still occurs in the United States, and loggerheads are subjected to several inadvertent perils, not the least of which are incompatible oceanfront developments. Large numbers probably are drowned by shrimp trawlers off the Atlantic and Gulf States. Smaller numbers also are killed for "sport" by skin divers or when struck by boats in estuarine regions. Some are lost to predators such as sharks, sand crabs, raccoons, and gulls.

Interior's proposal, developed by the Fish and Wildlife Service, was published in the Federal Register on December 28 and allows the public 60 days to comment before a final decision is reached.

x x x

March 27, 1974

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

Dear Mr. Balazs,

I read the letter you sent to Chick Durbin. I, too, am very interested in the Pacific Green Sea turtles. A couple years ago I did some studying on Pacific Green Sea turtle Chelona mydes. If you plan on coming here I would be happy to help you in any work related to the turtles. If there is some locating work to be done, it would be best that you plan on at least a few weeks. As far as the Kawaihae location (3 miles north), as I haven t personally dived there, I don't know the size of the turtle population. Too bad those fishermen tracked your locations when you were over here on the University of Hawaii ship. The problem can be alleviated by telling people you're looking for Alaskan abalone or African krill. Once some of the fishermen know what you're doing and, worst of all, if it's with turtles - forget it - they're going to poach. I know; I was a fisherman too. The only difference is that I am concerned over the turtless future. Much is to be learned from our Hawaiian Pacific Green Sea turtle. Let me know what your plans are concerning the turtles and I will see how I could help you.

Aloha,

Chuck Freitas P. O. Box 1236 Hilo, Hawaii 96720



OLAIKE

March 4, 1974

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

Dear George:

Thanks for your recent note. It came at a very opportune time. We have nearly completed the large Kaupo Falls project and as a final stage we would like to make the necessary modifications on the turtle pool. I am very interested in your ideas.

Perhaps the best bet would be for you to come out for lunch and we'll design an appropriate turtle area. As you know, I'm here almost every day so give me a call any time you're free.

SEA LIFE, INCORPORATED

Edward W. Shallenberger, Ph.D. Vice President & Director of Park Operations

EWS:iw

Dear Beorge,

Nere's the latest Ka Molokai with the brief notice of the turble heaving. Two weeks ago the Feb. 7 sion cound a semilar notice: -

"Division of Fish & Game will hold a hearing by request of Molobai residents on proposed regulations bearing the talsing of sea turtles for commercial purposes or for home consumption without a permit. Molobai District Courthonse, Thursday, February 28, at 7:00 PM."

Thorbis for serding on the repurts of your testimony. The Elepais anticle is the Star-Bullity article? Supplied on distributed out there archi Cour reprints to interested points on Saturday, including did Kert of Phil Estermann Will get to work now on possing out the Ston Bull papers. For your future reference, Phil Estermann's (two Ns) address is PO Box 80b, Kourokakai, HI 96748, Royan remember, he's our life of the Send guy. One of the people I gave literature to, Dorothe Centis, will no doubt be contacting your other your a T-shirt.

your tide

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK

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

Bronx Park Bronx, N. Y. 10460

5 March 1974

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I was happy to receive your letter of 16 February 1974 in which you outlined your hopes of obtaining protection for the green turtle in Hawaii. While I have not worked directly with sea turtles for a number of years, the New York Zoological Society supports a number of projects involving sea turtles. Some of these projects have involved purchase of boats and other equipment for patrolling in Tortuguero, Costa Rica; and supporting an attempt to establish a resident breeding population of green turtles in Great Inagua, Bahamas. In addition, we cooperate with other biologists and their efforts to get the species protected in critical areas. Most recently, most of our attention has been paid to the drain on the wild populations that attends their exploitation as a source of leather as well as luxury foodstuffs. We are quite concerned about the number of ridleys, greens, and loggerheads that are being turned into leather in Mexico. Reports we have received indicate that upwards of 100,000 were shipped to Japan during the last year. If we can assist your efforts in any way please let us know.

Sincerely,

F Wayne King

Director, Conservation and Environmental Education

/db

cc: H. Campbell

A. Carr

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Bronx Park
Bronx, N.Y. 10460

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

25 March 1974

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

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Thank you for the advertisement listing the sea turtle and alligator (= crocodile) shoes from the Navarro Brothers. I have passed the advertisement on to federal authorities who will check to see if the turtle hides were imported legally from Mexico and that the French alligator shoes are not in fact Nile crocodile which is prohibited under our endangered species act, and which is the main species used by the French manufacturers.

Thank you also for the copy of your proposed investigation of the green turtle populations of French Frigate Shoals. If we can be of any assistance in helping you find funds for your study please let me know.

Singerely

Wayne/King

Director, Conservation and Environmental Education LEDHOR K. (MRS. JOHN B.) SULLIVAN, MO., CHAIRMAN

FRANK M. GLARK, PA.
TROMAS L. ASHLET, OHIO
JOHN D. DINGELL, MICH.
THOMAS K. DOWNING, VA.
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WALTER B. JONES, N.C.
ROBERT L. LEGGETT, CALIF.
MARIO BIAGG, N.Y.
GLENN M. ANDERSON, CALIF.
E (KIKA) DE LA GARZA, TEX.
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JOSE, PRITCHARD, WASH,
ED YOUNG, S.G.
DON YOUNG, ALARKA

U.S. House of Representatibes

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries Boom 1334, Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

February 8, 1974

ERNEST J. CORRADO

COUNERL.

MED P. EVERETT LEN SUTTER PRANCIS D. HEYWARD MARY G. MC DONNSLL

MINORITY COUNSEL. RICHARD N. SHAROSO WILLIAM G. ROUYTREE

FRANCES STILL, CHIEF CLERK

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

This is in further reference to your inquiry concerning possible funding for green turtle research.

Enclosed herewith is a letter which I have received from the Department of the Interior in response to my inquiry in your behalf on this subject. You will note that these turtles are, in fact, excluded from both the Dingell-Johnson and the Pittman-Robertson Acts by definition. However, as the Department notes, it is possible that financial assistance for this purpose may be possible under the recently enacted Endangered Species Act. You may wish to investigate this vehicle through your State agency after the appropriate procedures have been worked out by the Interior Department.

I trust this provides the information you seek.

Sincerely

John D. Dingell, Chairman Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment

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PART 20—ESTATE TAX; ESTATES OF DE-CEDENTS DYING AFTER AUGUST 16, 1954 § 20.2031-11 [Deleted]

Par. 2. Section 20.2031-11, of which the title only appears, is deleted.

PART 25—GIFT TAX; GIFTS MADE AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1954

§ 25.2512-10 [Deleted]

Pag. 3. Section 25.2512-10, of which the title only appears, is deleted.

[PR Dec.73-27046 Filed 12-27-73;8:45 sm]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[50 CFR Part 17]

SPECIES AND OTHER FISH OR WILDLIFE

Notice of Proposed Rule Making

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the authority contained in the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969, 80 Stat. 926 (16 U.S.C. 668aa-668cc), as amended by 83 Stat. 275 (16 U.S.C. 668cc-1 to 668cc-6), that the Secretary of the Interior proposes to amend Title 50, Part 17, Appendix A, "The U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife," of the Code of Federal Régulations.

This proposed amendment would add the following animals to Appendix A, "The U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife." This proposal is based upon evidence on file with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Washington, D.C., which shows these animals are threatened with extinction due to one or more of the following conditions: (1) The destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment, or the threatened destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment, of its habitat, or (2) its overutilization for commercial or sporting purposes, or (3) the effect on it of disease or predation, or (4) other natural or menmade factors affecting its continued existence.

REPTILES

Common name: Scientific name
Green sea turtle..... Chelonia mydas.
Loggerhead turtle..... Caretta caretta,

The Secretary of the Interior is not foreclosed, at the conclusion of the notice period below stated, from publishing a list which omits one or more of the species herein proposed for listing.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions, or objections concerning this proposed amendment, to the Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Comments received, by March 1, 1974 will be considered.

LYNN A. GREENWALT,
Director, Bureau of
Sport Fisherics and Wildlife.

DECEMBER 26, 1973.

[FR Doc.73-27257 Filed 12-27-73;8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

> [7 CFR Part 726] BURLEY TOBACCO

Determinations on Marketing Quotas for 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 Marketing Years

Pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, as amended ((7 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.), hereinafter referred to as the Act), consideration is being given to the proclamation of national marketing quotas for burley tobacco for the 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 marketing years and to the determination and announcement for the 1974-75 marketing year, the amount of the national marketing quota, the national reserve, and the national factor. A marketing quota referendum will be held within 30 days after the proclamation.

Section 319(b) requires marketing quotas on a poundage basis be proclaimed and the amount of the national marketing quota for the 1974-75 marketing year be determined and announced not later than February 1, 1974.

Section 319(c) provides that the national marketing quota determined under this section for burley tobacco for any marketing year shall be the amount produced in the United States which the Secretary estimates will be utilized in the United States and will be exported during such marketing year, adjusted upward or downward in such amount as

the Secretary, in his discretion, mines is desirable for the purp maintaining an adequate supply effecting an orderly reduction o plies to the reserve supply level such downward adjustment shall r ceed 5 per centum of such esti utilization and exports. For each keting year for which marketing are in effect under this section, th retary in his discretion may estal reserve (hereinafter referred to a "national reserve") from the ns marketing quota in an amount : excess of 1 per centum of the na marketing quota to be available for ing corrections and adjusting inein farm marketing quotas, and f tablishing marketing quotas for farms (that is, farms for which marketing quotas are not otheru! tablished).

Section 319(e) provides, in part the farm marketing quota shall be mined by multiplying the previous farm marketing quota by a na factor obtained by dividing the na marketing quota determined unde: section (c) of this section (less th tional reserve) by the sum of the marketing quotas for the immed preceding year for all farms for burley tobacco marketing quotas v determined; Provided, That such tional factor shall not be less the per centum: Provided further, Th the marketing years beginning Octo 1972, and October 1, 1973, the farm keting quota for any farm shell r less than the smaller of (1) on acre times the farm yield times one the sum of the figure one and the tional factor for the current ye-(2) the farm marketing quota fo immediately preceding marketing times one-half the sum of the figur and the national factor for the cuyear. The farm marketing quota so puted for any farm for any year be increased by the number of poby which marketings from the farm ing the immediately preceding year less than the farm marketing o (after adjustments) : Provided, That such increase shall not exceed amount of the farm marketing o (including leased pounds) for the mediately preceding marketing prior to any increase for undermaings or decrease for overmarkelings. farm marketing quota so computed each farm for any year shall be red by the number of pounds by which p keting from the farm during the imdiately preceding year exceeded the I marketing quota (after adjustmen Provided, That if, on account of ex marketings in the preceding year, farm marketing quota is reduced to pounds without reflecting the entire duction regulred, the additional retion required shall be made in su' quent marketing years. Section 319(e) provides also, that

Section 319(e) provides also, that farm marketing quota for a new f. shall be the number of pounds do mined by the county committee with proval of the State committee to be and reasonable for the farm on the b February 15, 1974

The Honorable John D. Dingell U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries Room 1334, Longworth House Office Building Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Representative Dingell:

Many thanks for your recent information on the status of the green sea turtle in relation to the Dingell-Johnson act. Your assistance in this matter has been greatly appreciated.

As you are aware the green as well as the loggerhead turtle have been proposed for inclusion on the endangered species list. I have enclosed a copy of testimony on this matter which I submitted to the Director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Perhaps you will find portions of this information useful.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs Jr. Marine Biologist

mk

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA GAINESVILLE, 32601

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

March 4, 1970

Mr. Donald L. Hillhouse P. O. Box 880 Apia, Western Samoa South Pacific

Dear Mr. Hillhouse:

I was interested to hear of your turtle project. Knowing as little as I do about the turtle situation there, it is hard for me to offer you any very practical advice. Some time ago I decided there must not be any mass nesting ground anywhere thereabouts, but have not been able to get any idea how much separate nesting does go on, if any, or what species might be involved.

Perhaps the enclosed reprints will suggest courses your investigation might take. In beginning such a program as you plan, it seems to me that the most useful thing to do is to tag as many turtles as you can, using a tag that offers a reward for its return. In most cases the only way to tag turtles in numbers is either to go where the females come ashore to nest, or to rear young in captivity to about three-pound size and then mark them with calf-ear tags that will stay in place for a couple of years or more. If you find yourself able to do tagging of either kind we'll be glad to furnish you with tags and applicators, and for a couple of years, at least, to pay any recovery rewards. Data that come in would of course go directly back to you.

I'm sorry I can't give you more specific suggestions for developing your program, and I hope the publications help.

Sincerely yours,

Archie Carr

Graduate Research Professor

AC;es Enclosures



HAWAII HELICOPTERS, INTERNATIONAL

P. O. BOX 1401, LIHUE, HAWAII 96766 PHONE 245-2371 - 245-2131

March 13, 1974

Mr. George H. Balazs
HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY
P.O. Box 1346 - Cocoanut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Your interest in preserving the Pacific Sea Turtles is truly gratifying. Please expect all the support I can provide.

My ten year observation of the Kauai turtle population probably covers the period of greatest hunting pressure. As tourism grew, so did the demand and price for meat.

During 1966, I became involved in a study that included the decline of turtles. It was conducted as a masters thesis by a Berkeley graduate student. Since that time, I've made careful note of sighting frequency and size. I could sum up a ten year, almost daily observation of Na Pali, with one statement.....the population of Sea Turtles, has declined by at least 90%.

There are some who say that such observations are not meaningful because the turtles migrate in cycles. They suggest that there is really an abundance of turtles at sea or outside the area I usually fly. That is debateable since no one really knows or can find out.

However, Na Pali does provide an excellent measure of decline through hunting. There are no resorts or noteworthy human activity there. Actually, the turtles should be congregating there from other parts of the island.

Ten years ago, it was not uncommon to count 50 turtles between Haena and Nualolo Aina. These were the big ones that could be seen from 1000 feet. Now, we see a few turtles and seldom any big ones.

Hunters should be the first to support a program of careful harvesting. They are going to lose a source of income if the breeding population declines too far.

Thanks for the material. I will be interested in any further information.

Sincerely,

Jack Harter Operations

JH:adm

TESTIMONY BY GEORGE H. BALAZS, HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY, CONCERNING SENATE BILL 195 WHICH RELATES TO THE PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED WILDLIFE SPECIES

A need presently exists in the State of Hawaii for measures that will aid in the survival of wild animals that are faced with extinction. The provisions set forth in Senate Bill 195 fulfill this need, therefore, I strongly urge that you act favorably and expeditiously on this essential and worthy piece of legislation.

The importance of protecting the earth's vanishing wildlife populations has already been fully recognized by the Federal government. With the passage of the Lacey Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (which replaced and strengthened the previous Act of 1969), Congress accepted, as a national responsibility, the task of aiding in the survival of the world's wildlife resources. Some of the important findings and declarations made by Congress in relation to these Acts were that:

- Various species have been rendered extinct as a consequence of economic growth and development because of inadequate concern and conservation;
- other species have been so depleted in numbers that they are in danger of or threatened with extinction;
- species of wildlife are of ecological, educational, historical, recreational, aesthetic and/or scientific value to man; and
- that the United States has pledged itself in the international community to help conserve the various species facing extinction.

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, animals that are considered to be in danger of extinction may not be legally imported into the country or transported across state boundaries in (interstate) commerce. Under the Lacey Act, wildlife that is taken in violation of any existing foreign law is also prohibited from being imported or transported between states. Both of these protective measures are designed to help safeguard depleted wild-life populations in the United States as well as in other countries. The present List of Endangered Fauna compiled by the Department of the Interior contains 109 animals which now receive this protection. Considering that this list is in the process of being updated, and that the Red Book Data of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (a highly respected conservation organization based in Switzerland) presently consider more than 1,000 species to be faced with extinction, it would appear that many other members of the animal kingdom deserve, indeed require for survival, the protective laws available through our Federal government.

Although Federal laws ban the importation and sale across state boundaries of endangered species and their derived products, no provisions exist which deal with intrastate commerce, that is, commerce that apparently takes place only within the boundaries of a single state. Each individual state government must therefore assume the responsibility for assuring the survival of endangered animals by prohibiting sale within their respective jurisdictions. Some states (New York, Illinois, Delaware, Connecticut and California) have already taken this initiative by passing laws which complement and strengthen the Federal Acts. By passage of a similar measure such as the one now under consideration, Hawaii can also take an active and vital part in this conservation effort. Such action, when taken, will provide most welcomed assistance to Federal agents here in Honolulu who have the responsibility of enforcing wildlife importation restrictions.

Of considerable related interest to Senate Bill 195 is the coverstory of the January 6, 1975 Newsweek magazine. In this article, which focused the nation's attention on the timely subject of vanishing wildlife, a narration is given of man's seemingly unending "war" against the creatures of the wild. Commercial exploitation was again pointed to as being one of the most significant factors responsible for the destruction and decline of wild animal populations. Some of the products mentioned include tourists' curios carved from elephant tusks, garmets fashioned from newborn seal skins, jewelry made from tiger claws and teeth, stuffed sea turtles and crocodile shoes. A wide range of similar exotic luxury items are being offered for sale in Hawaii at this very time. For those committee members who have not had the opportunity to read this excellent Newsweek article, I have reproduced a limited number of copies for your information.

Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to discuss this important subject with you today.

Although two kinds of turtles are native to Hawaiian waters, the green sea turtle is the only one which still occurs in any number. The hawksbill sea turtle is now an exceptionally rare species and its continued survival is questionable. Early Hawaiian people were well acquainted with both of these air-breathing reptiles. The green or "honu" as it is called, provided a valuable source of nutritious high-protein food that was utilized in a nonwasteful manner. The hawksbill or "'ea" was captured primarily for the thick plates which cover its upper shell. This material was fashioned into such essential items as fishhooks and tools used for the preparation of fish nets. In addition, the plates were also made into a medicine believed to be capable of curing certain diseases called "'ea." Both of these turtles, which are represented in petroglyphs and referred to in mythology, have always been an integral part of Hawaiian and other native Pacific island cultures.

With the introduction of outside values and technology, economic patterns were gradually altered from a subsistence level to a cash-based market. Human populations increased, remote areas became more accessible and land development flourished. All of these factors acted in unison to produce ecological imbalances resulting in the decline of the Hawaiian green turtle population. This undesirable situation is, however, by no means unique to Hawaii or the Pacific as the same uncontrolled forces have been allowed to decimate turtle populations throughout the tropics. At an international meeting of marine turtle biologists which I recently attended in Miami, it was concluded that the majority of the world's green turtle populations are either extinct, threatened with extinction, or rapidly declining. Unfortunately, the ones who will suffer most from this decline are those who can least afford it. That is, the indigenous peoples who have been traditionally dependent on the turtle as a supplemental source of food.

For all practical purposes, no restrictions existed on the exploitation of turtles in waters surrounding the major Hawaiian Islands before June of last year. Due to an increasing commercial demand in recent years, most of which could be traced directly to the tourist industry, the killing of turtles had been proceeding at a record rate. Based on numerous testimonies presented at public hearings by divers, fishermen, and other knowledgable long-time residents, the pertinent aspects of the situation came into focus. Concerning the population's status and exploitation, it was agreed that many areas once relatively abundant with turtles now contained only a small fraction of their previous numbers. Further, the alarmingly large commercial increases reflected in voluntary reports submitted to the Division of Fish and Game were found to represent only a portion of what was actually being taken for the restaurant trade. In regard to reproduction, it was shown that there remains only one site (French Frigate Shoals) in the entire Archipelago where green turtles still emerged from the sea to lay eggs. Although productive nesting sites existed at several key locations in the major Islands as recent as 30 years ago, none were shown to remain today. In summary, not only was the honu being openly sold down the final road to extinction in the name of exotic dishes for tourists, but in a more subtle manner a large portion of essential nesting habitat had been disrupted or modified, thereby rendering it useless. After 13 months of deliberations, a protective regulation was put into effect which prohibits the commercialization of turtle products but still allows for home consumption of green turtles over a maximum size.

My own interests in the ecology, conservation, and wise utilization of the green turtle have caused me to take an active role in furthering the understanding

of this native Hawaiian resource. With the assistance of a small grant from the New York Zoological Society and with the cooperation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, I have conducted studies at French Frigate Shoals during peak nesting periods over the past two years. In combination with occasional tagging previously carried out by Federal and State personnel during visits to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, this effort represents a positive start in assessing the present survival status and potential of the breeding population. In addition, working with very limited financial resources, I have initiated several small voluntary tagging programs around the major Islands in order to gain preliminary population data on this important phase of the turtle's migratory range. As a part of the Sea Grant funded Aquaculture Project at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, a sizable portion of my work over the past 28 months has involved investigations into the feasibility and potential of growing green turtles in captivity. The results of this research, as well as information made available from studies conducted elsewhere, have forced us to reject this animal for husbandry purposes. Reasons why turtle culture is not a realistic proposition at the present include the inability of large numbers of young to be produced in captivity (necessitating the removal of eggs or baby turtles from the natural environment); the relatively high levels of dietary protein needed in artificial diets in order to produce acceptable growth; and the ramifications of large scale commercial turtle husbandry as it applies to the conservation of wild turtle populations.

Although our green turtle has suffered significant declines over the years, I am nevertheless convinced that the remaining wild population has the potential for providing a renewable source of supplemental food to the people of Hawaii. However, in order to successfully utilize this resource, and at the same time ensure its continued existence for future generations, sufficient basic biological information must be available for management purposes. The need for a comprehensive study to obtain this information has long been recognized by both State and Federal officials in Hawaii who are familiar with the situation. Unfortunately, the absence of financial support has thus far prevented such a worthy endeavor from becoming a reality. No funds are presently available through any Hawaii State Department or Agency, including the University of Hawaii. Severe fiscal restraints as well as the inflexibility of ongoing specific task projects that require matching State funds prevent the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (a part of the University system) from being able to directly support green turtle ecology studies. In addition, Federal aid grants to States for fish and wildlife restoration projects (Dingle-Johnson and Pitman-Robertson Acts) do not permit funds to be expended on sea turtle studies. I have personally confirmed this point with Representative Dingle, who regrettably informed me that turtles, under the definitions used in the Acts, are not classified as being either. "fish" or "wildlife." In the absence of this outside support, a reasonable source of assistance for this pressing research effort is the Legislative appropriation of specific funds, such as set forth in Senate Bill 546. Because the principal responsibility for native resources rests with the State, and because the people of Hawaii are the beneficiaries of these resources are managed wisely, it seems both necessary and proper that the Legislature act with favor on this measure. I therefore respectfully urge members of this committee to enthusiastically endorse Senate Bill 548.

Along with this testimony I have included an outline of the six-point program that would be involved in a comprehensive green turtle study in Hawaii. A list is also presented of the types of essential management-oriented biological information that could be expected to result. In order to give you an idea of how appropriations would be spent, I have prepared a tentative list of expenditures for your inspection. I greatly appreciate being afforded the opportunity to bring the specifics of this subject to your attention.



TESTIMONY BY GEORGE H. BALAZS, HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY, CONCERNING HOUSE BILL 191 WHICH RELATES TO A GREEN SEA TURTLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STUDY

Although two kinds of turtles are native to Hawaiian waters, the green sea turtle is the only one which still occurs in any number. The hawksbill sea turtle is now an exceptionally rare species and its continued survival is questionable. Early Hawaiian people were well acquainted with both of these air-breathing reptiles. The green or "honu" as it is called, provided a valuable source of nutritious high-protein food that was utilized in a non-wasteful manner. The hawksbill or "'ea" was captured primarily for the thick plates which cover its upper shell. This material was fashioned into such essential items as fishhooks and tools used for the preparation of fish nets. In addition, the plates were also made into a medicine believed to be capable of curing certain diseases called "'ea." Both of these turtles, which are represented in petroglyphs and referred to in mythology, have always been an integral part of Hawaiian and other native Pacific island cultures.

With the introduction of outside values and technology, economic patterns were gradually altered from a subsistence level to a cash-based market. Human populations increased, remote areas became more accessible and land development flourished. All of these factors acted in unison to produce ecological imbalances resulting in the decline of the Hawaiian green turtle population. This undesirable situation is, however, by no means unique to Hawaii or the Pacific as the same uncontrolled forces have been allowed to decimate turtle populations throughout the tropics. At an international meeting of marine turtle biologists which I recently attended in Miami, it was concluded that the majority of the world's green turtle populations are either extinct, threatened with extinction, or rapidly declining. Unfortunately, the ones who will suffer most from this decline are those who can least afford it. That is, the indigenous peoples who have been traditonally dependent on the turtle as a supplemental source of food.

For all practical purposes, no restrictions existed on the exploitation of turtles in waters surrounding the major Hawaiian Islands before June of last year. Due to an increasing commercial demand in recent years, most of which could be traced directly to the tourist industry, the killing of turtles had been proceeding at a record rate. Based on numerous testimonies presented at public hearings by divers, fishermen, and other knowledgeable long-time residents, the pertinent aspects of the situation came into focus. Concerning the population's status and exploitation, it was agreed that many areas once relatively abundant with turtles now contained only a small fraction of their previous numbers. Further, the alarmingly large commercial increases reflected in voluntary reports submitted to the Division of Fish and Game were found to represent only a portion of what was actually being taken for the restaurant trade. In regard to reproduction, it was shown that there remains only one site (French Frigate Shoals) in the entire Archipelago where green turtles still emerge from the sea to lay eggs. Although productive nesting sites existed at several key locations in the major Islands as recent as 30 years ago, none were shown to remain today. In summary, not only was the honu being openly sold down the final road to extinction in the name of exotic dishes for tourists, but in a more subtle manner a large portion of essential nesting habitat had

TESTIMONY BY GEORGE H. BALAZS, HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, CONCERNING SENATE BILL 1530 WHICH RELATES TO THE PROTECTION OF THE HAWAIIAN GREEN TURTLE.

February 26, 1974

Under the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973 (public law 93-205) an animal may be considered "endangered" due to any of five different factors.

Not less than three of these factors are directly applicable to the present status of the Hawaiian green turtle. These include 1.) present or threatened destruction, modification or curtailment of habitat or range; 2.) overutilization for commercial sporting, scientific or educational purposes; and 3.) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms.

The green turtle has now been reduced to a single nesting site in the Archipelago, that being French Frigate Shoals in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. In the 1920's and 30's green turtles nested in relatively large numbers on the north shore of Lanai and in lesser but still significant numbers in at least four specific locations throughout the major inhabited islands. Today no nesting occurs at any of these sites. Nesting habitat has been both modified and destroyed and the green turtles' range has been curtailed.

State Fish and Game records show that the reported commercial catch has increased in recent years with only a small portion of the actual catch being legally reported. Exploitation for turtle steaks continues to increase due to the dollar incentive provided by restaurants serving this exotic item. If this situation is left unchecked, the only possible outcome can be the complete and irreversible decimation of the Hawaiian green turtle colony. During the 1973 nesting season intensive investigations at French Frigate

Shoals revealed that fewer than 150 females were present. Population estimates made in 1968 placed the size at two to four times the present level. Fewer than 150 females at the only nesting site in the Hawaiian Archipelago is ample reason to wonder if long term survival can continue without the immediate implementation of special measures. All information available indicates that overutilization for commercial purposes has occurred in the past and continues to occur today.

No specific Hawaii State regulations or statutes have ever existed to ensure adequate management of the Hawaiian green turtle colony. No laws presently exist to help protect or perpetuate these marine reptiles around our inhabited islands. For the past year the State Fish and Game Division has supported a regulation that would provide partial protection for marine turtles.

Overwhelming public support has also been displayed for this measure, however, enactment has not been obtained. Whether it ever will be now seems questionable. Without doubt, there is an inadequacy in existing regulatory mechanisms in Hawaii to ensure green turtle survival.

Destruction, modification and curtailment of habitat; overutilization for commercial purposes; and the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms were some of the same major factors cited by the U.S. Department of the Interior when it recently nominated the green turtle for inclusion to the Endangered Species List.

It would therefore behoove the State of Hawaii to at long last take the initiative and afford complete protection to her green turtles. This total protection should continue until such a time that a research management study indicates what level of utilization can take place without adversely affecting the colony. To permit uncontrolled exploitation to take place until a research

management study has been completed would surely be resource mismanagement of the poorest form. In view of recent events and the fact that our green turtle colony is the last in the U.S., it appears highly likely that if the State does not take immediate decisive action, the Federal government most certainly will be justified in doing so. I therefore concur with Senate Bill 1530 and urge its rapid passage along with a slightly modified version of House Bill 1635.

TESTIMONY BY GEORGE H. BALAZS, HAWAII INSTITUTE OF MARINE BIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, CONCERNING HOUSE BILL 1635 WHICH RELATES TO RESEARCH MANAGEMENT STUDIES OF THE HAWAIIAN GREEN TURTLE.

February 26, 1974

The green turtle (Chelonia sp.) colony found in the Hawaiian Islands is of a unique nature because it is the last remaining intact green turtle colony in the United States as well as the only one in the world that can be managed and protected under a single government's jurisdiction at both the feeding and breeding grounds. These points alone should be of paramount importance to the State of Hawaii. From a scientific point of view, this colony is also unique because it presents many special problems in population dynamics, ecology and behavior.

Past turtle research in Hawaii has thus far been restricted to limited tagging studies in the Northwestern Islands by U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife personnel, and to a preliminary intensive survey of nesting and basking populations at French Frigate Shoals (the last nesting site in the Hawaiian Archipelago) which I conducted during 1973. In addition, the State Fish and Game Division has collected data on commercially captured turtles that have been reported since 1948.

Tagging by Bureau personnel has shown in no undertain terms athat turtles present at French Frigate Shoals during the nesting season subsequently migrate to feeding areas around each of our major inhabited islands. No protection from exploitation exists around these islands. Results of my own investigations have revealed that fewer than 150 females were present at French Frigate Shoals during the 1973 nesting season, a low number by any means of evaluation. State Fish and Game statistics have shown that commercial

exploitation of turtles has drastically increased over the past ten years, undoubtedly as a result of tourism growth and the accompanying demand for exotic foods such as turtle steak. All available information derived from the research that has thus far been conducted gives cause for serious concern for the continued survival of the Hawaiian green turtle. Further intensive investigations need to be conducted in both the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and around the major inhabited islands at the earliest possible time. Baseline research is clearly necessary if the State expects to wisely manage, on a long term basis, and utilize, to the best advantage, her unique green turtle colony.

Research on Hawaii's turtles has long been urged by concerned scientists and government agencies. In 1973 Dr. Archie Carr, the world's foremost authority on the green turtle, stated in correspondence to me that he would like to "see a complete moratorium on the taking of all sea turtles throughout the Hawaiian Islands until a careful survey of breeding, feeding and basking populations could be made."

In 1971 a United Nations' report on marine turtle resources in the Pacific urged that intensive research be initiated so that valuable information could be obtained on the little studied Hawaiian turtle colony. During the 1971 Legislative Session the Department of Land and Natural Resources recommended that funds be provided for a research management study of our green turtle colony. In 1956 a Honolulu Star-Bulletin newspaper article quoted Fish and Game officials and local scientists as stating that information was needed on our marine turtles so that they might be protected and perpetuated. Research studies were recommended.

Total agreement seems to exist on the need for comprehensive turtle research. The absence of necessary financial support for this work has been, and continues to be, the major inhibiting factor. Budget restrictions and limited personnel in the State Fish and Game Division have restricted turtle research through this agency. The Federal Aid to Sport Fisheries Restoration Act (commonly called the Dingell-Johnson Act) specifically excludes turtles, therefore, funds presently being received by the State cannot be used for turtle research. Representative Dingell has only recently reconfirmed this point for me with the Secretary of the Interior. The U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is only capable of providing a limited amount of assistance to turtle research studies, chiefly in the form of equipment usage and logistics support. The University of Hawaii, including the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, is financially unable to support the type of turtle management studies that are needed. Only through a special Legislative appropriation such as provided for in House Bill 1635 can the funds for green turtle research be obtained. It seems highly appropriate to use State funds to study a State resource that has been commercially exploited to the benefit of the State's economy. I therefore strongly concur with those sections of House Bill 1635 which would provide general revenues of the State for research management studies. I am not, however, in agreement at this time with Section 4 which would provide funds for encouraging the commercial culture of green turtles. The present state of the turtle culture art is such that premature commercial ventures only represent an adverse factor to the conservation of the species. Among other important economic and

biological factors, no expertise presently exists for completing the green turtle's life cycle in captivity. Eggs or young must be removed from natural nesting beaches or obtained in part from adults captured from the wild. Until the basic biological problems inherent to the species have been resolved, premature commercial farms will only further weaken the green turtle's already precarious survival position. I suggest that the proposed funds in Section 4 be transferred for use in Sections 2 and 3 which deal with the immediate problem of a resource management investigation.

I have submitted copies of pertinent background literature on the status of the green turtle in order to assist members of the committee in their understanding of this valuable marine reptile. Thank you for the opportunity to present information on this matter.

References submitted to committee along with testimony:

- Balazs, G. H., Protecting Hawaiian Sea Turtles. Honolulu Star-Bulletin, December 18, 1973.
- Balazs, G. H., Status of Marine Turtles in the Hawaiian Islands. Elepaio, Journal of the Hawaii Audubon Society. June, 1973.
- Carr, A. F., Great Reptile, Great Enigmas. Audubon, Vol. 74, No. 2, 1972.
- 4. Ehrenfeld, D. W., Conserving the Edible Sea Turtle: Can Mariculture Help? American Scientist, Vol. 62, 1974.

VC: DSY JC Balens

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July 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Honorable Christopher Cobb, Chairman Department of Land and Natural Resources

SUBJECT:

Memorandum Dated June 12, 1975, Endorsing the Green

Turtle Management Study

Your memorandum of June 12, 1975, endorsing the Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study has been received and reviewed.

The points raised in your memorandum are well taken. I understand, however, that the University of Hawaii considered this study in relation to all other worthy programs and projects under its purview, but because of reduced allocations for FY 1975-76, it is unable to fund the project at this time.

May I suggest that you continue to make your concerns known to the University in the event reduced allocations are sufficiently restored to permit consideration for future funding of the project.

George Ariyoshi, Governor

cc: Honorable Eileen R. Anderson

July 11, 1975

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mr. Christopher Cobb Chairman of the Board

Department of Land and Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study

Thank you for your memorandum of June 12, 1975, endorsing the Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study.

We are not in disagreement with your view that the proposed study of the Hawaiian Green Turtle is needed. However, the University's allocation for Fiscal Year 1975-76 is \$5.8 million less than the amount appropriated by the Legislature; consequently, many programs and projects carnot be funded or will be funded at very reduced levels. As of now, the Hawaiian Green Turtle Study falls into the former category.

Should the University's reduced allocations be substantially restored in the coming months, we will be happy to consider the release of funds for the project.

Fujio Matsuda

Lino Chatsado

cc: The Hon. George R. Ariyoshi

bc: Chancellor Douglas S. Yamamura

Dr. George H. Balazs

TI: jy

The Senate The Eighth Tegislature

STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



December 7, 1975

Fujio Matsuda President University of Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822

ANSON CHONG

Assistant Majority Leader Chairperson, Health

Member, Higher Education

Member, Human Resources Member, Judiclary Phone 548-4183

& Efficiency

Vice-Chairperson, Government Operations

Member, Ecology, Environment & Recreation

Dear President Matsuda:

The Senate Ways & Means Committee has received word that the University of Hawaii has not yet made plans for the disposition of the \$50,000 appropriated for a three year management study of the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle (UOH 102, page 610 of Act 195, Session Laws of Hawaii, 1975).

This issue has been hanging fire for several years now. In view of the possibility of the extinction of this unique species from our waters, I am wondering if you might reassess your financial plan to get the funds released during the current fiscal year.

It is a three-year program, and further delay may have longer term adverse significance.

Best wishes for the holiday season.

Sincere aloha,

ANSON CHONG

bece: Balazs



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII . HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822

December 26, 1975

THE PRESIDENT

nec'd 1/2/76

The Honorable Anson Chong The Senate, State of Hawaii The Eighth Legislature State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Chong:

Thank you for your letter of December 7, 1975, concerning the release of funds for a management study of the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle.

We are presently reviewing the financial requirements of the Manoa Campus for the remainder of the fiscal year, based on an appeal made by Chancellor Yamamura for release of additional funds. I should like to state candidly that, so far, the prospect of allocating funds for this purpose is not optimistic. This is because the Manoa Campus has indicated a great many items of higher priority for which funds are still being sought.

I would like to assure you that our position is based on financial considerations and not on any disagreement with you on the merits of conducting such a study. I will be glad to let you know if the situation changes later in the fiscal year.

Sincerely yours

Fujio Matsuda

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Office of the President
2444 Dole Street - Homobulu, Hawaii 96822
An Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

Y

December 29, 1975

To:

Chancellor D. Yamamura and Staff (Haw. 105)

From:

John E. Bardach, Director

CONCERNS THESE LOVELY HAWAIIAN GREEN SEA TURTLES

In the process of dealing with loose ends left on my desk before the year ends, a matter has come to my attention which necessitates the following comments to you.

On December 18, Jr. Marine Biologist George Balazs, our turtle expert, received from your office a telephone call inquiring about progress in the research on Hawaiian Green Turtles (see attached letter of Anson Chong to President Matsuda).

The only thing we could report was substantial progress in your office in preventing disbursement of funds appropriated for research on turtle management. In consequence I can report no progress at this end.

I find the incident both amusing and disturbing with a tendency to veer towards the latter view. Is it, perhaps, that President Matsuda's office has sent to you a copy of Anson Chong's letter - the dates would just about fit - and your office without further checking phoned HIMB? This would be a rather logical sequence of events but one which doesn't help anyone very much.

Nor for that matter does, perhaps, under the circumstances the writing of memos such as this. I therefore join the several others who have urged various persons at the University to reconsider this matter so that we may sometime next year give you and certain legislators a real progress report on research with turtles. It might just be good politics for the University to do that.

mk

Attachment

cc: Dean Howard P. McKaughan Dean John P. Craven

bcc: (2) G. Balazs

March 12, 1976

To: Fujio Matsuda, President, UH

From: John E. Bardach, Director, HIMB

Subject: Green Turtle Study

This is in response to your letter of March 4th reacting to mine of February 24th. While I do not wish to draw this out into a lengthy exchange of memoranda between us, perhaps incommensurate to the amount of funds involved in this, let me state that I am fully aware of the facts you mentioned but, as I have indicated to you, in my letter of February 24th, it is not a question whether or not the University would benefit from it; it is a question whether or not the State would benefit by the University doing the study rather than the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The latter, it seems to me, is true; the State would benefit if the University were to do the study because what is required is a biological life history study for which, as I have amply indicated and perhaps is known to you, the University is better qualified than the Department of Land and Natural Resources. This is all I wish to convey to you. Beyond that, I believe the matter now rests with your recommendation. Things being as they are, it would rather surprise me if the Department of Land and Natural Resources would not subcontract with us to do the study, but surprises do occur. I thank you for the thoroughness and meticulous care with which you have dealt with this matter.

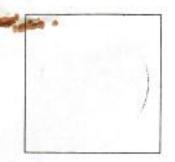
JEB:ec

John E. Bardach, Director Page Two March 4, 1976

In FY 1976-77 the green turtle supplemental request, S.B. 548, if appropriated to the University, will not only have to compete for resources with the University's regular programs but also with continuing supplemental appropriations and with new enactments to be made by this session of the Legislature. Since the Chairman of the Board of the Department of Land and Natural Resources strongly endorsed the study this past year, I would assume that an appropriation made by the 1976 Legislature would result in the allocation of funds by that Department for this purpose since it directly benefits their program.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to call me or my staff.

Fujio Matsuda



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII . HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822

THE PRESIDENT

March 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM

TO:

John E. Bardach, Director

HIMB

SUBJECT: Green Turtle Study

This is in response to your letter of February 24, 1976, in which you express concern regarding the University's recommendation that the Green Turtle Study would be more appropriately categorized and funded under some other non-higher education program or department—in this particular case, the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Data in our files indicate that management studies of Hawaii's green turtle were started at HIMB in 1973, but have thus far been limited to the adult migratory nesting colony which seasonally utilizes the French Frigate Shoals. As I understand it, the overall objective of this particular supplemental request was to conduct comprehensive life history studies which encompass all size categories of green turtles as they naturally occur throughout the Archipelago and that HIMB would develop and make available to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service information necessary for the establishment of an optimum green turtle management program. While the University would obviously benefit from this study, it appears to me that the direct beneficiaries of such a study would be the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Since the Dingle-Johnson and Pitman-Robertson Acts preclude federal aid grants for sea turtles, that leaves the Department of Land and Natural Resources to fund the project. This action would not preclude that Department from entering into an agreement with the University to conduct the study. I am confident that this University, and in particular HIMB, can compete with any university in the marine sciences and that the Department of Land and Natural Resources would rely on our expertise to do the study.

As a result of the State's fiscal condition, the University has not been allocated its full appropriation since FY 1971-72. This fact, coupled with the increased demands and unmet needs of our higher education programs, poses some serious policy questions with regard to allocating limited higher education dollars to new programs and studies that directly benefit non-higher education programs and activities.

Copy to the orest

February 24, 1976

To:

Fujio Matsuda, President University of Hawaii

From:

John E. Bardach, Director

HIMB

Concerns:

Your letter of February 4 to Senator Takitami, Chairman, Senate Committee on Higher Education and specifically your advice on the green turtle study, to be executed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources instead of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology.

I have come to this information by the courtesy of Senator Anson Chong. along with Senator King, as you may remember, were two of the strongest proponents of the original proposal, including funding, that the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology execute this study for the State of Hawaii. Please be advised that the legislators have done their homework pretty thoroughly and have ascertained that expertise in turtle biology indeed resides at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. In fact, we have in the person of George Balazs, Jr. Marine Biologist, one of the acknowledged experts in this field. His expertise is acknowledged by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature as well as by the outstanding turtle biologists in the United States. (I can furnish you evidence to this effect if you so desire). It is my considered opinion that if the Department of Land and Natural Resources were to execute that study - (it was intended to be a scientific background assessment, later enabling better management) - they would have to do a good deal more preparatory work than we would have to do because Mr. Balazs has already spent considerable time (his own, by the way) on the background of this study. He has also excellent relations with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service which has to cooperate in such a study. On numerous occasions, he has provided assistance to the State Division of Fish and Game. In short then, it is fairly evident that HIMB is better suited and better prepared than the Department of Land and Natural Resources to execute a green turtle study for the State of Hawaii, and the proponents of this measure in the legislature were well aware of this. In fact, the latter may well seek out assistance (contract the study to us) if and when they obtain the funds you seem to be recommending they should get.

I do regret that this measure was taken without me being consulted because I feel that this is one of those cases where I might have assisted you had you only asked me. Perhaps, it did not seem of sufficient importance to you and

you were pressed for time. However, if one were more suspicious than I am, one could certainly see in this administrative action less than the full commitment to the welfare of this research facility that would be implicit in having marine sciences and marine affairs an area of excellence and preferential support. I hope that this is not so and I trust that there were other overriding reasons to which I could not possibly be privy that made you cut the University out of doing something it could have done well. Again, I am sorry I was not consulted.

JEB:ec

cc: Douglas S. Yamamura Howard P. Makaughan John P. Craven Copy to Deoris

February 24, 1976

To:

Fujio Matsuda, President

University of Hawaii

From:

John E. Bardach, Director

HIMB

Concerns:

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JEB:ec

cc: Douglas S. Yamamura Howard P. MaKaughan John P. Craven June 12, 1975

MENDIANDUM

Honorable George R. Ariyoshi, Governor

State of Hawaii

Monorable Dr. Fujio Matsuda, President

University of Mawaii

From:

Christopher Cobb, Chairman of the Board Department of Land and Natural Resources

Subject: Endorsement of the HAWAIIAN GREEN TURILE MANAGEMENT STUDY by Mr. George Balazo, Jr. Marine Biologist, Hawaii Institute of

Marine Biology.

In reference to the request for the release of supplemental appropriation for the HAWAIIAN GREEN TURKE MANAGEMENT STUDY by Mr. George Balazs, we wish to provide the following comments.

The green sea turtle is the most familiar and numerous of the marine turtles throughout the world, and has been historically utilized as food in many countries. However, due to increasing harvest, scientists are concerned about its apparent decline and have recently suggested that the green sea turtle be placed on the endangared species list. Here in Hawaii, the Board of Land and Natural Resources, cognizant of the increasing need for protection of this species, recently adopted a regulation to provide for the protection of the population of morine turtles in Hawaiian waters.

Although the green see turtle is one of the world's most important reptiles from an economic standpoint, there is a great lack of scientific knowledge about this species throughout its range which includes the waters of the State. One of the reasons for this dearth of knowledge is that the turtle is difficult to study because of its migratory behavior that involves extensive trips across the open ocean, apparently for reproduction and feeding. Based on the best information available, very little nesting occurs at present on the beaches of the main Hawaiian Islands and most of the nesting takes place in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, particularly within the Mawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge that is administered by the United States Department of the Interior. Here, turtles and their aggs are legally protected and unauthorized entry is prohibited. Through evidence from tagging studies and surveys, it is the general consensus of turtle authorities here, that the Northwestern Islands, principally French Frigate Shoals, are used as nesting sites and the waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands are used as feeding grounds.

morable George R. Ariyoshi Honorable Dr. Fujio Matsuda Page 2 June 12, 1975

With the exception of the University of Hawaii's limited studies on reproduction and other biological aspects of the green sea turtle conducted on French Prigate Shoals with the support of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, there has been no specialized effort to obtain biological data on the Hawaiian population of the green sea turtle. Inasmuch as scientific knowledge is lacking concerning the biology, movements, habits and population dynamics of the Hawaiian green sea turtle population, there is a definite need for a management study of our geographically unique Hawaiian green sea turtle population.

This Department, therefore, endorses the proposed HAWAIIAN GREEN TURTLE MANAGEMENT STUDY.

CHRISTOPHER COBB, Chairman of the Board Department of Land and Natural Resources

Christopher Cobb

cc: George Balazs

Legislators Criticize UH Handling of 1975-76 Budget

By Grace Feliciano Star-Bulletin Writer

Legislators expressed disapproval with the University of Hawaii's execution of its 1975-76 budget at a House Higher Education Committee hearing Tuesday.

Rep. Neil Abercrombie, D-13th Dist. (Manoa-Makiki), criticized the University's maintenance program and the lack of upkeep of certain UH buildings.

"What justification can there be for putting \$9.7 million into a new gym if the old gym is not even properly maintained," Abercrombie said to Fujio Matsuda, UH president, referring to the UH's upcoming request for a new athletic facility.

OTHER COMMITTEE members cited various UH programs for which

last year's Legislature appropriated funds, but the University allocated no funds or a fraction of the appropriation.

The marine technician program at Leeward Community College. appropriated \$70,000, re-

Kaneohe Jolts No Mystery

Residents of Kaneohe reported feeling earth tremors yesterday but, unlike those felt on Oahu in the past two weeks, the source of the shakes was not a mystery.

Jolts felt along Kaneohe Bay were caused by blasting work being done on the Mokapu sewage outfall construction project under way offshore, according to a spokesman at the Honolulu Observatory.

ceived no funding. The Kona branch experiment station, appropriated \$100,000, received \$54,280. The labor studies program, appropriated \$194,-000, received \$72,000.

"It seems even after we appropriate the money, different decisions are made by 47 other people. Maybe we should give you a lump sum budget and be done with it," said Rep. Russell Blair, D-14th Dist. (Kakaako-Punch-

Rep. Tony Kunimura, D-27th Dist. (Kauai-Niihau), said a lump sum budget had been tried and put aside in the past.

"Even when we eliminated sidelines and end zones, some started to make touchdowns in New York. When legislators define the paremeters, they still shift the sidelines," Kunimura said.

MATSUDA SAID economic pressures, caused by the withholding of \$4.9 million in appropriated funds, increased costs for the same goods and services and a higher enrollment total than expected. forced the establishment of priorities.

'Decisions had to be made on which programs are funded and which could not," Matsuda said.

The University "purchased progress" in areas such as the expansion of the medical school program, the starting of West Oahu College, and the addition of the third year of law school, Matsuda

But it was "at the expense of deferring improvement and strengthening other continuing programs. We do have to live within our means,"

Matsuda said.

July 9, 1975

To:

Chancellor Douglas S. Yamamura

From:

John E. Bardach, Director

Concerns:

INQUIRY OF GEORGE BALAZS

This concerns the inquiry which Mr. Balazs, Jr. Marine Biologist at the Institute, made to you ament the non-support of the Hawaiian Green Turtle Resource Management Study, which was supposed to be done at, by and through HIMB under supplemental appropriation, etc. The purpose of my note is to inquire of you whether the decision of the University budget office not to support this study is irrevocable and final for this year or whether by any chance the study may be funded at a later date. It is important for me to know this because previous circumstances had suggested to me very little doubt about the funding of this study. I had therefore budgeted for half of Mr. Balazs' salary to come from it. If the study does not materialize anytime during the year, I will have to seek funds to cover Mr. Balazs' salary. This is the most pressing matter in this context. There are other considerations such as the endorsement of the study by Christopher Cobb which suggests that, perhaps, a reconsideration of the decision may be in order as well as the general desirability and public relations value of such a study.

I would appreciate having the opportunity of discussing this in more detail with you or your designate if you believe that such a discussion is warranted. Thank you for your attention and assistance.

mk

cc: G. Balazs

July 11, 1975 Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology P.O. Box 1346 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

The Honorable Jean King The Senate State Capitol Building Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Jean:

A major problem has arisen in funding of the HAWAIIAN GREEN TURTLE MANAGEMENT STUDY which you so kindly guided through the legislature this past session. To make a long story short, the Budget and Finance Office at the Manoa Campus has informed the Institute that "funding will not be forthcoming for the project due to a lack of funds". The enclosed article from the campus paper seems to provide further information on the subject. After all of the efforts to get this successfully through the legislature, it is of course quite discouraging to have blockage at the final step. I wonder if there is any way that you can help in this matter? Perhaps it is no longer under your control, however I nevertheless wanted to at least make you aware of the situation.

With very best regards,

George H. Balazs

Please call me at 247-6631 or 946-1760 (home) if I can provide you with any other details.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

MEMORANDUM

May 16, 1975

To: George Balazs

From: John E. Bardach

It's been very gratifying to learn that the legislature of the State of Hawaii has recommended for release \$50,000 for the study of Hawaiian turtle populations to be assigned to the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. It is understood that when this money becomes available, your salary will be derived to 50% from these funds inasmuch as you are the proper expert to execute this study.

I presume that the release of the money will coincide with the beginning of the fiscal year, that is July 1st. I am therefore assuming that the above-mentioned division in your salary will take place as of this date and that Sea Grant will be paying only half of your salary from then on until such time as the Hawaii turtle study fund is expended or other as yet unforeseen events occur.

Please follow up the release of these funds at your earliest opportunity to enable us to make the proper changes in your fiscal status. If I can be of any assistance in expediting the assignment of funds to this laboratory, please let me know, and also let me know what steps you have taken and with whom you have broached the matter. I trust you had an agreeable trip and a profitable one.

JEB: ec



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII . HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822

THE PRESIDENT

May 15, 1975

Mr. George H. Balazs Junior Marine Biologist Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology Coconut Island

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thank you for your letter of May 13 with information about the supplemental appropriation relating to a Green Sea Turtle Resource Management Study.

Your proposal is certainly an interesting one, but the original request for the release of this supplemental appropriation will have to come from the Chancellor's office. Thus I am referring your letter to Chancellor Yamamura for his consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Fujio Matsuda

cc: Chancellor Douglas S. Yamamura

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Office of the Chancellor

July 21, 1975

Belasz

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Dr. John E. Bardach

Director, HIMB

FROM:

Douglas S. Yamamura

Acting Chancellor

SUBJECT:

Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study

This is in response to your memorandum dated July 9, 1975, concerning the Hawaiian Green Turtle Management Study.

Attached is a copy of President Matsuda's memorandum to Mr. Christopher Cobb, which is self-explanatory. We intend to make an appeal for additional funds within the next thirty days, and funds for this study may very well be included in our appeal. I might add, however, that unless our appeal is successful, we will not be able to proceed with the project.

cc UHM Budget Office

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Office of the Chancellor May 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Dean Howard McKaughan

Jhn Barbert by Ho

FROM:

Keith S. Snyder, Vice Chancellor for Administration

SUBJECT:

Requesting Release of Funds for Supplemental Appropriations for FY 1975-76 -- Hawaiian Green

Turtle Study (\$50,000)

As in prior years, a separate request for release of funds for each supplemental appropriation must be prepared and transmitted to the Governor for approval. A sample format provided by the Systemwide Budget Office is attached for your guidance. The narrative should cover the following points:

- 1. A brief historical statement of the program.
- 2. Program objectives and purposes.
- The target group(s) of the program.
- 4. Levels of program effectiveness being sought.
- 5. Kinds and levels of activities which will be undertaken.
- The need for the program at this particular time and the benefits to be derived.
- 7. Personnel and financial requirements.
- 8. Summary statement.

Please submit six copies of your request for release of funds to the UHM Budget Office Hawaii Hall Room 120, by May 23, 1975. Expenditure plans will not be required until funds are released. Should there be any questions, please call the appropriate analyst assigned to your program at the UHM Budget Office.

Attachment cc UHM Budget Office Dr. John Eardach

"A Summer and First Year Program for the Disadvantaged" College Opportunities UH Manoa - UOH 101 (A) Brief Historical Statement of the Program

funded by HUD through Model Cities ends on June 30, 1973. This program began in 1970 as a demonstration project financed by HUD through Model Cities and was limited to Waianae-Nanakuli, The current demonstration program two target model neighborhoods of Kalihi-Palama and

- (B.) Program Objectives and Purposes
- normally inadmissible to a four-year degree program, multiple problem (amilies for University admission and enable them to maintain themselves in a full-To screen, select and prepare high-risk young adults (ages 17-30) coning from time University program. Participants will be with or without high school diplomas, who are Overall objective.
- Specific objectives.
- diagnostic instruments to assess areas of academic inform and acquaint the students with the academic weakness and planning remedial assistance; (2) to To conduct an intensive 9-week residential summer orientation program to prepare the student for a regular freshman program through (1) using community, its services and demands.
- enhance personal growth; (2) preparing students to To provide during the freshman year, supportive services to maximize the learning experience of developing students through (1) individual and group counseling to overcome problems and to seek and utilize the other existing campus resources and services;

- by providing a comprehensive co-curricular program. Acculturation of the students to University life å
- Establish an on-going research and evaluation process to measure effectiveness of support .

(C) Target Group(s)

local (, all U.S. - homanity)

1973-74

"disadvantaged" students including but, not limited to Kalihi-Palama, Walanae-Nanakuli, Kahuku, Walmanalo and the three Countles of Hawaii, Maul and Kauai. 80 students from communities which has

The target group is drawn from young adults in communities meeting the criteria of "disadvantaged" because of:

- Under-representation on the Manoa campus due to cultural or ethnic background and geographic barriers;
- Persistent pattern of school drop-outs and other educationally linked problems; 2
- Evidence of over-representation of public assistance (D) Lavels of Program Effectiveness Being Sought
- year to meet minimum requirements for freshman students. Grade-point average of participants at the end of the
 - Recention rate for group. Number aligible for second year of college in good standing to be at least 75% of entering group.

- (E.) Xinds and Levels of Activities which will be Undertaken
- Summer orientation. Intensive workshops and seminaris
 to prepare the participant to function as a full-time
 University student. Classes to strengthen necessary
 academic skills will be designed and implemented.
- 2. Freshman year. Academic advisement to enroll students in a full-time program (minimum of 12 credits) of regular freshman courses. Individual and group counseling to enable the students to function and compete as a regular student. Focus will be the individual student and his acquisition of skills to seek and utilize existing campus services.

Need for the Program and the Benefits to be Derived ("Interpretation program funded by HUD through Model Cities ends on June 30, 1973. This request is to continue those aspects of the program deemed to be effective and appropriate for assumption by the University.

- Contemporary Hawaii with its complex and technological society requires its citizens to possess skills which can only be acquired through education if they are to function as a productive member of society. Education, particularly higher education provides the skills so that options and alternatives to life choices can be made.
- The demonstration period of the College Opportunities Program has tested a counseling and supportive "delivery system" which is relevant and effective in reaching Hawali's disadvantaged youths. This is the only residential collegiate program which provides access to higher education for youths normally inadmissible to the University because of ethnic, cultural, economic, or educational disadvantages.



- a. Young adults (ages 17-30) from communities currently under-represented on the Manoa campus who normally would not have received the option of access to a four-year degree granting institution.
- b. Indirectly, the neighborhoods and communities and the entire State will receive the impact of productive, educated citizens.

(G.) Personnel and Financial Requirements 37cov?

[Time Project Leader
1 Coordinator, 2 counselors, 1 graduate assistant, and 1 secretary.

Student help to be divided as follows: I to assist in the office, and 10 upperclassmen to be trained and utilized as para-professionals. Other needs including tutorial help, will be available from existing services. Student counseling for the residential aspect of the program will be made available by Nousing staff response to this need. The full appropriation is required to continue the program,

(K) Summary Statement

The College Opportunities Program on the Manoa campus of the University of Hawaii began in June, 1970 as a demonstration project funded by HUD/Model Cities. The project titled, "A Summer and First Year College Opportunities Program" was designed to provide a residential collegiate experience for selected students from the Model Neighborhood Areas (Kalihi-Palama; Walanaa-Nanakuli) who normally would be inadmissible to the University.

Victor I. Becker

610 No. Oakhurst Drive Beverly Hills, California 90210

November 14, 1974

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

Dear George,

This beated letter is in response to your letter dated October 16, 1974, mailed October 18, and received by me between October 22 to 24. (I was out of town).

It so happens that we had plans for a 31 day cruise on the Royal Viking Sky, through the Panama Canal and onto pool the Caribbean, and then return again through the Canal. (Although my wife and I have been through it several times, we never fail to marvel about it). We have taken several cruises in the past few years, and we always wondered whatever did happen to that bottle we thre overboard.

And when we received your letter, it really gave us a thrill. HOW SMALL the WORLD IS!

I read your letter to some friends of mine at a little gathering for conversation. And, needless to say, we had a most pleasant eveximuming, and most interesting.

Now, to fill you in on just exactly what happened:

We were on a South Pacific Cruise on the S.S. Monterey. It is a customary ceremony to have a party on deck as the ship crosses the EQUATOR. They have quite a number of empty clean beer bottles which the passengers are asked to write notes, enclose and cork tightly. They are then all thrown overboard at the same time to float to wherever the tides and ocean currents drive them. I don't remember the details, but I gathered from a ship paper that many of these bottles in the past were found in the New Hebrides Islands about 2 years later.

Now what happened to my bottle was somewhat different.
When we were in Aukland, New Zealand, I bought a bottle of
Martell VSOP brandy, duty free. If I remember correctly, about
\$5. That was a bargain. I nursed its contents, a little
each day, but when we crossed the Equator on November I,
I still had some left, and I didn't want to guzzle what was
left. So, After a few more snorts, it lasted until Nov. 7.
Evidently the ship was sailing from Honolulu enroute to
San Francisco (that's what the memo says), and at II:20 AM
I threw it overboard, with the note you found. The

Victor I. Becker

1968 610 No. Oakhurst Drive November 7, *\$926Beverly Hills, California 90210

II:20AM LATITUDE was 289 40' West LONGITUDE 145°25' North November I

LATITUDE 0.079 North LONGITUDE 165" 31' West.

Just to be a little funny, I wrote the note you found telling about the wondeful aroma of the brandy, and that I hope that the recipient would still be able to appreciate the vapor that remained.

Little did I realize that the alcohol ATE through the paper. Rest Man! that really was a powerful brandy! Just imagine what it could have done to my innards if I had really guzzled it fast!

What is so bizarre is what remained as readable gave you sufficient information so as to send it to me and be received by me.

I note that you recovered the bottle at approx. 23 45' North Latit

Considering that the drift wasn't that reably great, I am amazedal that it took as long as it did - 6 years! - to reach its final landing point. And considering that, as you wrote, the bottle had just been washed up as you had been present on the island for several weeks and had not noticed it, I wonder if the tide didn't float it back and forth for a while. Anyway, we'll have something to talk about for many years.

Well, my friend, I hope that this letter gives you a mutual sense of appreciation of how small the world really is.

I am afraid Polly Bergen, the actress, who is also a businesswoman, isn'tgoing to do too much for your turtles. From all indications, she is helping to kill them off. I suppose you are aware that she spends a lot of money advertising TURTLE oils for **the her cosmetics.

Best wishes to you, and Aloha,

Victor I. Becker

If I had the time, I am sure I could have done a much better job writing and composing this letter into a better literary effort. It would have been interesting reading as a good tale of the South Pacific.

BERNICE P. BISHOP MUSEUM

P. O. Box 6037, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818 . Telephone 847-3511

September 27, 1974

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

Dear George:

I just received copy of your letter of September 11 to Director, Fish and Wildlife Service. You have my appreciation and respect for your continuing efforts on the part of turtle conservation.

Obviously the work of effective protection of the Green Sea Turtle is not yet done. Iam especially concerned about the loophole in current regulation that allows import of turtle meat, particularly since this interferes with enforcement - how do you distinguish imported turtle meat from that taken and illegally sold by poachers here.

We were told on one occasion, I believe, that office of AG was going to examine possibility of prohibiting import. This should be followed up by ASAC, and I intend to raise the point at next meeting.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

Frank J. Radovsky

Chairman

Department of Entomology

FJR: cnh

Dear Mr. Balazs,

Through the grape-vine, I've heard of your research into the turtle population of Hawaii. For your benefit, I would like to relate a personal incident where I was witness to the killing of light sea turtles for the sole purpose of obtaining its shell. During the year 1970-71, while diving with friends off Portlock Point, the southeast coast of Oahu, numerous sea turtles were discovered sleeping on the ocean floor in approximately ten feet of water. Each turtle was speared through the neck and raised to the surface. When I questioned my friend as to his reasons for killing these turtles, he simply answered that he wanted the shells. The eight turtles ranged in weight from approximately 35 lb to approximately 120 lb.

I have related my story to you in hopes that you can possibly
do something about the slaughter of these sea turtles. Although
guilty of killing turtles myself, I have never been able to rid myself
of the guilt surrounding this killing.

Sincerely,

athan H.K. Pang

February 11, 1974

Illegal methods of catching green sea turtles— There is reliable information as to an explosive divice called powerhead being used by a few fishermen on Kauai-names not mentioned-but they know who they are. Turtles killed by this method are butchered at sea and the meat portions are brought back on the boats. The reason for this is that the said turtles were taken illegally and contrary to the Hawaiian Statute Laws which prohibit taking any fish or turltes with the use of firearms-and the powerhead is considered a firearm. Would be impossible for these few fishermen to go out and kill approximately 15 to 20 turtles in one day without employing the use of powerhead. They have been seen to come in with just the meat portion.

In a recent public hearing on Kauai in the presence of a large number of people several fishermen boasted how many turtles they had caught last year (one said 200 another 100) which clearly revealed that they were falsifing their fish catch reports which were sent in to the Honolulu Fish and Game office for compiling. These reports came to a total of only 200 lbs. This was done to evade taxes and is also done with fish taken and sold by them. If the turtles were taken legally by non-firearm methods there would be no reason for conservation measures. By using legal methods it would be impossible to catch 15 turtles in one day. If the meat were examined on being brought to shore it would be discovered that there are puncture marks on the turtle meat.

The turtle population on Kauai has been depleted to a point where something has to be done to curb the greed of these few fishermen who fish by using only illegal methods.

3202 Nostrand Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11229 Oct. 9, 1974

Dear George,

I don't know if you remember who I am; I was a graduate student in the Zoołogy Department. The reason I am writing to you concerns an article on turtle farming, (Oceans Magazine, Vol.7,No.5,1974, pages 34-35). I am sure that you are aware of this article but just in case you are not familiar with it I thought I would bring it to your attention. The article is about Mariculture Ltd. and tells of all the wonderful things they have done to protect the green turtle. You once explained to me how you felt about this group on Grand Cayman; If you have not done so already I would like to encourage you to write a rebuttal to Oceans, explaining what Mariculture Ltd. is really doing.

Sincerely yours,

Steven B. Syrop

THOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY, INC. PUBLISHERS / ESTABLISHED 1834

666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019

3 October 1974

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

Dear Mr. Balazs,

Mr. Robert Crowell has just forwarded your recent correspondence to this office. We certainly are distressed to learn that it has taken so long to satisfy your request. Eight copies of GREEN TURTLE MYSTERIES are on their way to you under separate cover.

We are pleased indeed, to cooperate in this worthwhile conservation project. Thank you for your interest in our publishing program. A brochure describing all of the titles in the LET'S-READ-AND-FIND-OUT Science Book series is enclosed for your use.

Feel free to call on us for any further help in your fine work.

With best wishes

Sopmie C. Silberberg Children's Books

SCS:mw Encl/



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

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southwest Region Honolulu Representative F. O. Box 3830 Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

August 30, 1974

Dr. George Balazs Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology P. O. Box 1047 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear George:

The enclosed item from our market news report calls attention to a notice that appeared in the Federal Register of August 16, 1974 concerning sea turtles.

The Department of Commerce and Department of Interior are conducting a joint status review of the green turtle, loggerhead turtle and Pacific ridley to determine whether they should be listed as endangered or threatened species.

Interested parties have until September 16 to submit their comments.

Very truly yours,

But

Robert T. B. Iversen

Regional Representative

Enclosure

cc: FSW, Gerald V. Howard

A Coastal Management Program includes studies of engineering problems related to movement of coastal sand and a group of economics and social cience projects to develop understanding related to coastal zone management issues. Several of hese later are specifically designed to antici-ate the needs of the Oregon Coastal Commission and Development Council. The Estuaries Fanageent Program studies the hydraulics of important stuaries and the engineering problems associated ith structures in them.

Professional and Technical Education includes he training of marine and fisheries technicians and training in Ocean Law and Marine Resource anagement.

The Marine Advisory Program features a system if field agents interfacing directly with the arine community and backed up by specialized ersonnel and projects in areas of particular oncern. Finally the Public Policy Analysis Proram conducts research in Ocean Law and into the conomic and sociological impact of political

QUECE: Commerce News, August 5, 1974.

FEDERAL REGISTER ITEMS

ug. 16. 1974 (pp. 29605-06)-A notice appeared in he Federal Register to the effect that the De-artment of the Interior and the Dept. of Comerce will conduct a joint status review of the ireen Sea Turtle, the Loggerhead Sea Turtle, and he Pacific Ridley Sea Turtle to determine whether Flounder fillets: 5 71 here is sufficient evidence t warrant listing these species as endangered or threatened. Interested parties may submit any factual informa-tion which is germane to the review. Submissions must be made within 30 days to: Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Dept. of the Interior, Tash., D.C. 20240, and to the Director, National Parine Fisheries Service, Wash., D.C. 20235.

yor additional information, Director, Gulf and Caribbean Fi 4600 Rickenbacker Canseway, Mia

INPORTS OF FRESH AND FRO WATER FISH FROM CAHADA. JUN Species 1973 1974 Round, drawn or dressed! Whitefish 573 518 3,92 Pike, incl. yellow pike 384 302 2,12 Lake trout 1 8 7 58 1,310 4,16 2 Other trout 575 58 Other 1,534 3,069 2,138 10,88 Total Fillets: Yellow perch 430 125 1,86 Pike, incl. 269 36 1,79 86 49 1,25 yellow pike 269 Other Total 785 210 4,90 Grand total 3,853 Note: Figures may not add becau Source: Bureau of the Census.

DEPOSTS OF CERTAIN FRESH I

- PRODUCTS, JUNE 1974 Commodity & JUN Country 1973 1974 1973 Cod fillets (1):1,000 Canada 456 247 4,598 Canada 102 50 Other 16 Haddock, hake, pollock, cusk fillets (1): Canada 285 160 2,607 Other 14 14 (1) Does not include quantities quota. Source: Bureau of the Consus.

Report P-103, Tuesday, August 27, 1974

SJS

** · RESEARCH · CONSERVATION

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE ZOOLOGICAL PANA

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

Bronx Park Bronx, N. Y. 10460

9 August 1974

The Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton Secretary of the Interior Interior Building C Street between 18th and 19th Streets, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter is written to supply further pertinent information to my petition for listing Chelonia mydas on the Endangered Species List and Caretta caretta and Lepidochelys olivacea on the Threatened Species List (see my petition of 23 April 1974; the Fish and Wildlife Service Acting Associate Director's request for more information of 5 June 1974 (FSF/SE-16076); and my reply of 20 June 1974).

Since neither the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service nor the National Marine Fisheries Service has yet published a Proposed Listing of the petitioned species in the FEDERAL REGISTER, I can only conclude that the Departments of the Interior and Commerce do not intend to abide by the legal requirements of Subsection 553 (e) of Title 5, U.S.C., and Section 4 (c) (2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and Section 17.13 (c) of Title 50, Chapter 1, Subchapter B, C. F. R. which dictate a governmental review of any listed or unlisted species upon petition of an interested party with substantial evidence to warrant the review. Under the federal regulations the evidence supplied in the petition does not have to be definitive. It needs only to be substantial enough to indicate the need for review by government zoologists. The data I supplied (in the petition, in separate talks with USDI Office of Endangered Species biologists, and in the 75 page bibliography of sea turtle population biology and ecology supplied to the Acting Associate Director of Fish and Wildlife) satisfied the legal denotation of the word "substantial" in every sense.

I am, however, here supplying even more evidence of the need to list one of the petitioned species, the green sea turtle, Chelonia mydas, on the Endangered Species List.

The green turtle, in addition to being listed as an Endangered Species because of its own critically low population levels resulting from over-exploitation by man, should be listed as Endangered because of the similarity of appearance of the scutes of its shell to those of the already listed hawksbill turtle, Eretmochelys imbricata. The hawksbill cannot be adequately protected unless the green turtle is also listed. Such listing of "look-alike" species is permitted under Section 4 (e) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

This need to protect the hawksbill turtle by listing the green turtle is documented in the import records of the USDI and Justice Department case records of violations of the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969.

In May 1973, the New York Zoological Society and the National Audubon Society notified the USDI Special Agents assigned to import inspection at J.F. Kennedy Airport that several New York City retail merchants were selling tortoise shell (= hawksbill turtle) jewelry in apparent violation of the Endangered Species law. Those reports led to federal cases being made against several merchants and suppliers not only in New York City but also in other parts of the United States. The result was that by September \$250,000 worth of hawksbill jewelry had been confiscated by the government, and the merchants (Cartier, B. Altman & Company, Henri Bendel, and Bonwit Teller) and the designer/suppliers (Les Bernard, Lucien L. Stern, Celia P. Sebiri, Zaharoff Industries, and Aldo Cipullo) had signed consent decrees agreeing not to import any endangered species products in the future. These cases are relative to the listing of the green turtle, Chelonia mydas, on the Endangered Species List because the jewelry was falsely imported as Chelonia. The jewelry was imported from manufacturers in Italy who obtained the hawksbill turtle scutes from southern India. The original export documents from India only indicated that "tortoise back shells" were exported. The Italian manufacturers, however, claimed that the scutes came from the green turtle, Chelonia mydas, and provided a letter from an employee of the Naples Aquarium which stated that Chelonia mydas was the most abundant turtle in the waters of southern India. Aside from the fact that the employee was wrong about the relative abundance of the Indian turtles, the letter did not specifically identify the hawksbill jewelry items in

question. These imports were a clear attempt to import the prohibited <u>Eretmochelys</u> by declaring it to be the unlisted look-alike <u>Chelonia</u>.

Then on 1 August 1974, another shipment of tortoise shell products was imported through J. F. Kennedy Airport. The shipment was imported from Fa. Usaha Wanita of Djakarta, Indonesia, and contained approximately 48 separate items, ranging from jewelry boxes, to powder compacts, to belts, to small spoons. The import declaration again declared the items to have been manufactured from Chelonia mydas scutes. Examination of the items by knowledgeable herpetologists reveals that all the products are made from hawksbill, Eretmochelys, scutes, except for the belts which were indeed made from Chelonia.

Eretmochelys and the yet to be listed Chelonia, are similar in appearance and cannot at the present time be separated by any of the USDI Special Agents assigned to import inspection duty in the United States. In fact, most professional herpetologists would be unable to distinguish between the two when they are seen in manufactured (product) form rather than as raw scutes. The total number of individuals competent to identify the species of the manufactured scutes probably does not exceed 8-10 people in the entire United States.

The vast majority of the tortoise shell products moving in international commerce are made from Eretmochelys scutes — in fact, the belts from Indonesia are only the second time the staff of the New York Zoological Society has ever seen such items made from Chelonia scutes. But the fact that some Chelonia items are manufactured will be an inviting "loophole" in the prohibition on importing Eretmochelys.

There can be little question that unscrupulous importers will attempt to thwart the ban on the importation of hawksbill shell products by declaring them as Chelonia mydas on the USDI 3-177 import declaration forms. The cases cited here document the potential. Such violations are certain to increase when the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora comes into effect -- Eretmochelys is an Appendix I species while Chelonia is an Appendix II species under the Convention.

Note that under Section 4 (e) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 the following conditions must be met in order to justify the listing of a Similarity of Appearance species:

- "(A) such species so closely resembles in appearance, at the point in question, a species which has been listed pursuant to such section that enforcement personnel would have substantial difficulty in attempting to differentiate between the listed and unlisted species,
- "(B) the effect of this substantial difficulty is an additional threat to an endangered or threatened species; and
- "(C) such treatment of an unlisted species will substantially facilitate the enforcement and further the policy of this Act."

*

The proposed listing of <u>Chelonia mydas</u> as an Endangered Species similar in appearance to the already listed and critically endangered <u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u> fully satisfies all these conditions.

The case for a Similarity of Appearance listing of Chelonia mydas on the Endangered Species List, coupled with my previous petition for listing the species because of the endangered status of its wild populations, clearly warrants the immediate publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER of a Proposed Listing of this species on the Endangered Species List.

Publication of a Review of Status, rather than a Proposed Listing, will be viewed as an attempt at further delay, since I know the USDI has already reviewed the status of this species and found it to be endangered -- the species was Proposed for Listing under the 1969 Act (see the FEDERAL REGISTER of 28 December 1973) on the very day that Act was repealed by the 1973 Act. Failure to immediately publish the Proposed Listing under

the 1973 Act may warrant legal action against the Department.

Singerely,

F. Wayne King, Ph.D.

Director, Conservation and Environmental Education

cc: Hon. James L. Buckley

Hon. Jacobs K. Javits

Hon. Henry M. Jackson

Hon. John V. Tunney

Hon. Mario Biaggi

Hon. John D. Dingell

Hon. James R. Grover, Jr.

Hon. J. M. Murphy

Hon. Leonor K. Sullivan

Hon. G. William Whitehurst

Hon. Frederick Dent

Hon. Henry Kissinger

Hon. Russell Peterson

C. Bohlen

W. Conway

L. Greenwalt

G. Balazs V

H. Campbell

A. Carr

D. Ehrenfeld

J. Grandy

T. Garrett

R. Hughes

R. Inger

F. Lund

J. Oliver

R. Plunkett

P. Pritchard

Telephone: WEllington 3-1500

Cable Address: ZOOPARK NEW YORK

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Bronx Park

Bronx, N.Y. 10460

25 July 1974

To: G. Balazs, H. Campbell, A. Carr, D. Ehrenfeld, F. Lund P. Pritchard

From: F. Wayne King

Subject: Proposed listing of <u>Chelonia</u> mydas on the Federal Endangered Species List and <u>Caretta caretta</u> and <u>Lepidochelys olivacea</u> on the Threatened Species List.

On 23 April 1974 I petitioned the USDI to list Chelonia mydas on the Endangered Species List and Caretta caretta and Lepidochelys olivacea on the Threatened Species List. The USDI notified me that my petition was legally acceptable under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act and that this would require them to consider listing these species. Since the Endangered Species Act of 1973 divides the responsibility for animals between the Department of Commerce's NOAA and USDI's Office of Endangered Species, that latter office held meetings with NOAA to discuss the listing. My petition consisted of an anecdotal narrative of the plight of these turtles and references to some supportive data which I had supplied earlier to the USDI. This was enough data, when coupled with their own file materials, to satisfy the USDI that the turtles should be listed. However, NOAA was not satisfied. When this was pointed out to me I sent a 75 page bibliography on sea turtles to the USDI. The bibliography contained the vast majority of references that document the decline of sea turtles around the world. To date the Department of Commerce's NOAA response has been that there may be enough data in the bibliography but since I have not analysed it for them they are unwilling to propose listing the species at the present time. Under federal regulations a petitioner does not have to supply complete data but only needs to supply sufficient data to indicate that a listing or delisting may be warranted. At that point the federal biologists are supposed to conduct

an analysis of the data available. In other words the data I supplied, combined with the data in the USDI files, and the data in the 75 page bibliography that I sent in supplies the information which the NOAA biologists should be analysing. Their statements that I have not done the work for them is simply begging the question.

In any event, I have contacted people in Washington on numerous occasions recently concerning this proposed listing. A compromise seems to be in the works. In the next few weeks the USDI and NOAA are going to publish a review of the status of these turtles calling for comments from interested parties during a 30-day period following publication. This notice of review is not a proposed listing. It simply consists of a statement that they might propose listing it if there is enough data. I am writing you to ask each of you to comment on the proposed review when it appears (I will sendyou copies at that time) and to supply whatever data you have on the decline in numbers of turtles, eggs, hides, calipee, scutes or anything else that might be appropriated indicators of the status of the wild populations of these animals. Without hard data to reveal trends in the populations I do not think that NOAA willpermit listing of these turtles. I am afraid that their mother agency, the Department of Commerce, has a parochial view towards listing of commerical species.

Mayre &

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1765 P STREET N.W. WASHINGTON D.C. 20036

EWIS REGENSTEIN Executive Vice-President TELEPHONE (202) 234-4002

November 16, 1973

Mr. Michael R. Goodier Managing Director Mariculture Ltd. Box 654 Grand Cayman Island British West Indies

Dear Mr. Goodier:

I have just read Mariculture's latest brochure "New Hope for the Green Sea Turtle". Your enterprize appears to be the first major effort to convert the Green sea turtle into a farm animal. Your organization's arguments for the mariculture of this species can be summarized as follows:

- Mariculture is expected to reduce exploitation of wild populations by putting fishermen out of business by supplying very high quality products.
- Mariculture will provide large quantities of protein for starving peoples.
- Mariculture will eventually become independent of wild populations and will compensate losses to wild stocks as it grows by returning yearlings to the sea.
- Research related to mariculture will aid conservation efforts.

While these arguments in favor of turtle farming are laudable, I can't help but wonder if they are realistic. Since it would require a lengthy discussion to cover all the arguments for and against these points, I will summarize my analysis.

1. Relief for wild stocks of Green turtles should not be expected from a mariculture operation unless methodology, followed by elaborate regulations and strict enforcement, is obtained to differentiate between farm-raised and wild-caught turtles. Naturally, the expense of such efforts must be calculated into the cost side of your cost-benefit analysis. Have you considered doing this? Also, I find it difficult to believe that a mariculture operation will eventually supplant turtling since such activity is generally incidental to commercial fishing operations. I think it is only honest to admit that your mariculture operation, at best, is a separate activity, unrelated to sea turtle conservation, but perhaps ultimately independent of and no threat to wild stocks. Of course, it is possible - some scientists feel probable - that your mariculture operation may continue to impact wild populations by stimulating the market and providing an outlet for products derived from wild turtles. Also, it is quite likely that such an operation will continue to be a drain on wild eggs for some years to come.

2. It is highly doubtful that mariculture will serve as a source of protein for starving peoples if for no other reason than it will always be far cheaper for indigenouspopulations to take turtles or dig up eggs than for you to raise them. Native fishermen are heavy exploiters of wild populations, but in the absence of commercial exploitation, this mortality could probably be withstood.

Additionally, enforcement of laws to permit mariculture operations without allowing turtling will decrease the income of native fishermen and quite probably also deny them this source of protein. I am afraid that turtle farming will only supply products for the bon vivants of New York, Paris and Rome. It is conceivable, however, that a government-subsidized program may work.

3. I doubt that your operation can become independent of wild populations in time to benefit them. It is my understanding that Mariculture, Ltd., is now some three to four years behind in accomplishing real captive breeding. Your success last year is interesting to scientists, but not really encouraging since it most likely will take years to become self-sustaining; and meanwhile the remaining turtle beaches are being exploited with such rapacity that we are about to lose, for all time, numerous population segments.

Returning yearlings to the wild is a good gesture, but it has not been proven to be effective in compensating for depradations on the eggs. How long will it take before we can be sure these efforts are working? One estimate I have heard is a dozen or more years - far too long in my opinion.

Also, I am somewhat perplexed by the statement in your brochure that Mariculture collects its eggs from inhospitable environments where "hatching would be most improbable". I would like to see the supporting data. Has anything been published on this? It seems absurd to assume that turtles lay eggs on beaches where hatching is an impossibility. If indeed some populations do, then I would think they would eventually disappear.

4. I think you are correct in assuming that research through mariculture will contribute to conservation efforts. There are two problems, however. No. 1, will your research support for wild populations continue after in-house technical problems have been solved? No. 2, to what extent will commercial secrecy hamper the dissemination of your findings?

The Green and other sea turtles are unique, awe-inspiring creatures of great esthetic and scientific value to mankind. As the great whales have been ruthlessly hunted by greedy exploiters, so have the sea turtles. Today, their numbers much reduced, these ancient reptiles should receive the maximum protection until such time as their stocks have recovered.

The Fund for Animals believes that a moratorium on the exploitation of sea turtles is the only rational means of saving these creatures. Moreover, we are advocating that the U.S. Department of the Interior list the Green turtle as an endangered species.

I would appreciate hearing from you regarding the points I have raised in this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Seater Field Director

cc:

Peter Pritchard
Deputy Director
Florida Audubon Society
Drawer 7
Maitland, Florida 32751

LEONARD CARMICHAEL
CHARMAN
ALEXANDER WETHORE
VICE CHARMAN
MELVIN H, PAYNE
VICE CHARMAN
EDWIN W. SNIDER
SEDETARY

National Geographic Society

COMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH AND EXPLORATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

October 17, 1973

Mr. George H. Balazs
Junior Marine Biologist
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Post Office Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Thank you for your letter of October 9th describing the project you would like to have our Committee for Research and Exploration consider for a financial grant.

I am enclosing two copies of our grant application blanks. Only one of these need be filled in and returned to me; the other is for your files. I am also sending you a copy of our Research Grant Information Sheet.

I am sure you realize that we are not able to make grants even for all projects that seem to our Committee to have great scientific significance. Factors such as our research budget and the balance between projects in various fields must be considered in approving or disapproving requests.

Sincerely,

Edwin W. Snider

Edwin W. Snider Secretary, Committee for Research and Exploration

Enclosures

January 10, 1974

Judge by Re. 1976.

Gen Mr. Belone Thomas Y. Crowell Company Thank 666 5th Avenue letter of January 10, concerning your interest in our New York, N.Y. MEET TERTIE MESTERGE by John Marers. For your

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information, se yes caregorize this title so a booklet, This is a Dear Sirst to was, criginally out Labed to hardcover.

Mr. otherne S. Bellen

Especiate, Battair golds.

I have read with great interest your bookeet entitled Green Turtle Mysteries by John Waters (a part of the series "Let's read and find out"). The information was presented in an excellent manner for children. Such reading material will greatly aid the efforts to conserve and protect the world's exploited sea turtle resources.

As a portion of my work deals with conserving the Hawaiian green turtle, I would like to request permission to reproduce 50 copies of your booklet for free distribution to elementary school teachers and other educators. I have received funds to photocopy this type of literature from several organizations within the State. Several fine articles by Dr. Archie Carr have already been sent out to over 100 concerned individuals as part of a public awareness program on sea turtles. Your booklet would be of significant help in educating children on the precarious position of these reptiles.

Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

I hope you will as services out postclos to this satter.

Sincerely,

GHB: ah

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George H. Balazs Jr. Marine Biologist

Formiga Rights, Contracts

() Jobbe Siegel, Director

and Perstantions

SALE THE SECTION OF SALES OF SALES AND SALES AND VORES

HOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY, INC. PUBLISHERS / ESTABLISHED 1834

666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019

January 28, 1974

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

January 10, 1974

Dear Mr. Balazs: Company

Thank you for your letter of January 10, concerning your interest in our book entitled GREEN TURTLE MYSTERIES by John Waters. For your information, as you categorize this title as a booklet, This is a standard Juvenile book, originally published in hardcover.

You have asked permission to reproduce 50 copies of our book, for free distribution to elementary school teachers and other educators. I wish that I could oblige you in this matter, however, for every, book that Is not sold, our author does not receive any royalty payments. Fifty copies would produce, though not a tremendous amount of royalties, something. Juvenile authors, as a matter of record, have to be quite prolific. They have to be able to have the ability to write many books in a year, because the money that they receive for their work is marginal, and that being the case, I cannot give you permission to reproduce 50 copies. May I suggest that your school write to our Juvenile sales department, and ask for the ususal discount for these books? I'm sure they would be only too happy to oblige you situations as part of a public as swamps yourse on in this matter.

While I realize that our book would be, as you say, of significant help in educating children on the precarious position of these reptiles, our primary purpose is to be of significant help to our authors, who are also in a precarious position in regards to their bread and butter.

I hope you will understand our position in this matter.

Ge Yours

GMB: ab

.) Bobbe Siegel, Director Foreign Rights, Contracts

and Permissions

BS/lw

serve! Noted this in the Federal Register this AM -So thrilled I had to call you - caught the better halt at home & total her the wews. Don't KNOW how much you became involved in getting the 6.5. tutle on this proposal however I suspect you did more Than your fair share. You certainly now hore the opportunity to " make all of your convictions Know! I am run There will be many with opposing vices. Lowry I hove t getten around to answering your letter. Been thinky about you - Palmer etc.

Dre

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

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PART 20-ESTATE TAX; ESTATES OF DE-CEDENYS DYING AFTER AUGUST 16, 1954

§ 20.2031-11 [Deleted]

Par. 2. Section 20,2031-11, of which the title only appears, is deleted.

PART 25-GIFT TAX; GIFTS MADE AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1954

§ 25.2512-10 [Deleted]

Par. 3. Section 25,2512-10, of which the title only appears, is deleted.

[FR Doc.73-27046 Fited 12-37-73;8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[50 CFR Part 17]

CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES AND OTHER FISH OR WILDLIFE

Notice of Proposed Rule Making

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the authority contained in the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1989, 80 Stat. 926 (16 U.S.C. 668aa-668cc), as amended by 83 Stat. 275 (16 U.S.C. 888cc-1 to 668cc-6), that the Secretary of the Interior proposes to amend Title 50, Part 17, Appendix A, "The U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife," of the Code of Federal Regulations.

This proposed amendment would add the following animals to Appendix A, "The U.S. List of Endangered Foreign Fish and Wildlife," This proposal is

based upon evidence on file with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Washington, D.C., which shows these animals are threatened with extinction due to one or more of the following conditions; (1) The destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment, or threatened destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment, of its habitat, or (2) its overutilization for commercial or sporting purposes, or (3) the effect on it of disease or predation, or (4) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

REPTILES

Common name: Scientific name Green sea turtle .. Chelonia mydas. Loggerhead turtle Caretta caretta.

The Secretary of the Interior is not foreclosed, at the conclusion of the notice period below stated, from publishing a list which omits one or more of the species herein proposed for listing.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions, or objections concerning this proposed amendment, to the Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Comments received by March 1, 1974 will be considered.

> LYNN A. GREENWALT, Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

DECEMBER 26, 1973.

[FR Doc.73-27257 PRed 12-27-73;8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Style fact Service

[7 CFR Part 726] BURLEY TOBACCO

Determinations on Marketing Quotas for 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 Marketing Years

Pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended ((7 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.), hereinafter referred to as the Act), consideration is being given to the proclamation of national marketing quotas for burley tobacco for the 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 marketing years and to the determination and announcement for the 1974-75 marketing year, the amount of the national marketing quota, the national reserve, and the national factor. A marketing quota ref-erendum will be held within 30 days after the proclamation.

Section 319(b) requires marketing quotas on a poundage basis be proclaimed and the amount of the national marketing quota for the 1974–75 marketing year be determined and announced not later than February 1, 1974.

Section 319(c) provides that the national marketing quota determined under this section for burley tobacco for any marketing year shall be the amount produced in the United States which the Secretary estimates will be utilized in the United States and will be exported during such marketing year, adjusted upward or downward in such amount as

the Secretary, in his discretion, mines is desirable for the purp maintaining an adequate supply effecting an orderly reduction of plies to the reserve supply level. such downward adjustment shall n ceed 5 per centum of such estiutilization and exports. For each keting year for which marketing q are in effect under this section, the retary in his discretion may establi reserve (hereinafter referred to a "national reserve") from the namarketing quots in an amount r excess of 1 per centum of the no marketing quota to be available for ing corrections and adjusting ineqin farm marketing quotas, and fo tablishing marketing quotas for farms (that is, farms for which marketing quotas are not otherwis tablished).

Section 319(e) provides, in part, the farm marketing quota shall be d mined by multiplying the previous y farm marketing quota by a nati factor obtained by dividing the nati marketing quota determined under section (c) of this section (less the tional reserve) by the sum of the f marketing quotas for the immedia preceding year for all farms for w burley tobacco marketing quotas wil determined; Provided, That such tional factor shall not be less than per centum: Provided further, That the marketing years beginning Octob 1972, and October 1, 1973, the farm p keting quota for any farm shall no less than the smaller of (1) one-1 acre times the farm yield times one-l the sum of the figure one and the tional factor for the current year, (2) the farm marketing quota for immediately preceding marketing y times one-half the sum of the figure and the national factor for the curyear. The farm marketing quote so co puted for any farm for any year s' be increased by the number of pour by which marketings from the farm d ing the immediately preceding year w less than the farm marketing que (after adjustments) : Provided, That a such increase shall not exceed t amount of the farm marketing que (including leased pounds) for the is mediately preceding marketing ye prior to any increase for undermarke ings or decrease for overmarketings. T farm marketing quota so computed f each farm for any year shall be reducby the number of pounds by which ma keting from the farm during the Imm diately preceding year exceeded the far marketing quota (after adjustments Provided, That if, on account of exce marketings in the preceding year, th farm marketing quota is reduced to zer pounds without reflecting the entire re duction required, the additional reduction required shall be made in subse

quent marketing years. Section 319(e) provides also, that th farm marketing quota for a new fare shall be the number of pounds deter mined by the county committee with ap proval of the State committee to be fail and reasonable for the farm on the basi



University of Hawaii at Manoa

School of Medicine • Department of Physiology
Biomedical Sciences Building T-608 • 1960 East West Road • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Cable Address UNIHAW
February 12, 1974

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

Dear George,

Many thanks for the reprint of Archie Carr's article. Very interesting. I find myself becoming more and more interested in marine turtles. I hope to do some work on them when I go on sabbatical in Malaya in a few months time, and also here in Hawaii. They seem to have some fascinating physiological ecological problems. If only we can keep them off the menus!

Kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

bausey.

G. Causey Whittow, Ph.D. Professor of Physiology

GCW: mm



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20771

REPLY TO 202

August 21, 1973

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Your letter requesting information on animal tracking has been forwarded to Mr. Charles Cote's office here at Goddard. Mr. Cote is in charge of satellite/animal tracking.

You should be hearing from him in the near future.

Sincerely,

of F. Lynch, Deputy Office of Public Affairs

To: Dr. Alan Zeigler From: Ronald M.K. Lau Subject: Sea Turtles

Dear Dr. Zeigler, the sea turtles roaming the coasts of the Maudian chain are on the decline. I have come to this conclusion through conversations with some old time fishermen who have spent a great many years by the sea and have observed the reduction in the sightings of these creatures over the years. One of these fishermen no longer will kill or capture any and has burned his turtle net because of his feelings for these reptiles.

Some of the local people along the Keane - Hana coast hunt them by shooting them with .22 rafles from the shore and then diving after them. The so called "commercial" fishermen hunt them with scuba tanks and shoot the head of the turtle off with shark guns (shot gun cartradge at the end of a stick). And since this is allegal (to shoot them), they get around the law by cutting off the evidence (the turtle's head) before bringing it to shore. Turtles bring good money because it is scarce and, hence, greed breeds the worse in man.

Finally, I would like to add that there may not be time for a study while turtles are continued to be slaughtered. A more sensible approach would be to stop the slaughtering through fines and penalties and making the selling of the meat allegal. Then a study can be carried out and maybe if numbers of the turtles do increase the crop may be thinned. But as of present the crop is already much too thin.....

Aboha; R and

Ronald M.K. Lau

P.O. Box 50

Kahului, Hawaii 96732

To: George Balazs

From : Ronald Lau

Subject: Turtle manuscript

Dear Mr. Balazs;

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your study on Hawaii's turtles. I have taken the liberty to show them to some friends of mine. One of these persons was formerly a turtle fishermen but since a few years ago he has directed his energies to conserving them. His comments are worth mentioning to you:

- 1) Turtles are usually caught in the early morning when they seem to feed more than other parts of the day.
- 2) Ten to fifteen Wengs and coastline of Maul From Baldwin park to Hookipa park which is no longer true.
- 3) There are many fishermen who do not report turtle catches because of there non-commercial status which accounts for a huge amount of turtle taken from the ocean.
- 4) The outlaw methods used to take turtles is more widespread than the authorities probabaly realize. Reason is that legal methods is not worth the effort in terms of dollars.

I do not profess to be an expert on turtles nor have the experience to comment adequately on the turtle's habits. However, I am more than convinced that turtle's do need saving not for men alone but for nature's plans. Hence, if I can help in any way please feel free to count on me. The fishermen mentioned above may be sending you something of his own experience and feelings on the turtle's plight as he does have your address. I hope he does as he has a lot to offer in both knowledge and experience.

P.S. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK YOU'RE DOING! Aloha:

Ronald Jan

DAVID R. SEARS. M. D. RT. 1, BOX 214-D KAPAA, KAUAI, HI. 96746 PHONE 822-3048

December 17, 1973

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

Dear Mr. Balazs:

In response to your letter of December 1, 1973, we have sent letters to the two addresses you mentioned, lending our support for the preservation of the turtles of our islands.

We have also asked other people to give this matter their attention in the hope of gaining more support for this most important endeavor. We wish you much success.

Sincerely yours,

David R. Sears M.D.

Atlantic Commodities Limited

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KEITH HALL MEWS

P.O.BOX 153 HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3J 2M4

March 11, 1975

Dr. Balaz Hawaiian Institute of Marine Biology Honolulu HAWAII

Dear Dr. Balaz:

Your name was given to us by the local fisheries as a possible commercial source of frozen turtle meat.

We would appreciate your advising if there are any commercial freezing plants in your area, pack quantities of this material, together with a full description of species, pack, and if possible a price CIF San Francisco or Vancouver.

Awaiting your reply with much interest, I remain

Yours very truly,

ATLANTIC COMMODITIES LIMITED

W. D. VAN SCOYK General Manager

WDVS:mic