

## REPORT

### China/USA Sea Turtle Workshop in Hawaii 2014

George H. Balazs<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey A. Seminoff<sup>2</sup> & Thierry M. Work<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>NOAA Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, 1845 Wasp Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96818 USA (E-mail: george.balazs@noaa.gov);

<sup>2</sup>NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8901 La Jolla Shores Dr., La Jolla, CA 92037 USA (E-mail: jeffrey.seminoff@noaa.gov);

<sup>3</sup>USGS National Wildlife Health Center, P.O. Box 50187, Honolulu, HI 96850 USA (E-mail: thierry\_work@usgs.gov)

An invitational China/USA Sea Turtle Workshop was convened in Honolulu August 25-29, 2014 under the auspices of the Bilateral Living Marine Resources (LMR) initiative of NMFS Headquarters and the Chinese Academy of Fishery Science in Beijing. The official hosts and organizers for the workshop were George Balazs (PIFSC), Jeffrey Seminoff (SWFSC) and Thierry Work (USGS) assisted by PIFSC John Wang, Shandell Brunson, and JIMAR Denise Parker. The workshop had been formally in the development and planning stages since April 2012, as the result of a LMR-sponsored sea turtle meeting in Shanghai attended by Balazs, Seminoff, and Wang. Nine Chinese region scientists participated in the workshop using non-USA travel funds. Areas represented included Hainan Island, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Mainland China. Four of the participants were university professors, three were government biologists, one was a graduate student, and one represented an NGO involved in research.

Workshop activities over the five days consisted of mixtures of seminar presentations, conversation exchanging information to build bridges and formulate ideas for future actions, including collaborative research, and actual hands-on field work with Hawaiian sea turtles. Two of the several 'ways forward' agreed upon for cooperation consisted of a follow-up workshop in mainland China in 2015, and reciprocal China/USA visiting scientists for 1-2 month periods.

The workshop was deemed highly successful by all involved. The Chinese scientists were harmoniously engaged under the LMR initiative. Cross-cultural goodwill and cooperation were advanced between China and the USA, using sea turtle science and ecology as the means of person-to-person diplomacy.



**Figure 1.** Group photo taken on 25 August of participants of the China/USA Sea Turtle Workshop in Hawaii 2014. Left to Right Back Row: M. Murphy, W-C Huang, J. Seminoff, T-H Li, Y. Wang, R. Lo, S. Brunson, J. Wang, W. Liu. Left to Right Front Row: D. Parker, G. Balazs, F.Yeh, H-X Gu, L. Fu, Z-R Xia, T. Work.

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Loggerhead sea turtle incidentally captured in Ceará, Brazil and later seen nesting in Quintana Roo, Mexico (see page 16). Photo credit: Banco de Imagens, Projeto TAMAR/ICMBIO\_CE.

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Sea Turtle Strandings and Mortalities on the Southeast Coast of Guatemala.....R Brittain *et al.*  
Flying Fish Egg Harvest off Keelung, Taiwan Uncovers Occurrence of Pelagic-Phase Green Turtles.....K Ng *et al.*

## Note

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## Meeting Report

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