
11 Signals of Change- The Slightly Longer Story

1 message

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1, 2 & 3- Foraging pastures in West Hawaii Island, from Honaunau to Puako, with the exception of Honokohau Harbor and the Waikoloa Hilton Lagoon, are similar to Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park in algal turf cover, reef structure, and density and size classes of green turtles.

4- The transition from night-to daytime foraging at many coastal areas, starting in the late 1980s, can be circumstantially linked to less-than-optimal food resources for the increasing number of turtles.

5- The early 1990s onset of green turtles crawling ashore to bask in the Main Hawaiian Islands, both during the day and at night, is primarily an energy conservation measure linked to low food resources.

6- A robustly increasing green turtle population with a marginal and far-away historically rooted nesting site gives rise to increasing attempts to colonize new sand beach areas for nesting in the Main Hawaiian Islands.

7 & 8- A robustly increasing green turtle population necessitated expansion into new and novel marine habitats and use of non-traditional food sources.

9- Undernourished green turtles in Hawaii have increasingly turned to baited hooks to satisfy their nutritional needs thereby resulting in increased fishing line entanglement and hooking.

10A- Healthy numbers of tiger sharks in the Hawaiian Islands fulfill their ecological role as apex predators of green turtles.

10B- A significant range shift by the Hawaiian monk seal into the Main Hawaiian Islands has resulted in periodic reports of predation and harassment of green turtles.

11- A significant decline in fibropapilloma disease over the past two decades resulted in the increased survival of green turtles.

Signals of Change

Trying to Make Sense of it All

- The Wabnitz 2010 Carrying Capacity Paper
- Slow Growing
- Body Fitness
- Night-to-Day Foraging
- Coming Ashore to Bask
- Expanded Nesting Range
- Novel New Neritic Habitats
- New Foods
- Hooked and Entangled
- Tiger Sharks and Monk Seal Apex Predators
- Tumor Disease Decline