

Status

- Data from:
 - Literature
 - Experts (Kartik Shanker, Manjula Tiwari, Nick Pilcher, Bryan Wallace, Col Limpus, Ronel Nel)
 - Country Contributions – Sri Lanka, Thailand, South Africa, India (Nicobar/Andaman), Malaysia, Vietnam, Australia)

Photo: Kartik Shanker

WIO Status

Vulnerable

- – Dc stable; ~90 females per annum
- (Nel et al (2012 submitted; Thomson et al 2012 submitted) : Videira et al 2011)
- STABLE (pressures not necessarily fisheries or habitat related, probably sex ratio bias)
- Detectability issue in monitoring
- Great improvement in monitoring (MOZ); consistent monitoring across 11 rookeries (since 2007/8 season).

NIO Status

Data Deficient

- Sri Lanka (was 100 – 200 females) - ?
- Nicobar/Andaman (400 – 600 females) - <200 nests (monitoring data 2007-2010); Nicobar – habitat damage ?
- Thailand – nesting incidental
- Java, Sumatra = ?
- South-Indonesia – Wide-spread, Low density
- NAustralia- Low density nesting, restricted sites (ca. <10 females)

NP Status

Data Deficient

- Malaysia – monitoring continuous - <10 nests pa – moved to govt hatchery – No hatching success (N Pilcher pers. com)
- Vietnam – ~10 nests pa (underestimate?) thus undetermined. (Bellagio Finance Blueprint 2008)
- Outside Japan: ?

SP Status

Stable?

- Indonesia (Papua): pre-2006 > 6000 nests; declining: new info – not yet available (Dutton et al 2007; Hetipew in prep)
- PNG/Solomon/Vanuatu: Huon coast – Male biased sex ratio.
- EAustralia: Last record in 1996
- Genetics: ~ 4 500 estimated females (healthier than expected) (Dutton et al 2007)

Leatherback RMU

Map showing the distribution of Leatherback sea turtles across the world's oceans, color-coded by conservation priority. The map includes a legend for 'Conservation Priority Category' with five levels: High Strategic Threat (red), High Risk Low Threat (orange), Low Risk Low Threat (yellow), Low Risk High Threat (green), and Minimal Sea Threat (blue). The distribution shows high concentrations in the North Pacific and North Atlantic, with significant threats in the Indian Ocean and parts of the Atlantic.

Wallace et al 2010

Gaps / Recommendations

- Fisheries Related:
 - High Seas / Coastal Artisanal / MPAs
USA West coast – Critical Habitat for leatherbacks – 25 Feb 2012;
IOTC Bycatch Resolution (2010); Observer Resolution (2011)
- Genetics
 - SP: Dutton et al (2007); WIO & NIO – Samples collected
- Biological Info
 - Nest success / interesting - / postnesting behaviour (outstanding)

Projects

- WIO: **Hatching success** and sex ratio (male / female bias) (Mozambique)
- NIO:
 - **Basic data collection** (Sri Lanka – sites that were previously important – need to be resampled)
 - **Habitat Rehabilitation** (Yala – pigs & *Cassuarina* induced erosion); Expert consultation – beach rehabilitation.

Projects Continue

- (S&NP) Thailand & Malaysia – How can we **boost hatching success**? (Male bias vs no hatching success at all)
- Java & Sumatra BLITS? **Track/nest counts** – community awareness.
- (SP) PNG (+): **Establish index sites**
Aerial surveys have identified Buang-Buasi and Kamiali as important nesting sites; long-term monitoring to determine nesting abundance trends in PNG (Dutton et al 2007).