

Indian Ocean - South-East Asian Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding

IOSEA Site Network proposal

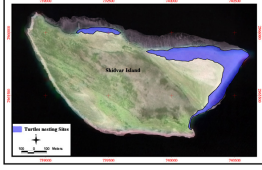
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Sheedvar island, Islamic Republic of Iran

Name and address of compiler(s):

Name:	Asghar Mobaraki (Focal Point)
Functional Title:	Head for Reptilian and Amphibian Group
Organization:	Department of the Environment
Address:	Biodiversity and Wildlife Bureau, Deputy for the Natural Environment, Parkside Eco-Park, Hamad Highway, Tehran-Iran
Email:	amobaraki@yahoo.com
Tel. / Fax:	+9821 42791979

General location & Area



- **Coordinates:** 26.791656°, 53.411513°
- Hormozgan Province
- 9 km off mainland coast, 157km from Bandar-E Lengeh
- **Total area: 97 ha**
Coastline: 5.5km (relevant to turtles: 2km)
- **No permanent population**

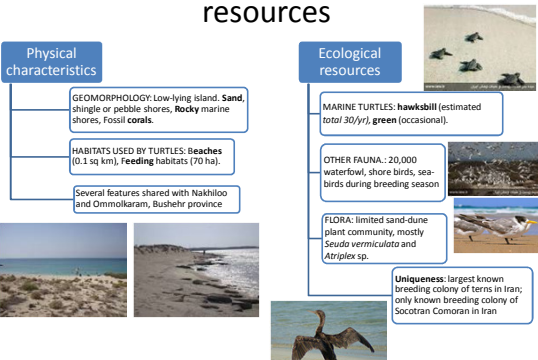
Physical characteristics & biological resources

Physical characteristics

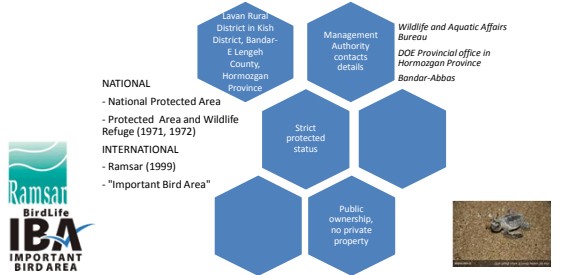
- GEOMORPHOLOGY:** Low-lying island. Sand, shingle or pebble shores, Rocky marine shores, Fossil corals.
- HABITATS USED BY TURTLES:** Beaches (0.1 sq km), Feeding habitats (70 ha).
- Several features shared with Nakhiloo and Ommolkaram, Bushehr province.

Ecological resources

- MARINE TURTLES:** hawksbill (estimated total 30/yr), green (occasional).
- OTHER FAUNA:** 20,000 waterfowl, shore birds, sea-birds during breeding season
- FLORA:** limited sand-dune plant community, mostly *Seuda vermiculata* and *Atriplex* sp.
- Uniqueness:** largest known breeding colony of Terns in Iran; only known breeding colony of Socotran Comoran in Iran



Management authority



NATIONAL

- National Protected Area
- Protected Area and Wildlife Refuge (1971, 1972)


INTERNATIONAL

- Ramsar (1999)
- "Important Bird Area"

Local Authority: Lavan Rural District in Kish District, Bandar-E Lengeh County, Hormozgan Province

Management Authority contacts details: Wildlife and Aquatic Affairs Bureau, DOE Provincial office in Hormozgan Province, Bandar-Abbas

Strict protected status: Public ownership, no private property



Socio-eco values, land/ocean uses; Threats; interventions

Terrestrial activities potentially affecting the site's overall ecological character:

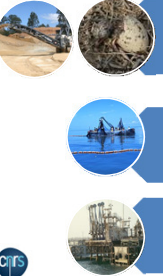
- collection of bird eggs
- sand mining?

Fishing activities: limited

Marine pollution: potential spills from oil terminal on Lavan Island, Tourism

RECENT INCREASE OF FINES FOR HARVESTING: decrease in bird egg collect.

BEACH CLEANING ACTIVITIES (2007)



Current/proposed research

- Nesting beach studies (ongoing)
- **Flipper Tagging**
 - Mobaraki 2010
 - WWF-EWS "Gulf Turtle Project" Satellite tracking program
- Genetic studies (sampling 2005, 2007)
- Presentations at International Sea Turtle Symposia
- Stakeholder involvement



Current / proposed education & awareness activities

- Beach cleaning project (2007)
- Materials (1999):
 - Booklets
 - Poster



References and Site Map

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