

# THE NATIONAL REPORT EL REPORTE NACIONAL

FOR THE COUNTRY OF  
POR EL PAIS DE

ANGUILLA  
ANGUILA

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE / REPRESENTANTE NACIONAL

LESLIE RICHARDSON



Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium  
Simposio de Tortugas del Atlantico Occidental

17-22 July / Julio 1983  
San José, Costa Rica

Anguilla National Report, WATS I Vol 3, pages 7-11



**WESTERN ATLANTIC TURTLE SYMPOSIUM  
San José, Costa Rica, July 1983**

**NATIONAL REPORT FOR THE COUNTRY OF**

**ANGUILLA**

NATIONAL REPORT PRESENTED BY

**Leslie Richardson**

The National Representative

Address:

Leslie Richardson

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Valley, Anguilla

NATIONAL REPORT PREPARED BY

Leslie Richardson and Cephias Gumbs

DATE SUBMITTED: 6 January 1983

Please submit this NATIONAL REPORT no later than 1 December 1982 to:

IOC Assistant Secretary for IOCARIBE  
% UNDP, Apartado 4540  
San José, Costa Rica



With a grant from the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service, WIDECAST has digitized the databases and proceedings of the **Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium (WATS)** with the hope that the revitalized documents might provide a useful historical context for contemporary sea turtle management and conservation efforts in the Western Atlantic Region.

With the stated objective of serving “as a starting point for the identification of critical areas where it will be necessary to concentrate all efforts in the future”, the first Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium convened in Costa Rica (17-22 July 1983), and the second in Puerto Rico four years later (12-16 October 1987). WATS I featured National Reports from 43 political jurisdictions; 37 presented at WATS II.

WATS I opened with these words: “The talks which we started today have the multiple purpose of bringing our knowledge up to date about the biological peculiarities of the marine turtle populations of the western Atlantic; to know and analyse the scope of the National Reports prepared by the scientific and technical personnel of more than thirty nations of the region; to consider options for the orderly management of marine turtle populations; and in general to provide an adequate forum for the exchange of experiences among scientists, administrators, and individuals interested in making contributions for the preservation of this important natural resource.”

A quarter-century has passed, and the results of these historic meetings have been lost to science and to a new generation of managers and conservationists. Their unique importance in providing baseline data remains unrecognized, and their potential as a “starting point” is neither known nor appreciated.

The proceedings document what was known at the time concerning the status and distribution of nesting and foraging habitat, population size and trend, mortality factors, official statistics on exploitation and trade, estimated incidental catch, employment dependent on turtles, mariculture operations, public and private institutions concerned with conservation and use, legal aspects (e.g. regulations, enforcement, protected areas), and active research projects. In most cases it was the first time a national sea turtle assessment had been conducted.

Despite the potential value of this information to agencies responsible for conducting stock assessments, monitoring recovery trends, and safeguarding critical habitat in the 21st century, the hand-written National Reports, largely illegible in the published proceedings, have slipped into obscurity. To help ensure the legacy of these symposia, we have digitized the entire proceedings, including the National Reports, plenary presentations and panels, and annotated bibliographies of both meetings, and posted them online at <http://www.widecast.org/What/RegionalPrograms.html>.

*Each article has been scanned from the original document. Errors in the scan have been corrected; however, to be true to the original content (as closely as we can discern it), potential errors of content have not been corrected. This article should be cited:*

Richardson, L and C. Gumbs. 1984. National Report for Anguilla, pp.7-11. *In*: Bacon, P., F. Berry, K. Bjorndal, H. Hirth, L. Ogren and M. Weber (Editors), Proceedings of the First Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium, 17-22 July 1983, San José, Costa Rica. Volume III: The National Reports. RSMAS Printing, Miami.

*Karen L. Eckert  
WIDECAST Executive Director  
June 2009*

## COUNTRY: ANGUILLA

TABLE 1. GEOGRAPHIC INVENTORY	
Length of Coastline*	65 Km
Continental Shelf Area	1,996 Km <sup>2</sup>
Seaward Extent of Jurisdictions	
Territorial Sea	65 Km
Extended Economic Zone	370 Km
Fisheries Jurisdiction	Km
Other (Describe)	Km
* Coastline length is the measurement of the national seaward boundary of a country; i.e., the distance from border to border for a coastal country and the distance around an island country.	

TABLE 3. NESTING BEACH INVENTORY			
List beaches in geographic sequence. Provide additional information on following page.			
Name of Beach	Length in Km	Species Nesting (Use Abbreviations)*	Months of Recorded Nesting
1. Dog Island		Cm, E	
2. Prickly Pear Cays		Cm, E	
3. Scrub Island		D	
Species*	Abbreviation		
<i>Carreta carreta</i>	Cc		
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Cm		
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	D		
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	E		
<i>Lepidochelys kempi</i>	Lk		
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Lo		

### **TABLE 3A. NESTING BEACH INVENTORY (Supplementary page)**

Please give additional information about each nesting beach identified in Table 3. Include information on color of sand, particle size, beach profile, backbeach vegetation, artificial lighting, etc.

The best hawksbill nesting is on Dog Island and Prickly Pear Cays. However, sporadic, low-density nesting occurs on several beaches on the main island. Green turtles appear to nest very rarely in Anguillan waters, although there are a few reliable reports for Dog Island.

The last nesting for leatherbacks in Anguillan waters is reported by interviewees to be on Scrub Island. No estimate of numbers is available. A very small number, probably fewer than 5/year, nest on the beaches of the main island. Interviewees report that 1 or 2 nests each year at the northeast coast (Road Bay, Mead's Bay, Barnes Bay), but emergences have been recorded over the years on beaches all over the island. There are no reliable reports of loggerhead nesting on Anguilla.

Name of Area (or give coordinates)	Approx. Area (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Species Foraging (use abbreviations & approx. numbers)	Nature of Evidence (observation, fishery, incidental catch)
1. Shoal Bay		Cm, E	Interviews
2. Hill Village (along cliffs at north)		Cm, E	Interviews
3. South Hill, (along cliffs at south)		Cm, E	E: direct observation (A. Meylan, April 11, 1980)
4. Long Bay		Cm	Interviews. Cm: direct observation (A. Meylan, 1981)
5. Mead's Bay		Cm, E	Cm, E: interviews
6. Between Shoal Bay & Blowing Rock		Cm	Interviews
7. Scrub Island		Cm, E	Interviews
8. Barrier reef off north coast		E	Interviews
9. Sandy Island		Cc, Cm, E	Interviews
10. Dog Island		Cm, E	Interviews
11. Sombrero Island		E	Interviews
Species:	Abbreviation:		
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Cc		
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Cm		
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	D		
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	E		
<i>Lepidochelys kempfi</i>	Lk		
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Lo		

Species	Month												Months of Greatest Activity
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
<i>Caretta caretta</i>													
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>													
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Lepidochelys kempfi</i>													
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>													

X = "Reported to be year-round residents"

**TABLE 10A. NATURAL MORTALITY (Supplementary page for additional biological data)**

Please report below, and on additional pages, if necessary, additional data obtained or available such as measurements (length, width, weight) of adult females, adult males, hatchlings, numbers of eggs per nest, hours of nesting, hours and conditions of hatchlings, etc.

A tagged green turtle, weighing 48 pounds (21.8 kg\*) was caught by a diver at Sandy Island in August 1980. The turtle had been released as a yearling weighing just over one pound, at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Cape Canaveral, Florida on 28 May 1975 by the Florida Department of Natural Resources Marine Research Laboratory. A loggerhead caught by a turtle fisherman at Scilly Cay, near Island Harbour, on 12 April 1980 weighed 120 pounds (54.5 kg). (Personal observation by Anne Meylan)

The dried carapace of a juvenile hawksbill, caught at Little Bay in June 1980, measured 20 cm. (longest length). The divers reported that they had caught it by hand. Specimen is deposited in Florida State Museum. (UF 49767). Four hawksbills caught by a diver at Dog Island on 6 April 1980 ranged in size from 40-55 cm straight carapace length (longest length).

*Editors note (2009):* \* For consistency, values originally entered in pounds (lb) have been converted to kg.

**TABLE 11. LANDING SITES FOR TURTLES AND TURTLE PRODUCTS**

Name of Port or Site	Species Landed (use abbrev)	Fishing Gear Used	Months of Landings	Numbers & Weights (estimate)
1. Sandy Ground	Cc, Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns		
2. Island Harbour	Cc, Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns		
3. Crocus Bay	Cc, Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns		
4. Rendezvous Bay	Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns		
Species	Abbreviation			
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Cc			
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Cm			
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	D			
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	E			
<i>Lepidochelys kempfi</i>	Lk			
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Lo			

**TABLE 13. ESTIMATED INCIDENTAL TURTLE CATCH (Give estimated numbers and/or weights)**

Species	Year			Type of Fishing Activity & Method of Estimation
	1982	1981	1980	
<i>Caretta caretta</i>				
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>				Taken by spear fishermen who are primarily seeking fish and lobster
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>				
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>				Taken by spear fishermen who are primarily seeking fish and lobster
<i>Lepidochelys kempfi</i>				
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>				

**TABLE 13A. ESTIMATED TURTLE CATCH BY FOREIGN FISHERMEN (Supplementary page)**

Please describe the type of foreign fishing in your waters and provide estimates for:

1. Number of foreign vessels catching turtles
2. Number of foreign fishermen catching turtles
3. Year of estimate.

Divers equipped with spearguns come to Anguilla to get lobsters, fish and turtles, especially at Dog Island. Estimate of catch is unknown but probably significant.

**TABLE 15A. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE CATCH AND PRODUCTION (Supplementary page)**

Please provide any additional data on turtle products produced in your country. Include manufactured products such as tortoise shell novelties, etc., if such data are available.

Polished carapaces of juvenile hawksbills are sold at a gift shop in Sandy Ground, at the airport, and at a restaurant / bar in Island Harbour. Raw tortoiseshell and turtle meat are sold by divers and net fishermen directly to buyers on St. Maarten. Raw shell is also sold to St. Thomas and Puerto Rico. Whole turtles are occasionally sent to Marigot, St. Maarten, on the ferry.

**TABLE 16. EMPLOYMENT DEPENDENT ON TURTLES**

Activity	Total Annual Numbers of Persons	Est. Annual Income from Turtles	Comments
Fishing	5 - 10	NA	None exclusively dependent
Processing			
Selling			

**TABLE 18. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED WITH TURTLE CONSERVATION/MANAGEMENT/UTILIZATION**

INSTITUTION OR ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. OF ACTIVE MEMBERS	ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS
East Caribbean Natural Area Management Program (ECNAMP)		Anguilla Resources Development Project

**TABLE 20A. REGULATORY AUTHORITY (Supplementary page)**

Please list National, regional, and local legislation concerning turtle management and conservation. List title, date, and stated purpose.

Turtle ordinance.

Stated purpose: conservation measures

**REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

The following is a list of the major reports and publications concerned with national turtle resources (list author, date, title, and publisher).

Carr, A., Meylan, A., Martimer, J, Bjorndal, K., and Carr, T. 1982. Surveys of Sea Turtle Populations and Habitats in the Western Atlantic. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFC-91.

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## ANGUILLA ANGUILLA

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE/REPRESENTANTE NACIONAL

### LESLIE RICHARDSON

Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium  
Simposio de Tortugas del Atlantico Occidental

17-22 July/Julio 1983  
San Jose, Costa Rica

W. A. T. S.



S. T. A. O.



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WESTERN ATLANTIC TURTLE SYMPOSIUM

San Jose, Costa Rica

July 1983

NATIONAL REPORT FOR THE COUNTRY OF

Anguilla

NATIONAL REPORT PRESENTED BY

Leslie Richardson  
The National Representative

Address: Leslie Richardson

Department of Agriculture & Fisheries

Valley Anguilla

NATIONAL REPORT PREPARED BY

Leslie Richardson & Cephas Gumbi

DATE SUBMITTED: 6 January 1983

Please submit this NATIONAL REPORT no later than 3 December 1982  
to: IOC Assistant Secretary for ICAHIBIC, 5 UNOP, Apartado 4540,  
San Jose, Costa Rica.



Country PHILIPPINES

Length of Coastline ..... 65 km  
 sq of Continental Shelf Area ..... 1000 sq  
 General Extent of Jurisdiction:  
 Territorial Sea ..... 6.5 km  
 Extended Economic Zone ..... 200 km  
 Fisheries Jurisdiction .....  
 Other (specify) .....

TABLE 1. GEOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

\* Cassin's length is the measurement of the national seaward boundary of a country, i.e., the distance from border to border for a coastal country and the distance around an island country.

TABLE 2. NESTING BEACH INVENTORY (Supplementary page)

Please give additional information about each nesting beach identified in Table 2. Include information on color of sand, particle size, beach profile, beach vegetation, artificial lighting, etc.

The best beach for Leucocorax in Anguilla waters is reported by interviewees to be on Swab Island. No estimated numbers are available. A very small number probably fewer than 5 per nest on the beaches of the main island. Interviewees report that 100% nest each year at the northwest coast (Swab Bay, Swab's Bay, or Swab's Bay), but emergence have been recorded over the years on beaches all over the island.

There are no reliable reports of Loggerhead nesting on Swab.

NAME OF BEACH	LENGTH IN KM	SPECIES NESTING (Use abbreviations)*	NUMBER OF RECORDED NESTING
1. <u>Swab Island</u>		<u>E, Cm</u>	
2. <u>Swab Bay</u>		<u>E, Cm</u>	
3. <u>Swab Island</u>		<u>D</u>	
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

\* Species Abbreviations:  
 Cc Coccyzoides  
 Cm Chelonia mydas  
 D Dermochelys coriacea  
 E Eretmochelys imbricata  
 L Lepidochelys olivacea  
 Lo

TABLE 2. NESTING BEACH INVENTORY  
 List beaches by geographic sequence. Provide additional information on following page.

NAME OF AREA (or give coordinates)	APPROX. AREA (km <sup>2</sup> )	SPECIES FRAGINGS (Use abbreviations and/or numbers)	NATURE OF EVIDENCE (Observation, fishery, incidental catch)
1. <u>Swab Bay</u>		<u>E, Cm</u>	<u>Interventions</u>
2. <u>Swab Island</u>		<u>E, Cm</u>	<u>Interventions</u> <u>E - 1 dead specimen (1 night)</u> <u>E, Cm - Interventions</u>
3. <u>Swab Bay</u>		<u>E, Cm</u>	<u>Interventions</u> <u>Cm - 1 dead specimen (1 night)</u> <u>Cm, E - Interventions</u>
4. <u>Swab Bay</u>		<u>Cm</u>	<u>Interventions</u>
5. <u>Swab Bay</u>		<u>Cm, E</u>	<u>Interventions</u>
6. <u>Swab Bay</u>		<u>Cm</u>	<u>Interventions</u>

\* Species Abbreviations:  
 Cc Coccyzoides  
 Cm Chelonia mydas  
 D Dermochelys coriacea  
 E Eretmochelys imbricata  
 L Lepidochelys olivacea  
 Lo

TABLE 3. FRAGGING AREAS INVENTORY

Name of Area	Species	Species	Species
1. Sand Island	E, C, O	<i>Thalassidroma</i>	
2. Sand Island	E	<i>Thalassidroma</i>	
3. Sand Island	E, C, O	<i>Thalassidroma</i>	
4. Sand Island	E, C, O	<i>Thalassidroma</i>	
5. Sand Island	E	<i>Thalassidroma</i>	

Table 7. Foraging Areas Inventory

TABLE 10. NATURAL MORTALITY

(Supplementary map for additional biological data)  
 Please report below, and in additional cases if necessary, additional data obtained or available on the following: (length, wings, weight) of adult females, adult males, hatchling mortality of eggs per nest, hours of nesting, hours and conditions of incubation, etc.

6 tagged green turtles ranging 50 pounds were caught by a fisherman at Sand Island in August 1960. The turtle had been in a boat as a youngling just over one pound, at Sand Island National Wildlife Refuge, Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 29 May 1970, by the Florida Department of Natural Resources Marine Research Laboratory.

A loggerhead caught by a turtle fisherman at Sand Cay, near Sand Island, on 12 April 1960 weighed 120 pounds (57.5 kg). (Personal observation, by biologist)

The dried carapace of a juvenile hawksbill caught at Sand Cay in June 1960, measured 20 cm (length by girth). The biologist reported that the turtle was caught at Sand Cay. Specimens deposited in Florida State Museum (US 49767).

Four hawksbill caught by a fisherman at Sand Cay on 6 April 1960 weighed in net from 40-55 cm straight carapace length (length by girth).

SPECIES	MONTH												MONTHS OF GREATEST ACTIVITY	
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
<i>Caretta caretta</i>														
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>														
<i>Bombina orientalis</i>														
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>														
<i>Lepidochelys kempi</i>														
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>														

TABLE 8. TURTLE SPECIES PRESENT ON FORAGING AREAS.  
 Please complete one row table for each of the areas identified in Table 7. Number each table as enumerated in Table 7 (1a, 1-b, etc.).

NAME OF PORT OR SITE	SPECIES LISTED (See above)	FISHING GEAR USED	MONTHS OF LANDINGS	NUMBERS & WEIGHTS (Estimate)
1. Sandy Ground	E, C, O	Turtle nets, Spear guns		
2. Sand Island	E, C, O	" " "		
3. Green Cay	E, C, O	" " "		
4. Sand Cay	E, C	" " "		
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				

TABLE 11. LANDING SITES FOR TURTLES & TURTLE PRODUCTS

Species Abbreviations:  
 Cc *Caretta caretta*  
 Cm *Chelonia mydas*  
 Bo *Bombina orientalis*  
 Ei *Eretmochelys imbricata*  
 Lk *Lepidochelys kempi*  
 Lo *Lepidochelys olivacea*

SPECIES	YEAR			TYPE OF FISHING ACTIVITY & METHOD OF ESTIMATION
	1962	1963	1964	
<u>Caretta caretta</u>				
<u>Chelonia mydas</u>				Taken by spearfisherman who are primarily making fish and lobster.
<u>Desmochelys oronotata</u>				
<u>Desmochelys subradiata</u>				Taken by spearfisherman who are primarily making fish and lobster.
<u>Lepidochelys kempi</u>				
<u>Lepidochelys olivacea</u>				

TABLE 17. ESTIMATED INCIDENTAL TURTLE CATCH  
Give estimated numbers and/or weights.

TABLE 12. ESTIMATED TURTLE CATCH BY FOREIGN FISHERMEN  
(Supplementary page)

Please describe the type of foreign fishing in your waters and provide estimates for:

1. Number of foreign vessels catching turtles.
2. Number of foreign fishermen catching turtles.
3. Year of estimate.

*Boats equipped with spearguns come to Anguilla to get lobsters, fish and turtles, especially at Dog Island. Estimate of catch is unknown but probably significant.*

TABLE 18. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE CATCH AND PRODUCTION  
(Supplementary page)

Please provide any additional data on turtle products produced in your country. Include manufactured products such as tortoise shell novelties, etc., if such data are available.

*Polished carapace of juvenile hawksbill are sold at a gift shop in Sandy ground at the airport and at a restaurant/bar in Tobago Harbour.*

*Raw tortoise shell and turtle meat are sold by dealers and wet fishermen directly to buyers on St. Martin. Raw shell is also sold to St. Thomas and Puerto Rico.*

*Whole turtles are occasionally sent to Harigot, St. Martin, on the ferry.*

ACTIVITY	TOTAL ANNUAL NUMBERS OF PERSONS	EST. ANNUAL INCOME FROM TURTLES	COMMENTS
Fishing	5 - 10	N/A	Some exclusively dependent
Processing			
Selling			

TABLE 19. EMPLOYMENT DEPENDENT ON TURTLES

INSTITUTION OR ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. OF ACTIVE MEMBERS	ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS
East Caribbean Natural Area Management Program (ECNAMP)		Anguilla Resource Development Project.
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TABLE 10. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED WITH TURTLE CONSERVATION/MANAGEMENT/UTILIZATION

TABLE 20. REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
(Supplementary page)

Please list National, regional, and local legislation concerning turtle management and conservation. List title, date, and stated purpose.

*Turtle Ordinance*

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

The following is a list of the major reports and publications concerned with national turtle resources (list author, date, title, and publisher).

1. Carr, A., Maylan, A., Mortimer, G., Bjornndal, K., and Carr, T. 1970. *Survey of sea turtle populations and habitats in the Western Atlantic*.  
 NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFPO-77.

*Stated Purpose - Conservation measures.*