

# THE NATIONAL REPORT EL REPORTE NACIONAL

FOR THE COUNTRY OF  
POR EL PAIS DE

## BAHAMAS

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE / REPRESENTANTE NACIONAL

## WENDELL CLARKE



Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium  
Simposio de Tortugas del Atlantico Occidental

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

Bahamas National Report, WATS I Vol 3, pages 30-35



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

**NATIONAL REPORT FOR THE COUNTRY OF**

**BAHAMAS**

NATIONAL REPORT PRESENTED BY

**Wendell Clarke**

The National Representative

Address:

Department of Fisheries

P.O. Box N-3028

Nassau, Bahamas

NATIONAL REPORT PREPARED BY

Colin Higgs

DATE SUBMITTED: 1 December 1982

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.

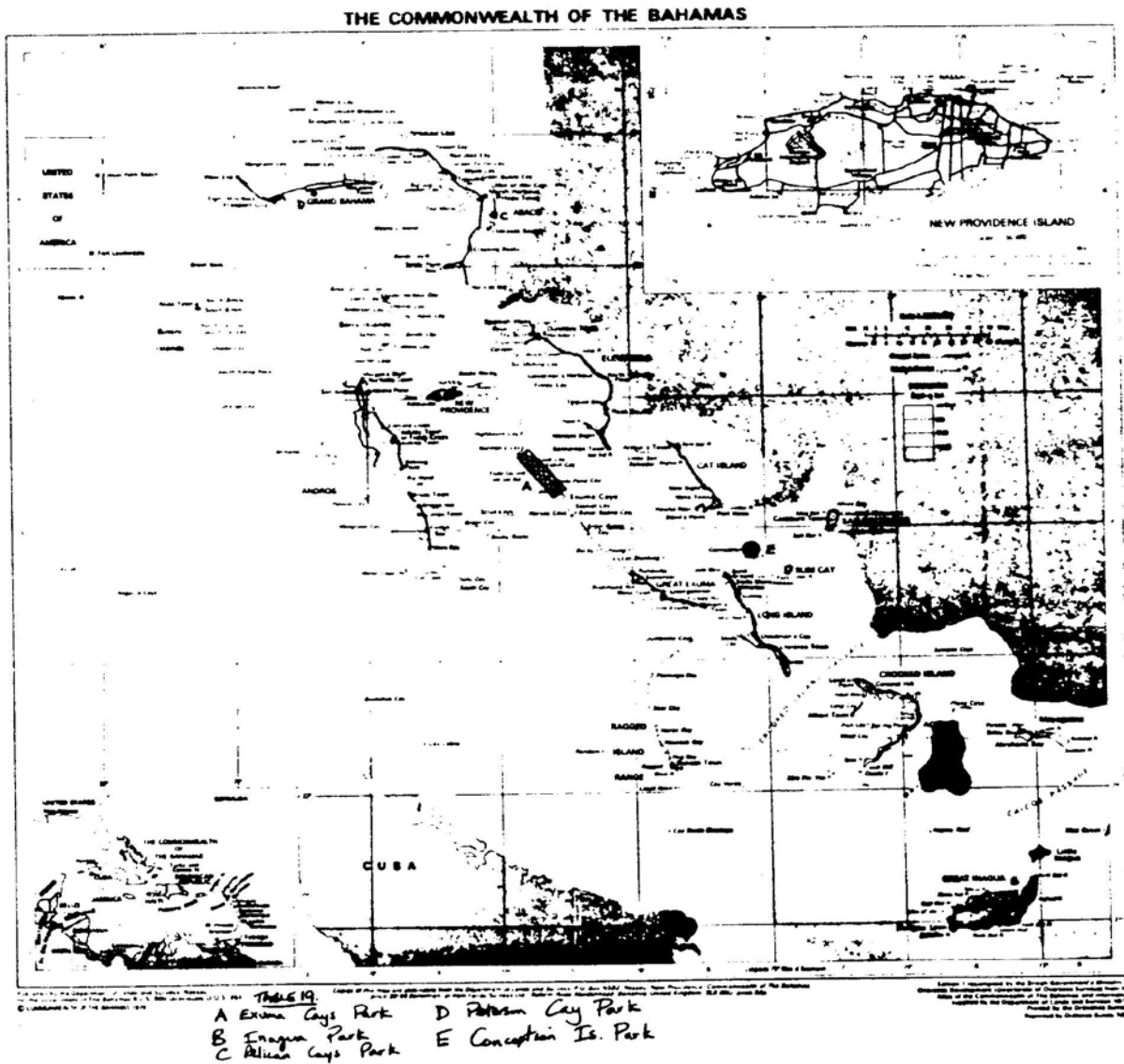
Despite the potential value of this information to agencies responsible for conducting stock assessments, monitoring recovery trends, and safeguarding critical habitat in the 21st century, the hand-written National Reports, largely illegible in the published proceedings, have slipped into obscurity. 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:*

Higgs, C. 1984. National Report for the Bahamas, pp.30-35. 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*

Figure 1. The Bahamas – W.A.T.S. National Report Study Area.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Editor's Note (2009): Maps and figures are reprinted exactly as they appear in the original WATS I Proceedings (Bacon et al. 1984); we regret the poor quality exhibited in some cases.

## COUNTRY: BAHAMAS

TABLE 1. GEOGRAPHIC INVENTORY	
Length of Coastline*	? Km
Continental Shelf Area	124,320 Km <sup>2</sup>
Seaward Extent of Jurisdictions	
Territorial Sea	4.82 Km
Extended Economic Zone	321.8 Km
Fisheries Jurisdiction	321.8 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 7. FORAGING AREAS INVENTORY			
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. Bahama Banks	124,320	Cc, Cm, E	Observation and fishery
2. Surrounding oceanic waters		D	Observation
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 8. TURTLE SPECIES PRESENT ON FORAGING AREAS.													
Please complete one of these tables for each of the areas identified in Table 7. Number each table as enumerated in Table 7 (7-1, 7-2, etc.).													
Species	Month												Months of Greatest Activity
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	April - July
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	March - August
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	September - March
<i>Lepidochelys kempfi</i>													
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>													

Life Stage Unit	Species (abbrev.)	Causes*	Extent of Mortality (% of unit)
Nests/eggs	Cc, Cm, E	Human poaching, crabs, vegetation roots, storm erosion	10 - 20
Hatchlings	Cc, Cm, E	Avian predators and marine predators	?
Juveniles	Cc, Cm, E	Commercial fishery and marine predators	50 - 60
Adults (in water)	Cc, Cm, E	Commercial fishery	20 - 30
Nesting females	Cc, Cm, E	Human poaching	?
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	
* Natural mortality causes may include: Beach erosion of nests; egg and/or nestling predation by crabs, wild animals, seabirds, etc.; disease; sharks and other predators at sea, etc.			

Name of Port or Site	Species Landed (use abbrev)	Fishing Gear Used	Months of Landings	Numbers & Weights (estimate)
1. Nassau N.P.	Cc, Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns	All year	19,000 kg ?
2. Abaco (central)	Cc, Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns	All year	200 kg ?
3. Moores Island	Cc, Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns	All year	3,500 kg ?
4. Andros (north)	Cm, E	Turtle nets, spear guns	All year	2,000 kg ?
5. Great Exuma	Cc, Cm, E	Nets, diving, spears	All year	250 kg ?
6. Grand Bahama (west)	Cc, Cm, E	Nets, diving, spears	All year	250 kg ?
7. Other inhabited islands	Cc, Cm, E	Nets, diving, spears	All year	Unknown; subsistence fishery ?
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		
* Closed season for Cc April - June inclusive				

<b>TABLE 12. TOTAL ANNUAL TURTLE LANDINGS IN NUMBERS</b>				
Do not include turtles caught incidental to other fishing operations (e.g., shrimp trawling)				
Species	1982*	1981	1980	Method of Determination
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	? / 7,183.7	? / 9,166.5	? / 5,514.8	Landing statistics
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	? / 12,346.1	? / 9,154.2	? / 4,006.3	Landing statistics
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>				
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	? / 3,856.4	? / 7,887.6	? / 19,769.4	Landing statistics
<i>Lepidochelys kempi</i>				
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>				
TOTAL				
* January - October, 1982				

<b>TABLE 15.1. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE PRODUCTION: Species <i>Caretta caretta</i></b>					
Complete one of these tables for each species taken in the fishery.					
Turtle Product	1982*	1981	1980	Current Market Price/Unit	Method of Data Collection
No. of eggs					
Meat (kg)**	1436.7	1833.3	1103.0	US\$ 1.10/ kg	Landing statistics
Shell No./ Wt.					
Skins No./ Wt.					
Stuffed Juveniles					
* January-June 1982					
** Assumed 20% total turtle weight is meat					

<b>TABLE 15.2. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE PRODUCTION: Species <i>Chelonia mydas</i></b>					
Complete one of these tables for each species taken in the fishery.					
Turtle Product	1982*	1981	1980	Current Market Price/Unit	Method of Data Collection
No. of eggs					
Meat (kg)**	2469.2	1830.8	801.3	US\$ 2.20/ kg	Landing statistics
Shell No./ Wt.					
Skins No./ Wt.					
Stuffed Juveniles	?	?	?		
* January-June 1982					
** Assumed 20% total turtle weight is meat					

**TABLE 15.3. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE PRODUCTION: Species *Eretmochelys imbricata***

Complete one of these tables for each species taken in the fishery.					
Turtle Product	1982*	1981	1980	Current Market Price/Unit	Method of Data Collection
No. of eggs					
Meat (Kg)*	771.3	1,577.5	3,953.9	US\$ 2.20/ kg	Landing statistics
Shell No./ Wt.	?/ 960.7	?	?/ 651.3	US\$ 44.00/ kg	Export returns
Skins No./ Wt.					
Stuffed Juveniles	?	?	?		
Other jewelry	?	?	?		

\* January-June 1982  
 \*\* Assumed 20% total turtle weight is meat

**TABLE 16. EMPLOYMENT DEPENDENT ON TURTLES**

Activity	Total Annual Numbers of Persons	Est. Annual Income From Turtles	Comments
Fishing	None	NA	No fishing effort directed exclusively at turtles. Turtles caught are associated with multiple fishery, i.e., fishing for lobster and scalefish.
Processing	None		Turtle landings are not substantial. Account for approximately 1.0% of total marine products landed. Processed and sold local local market.
Selling	None		No vendors deal exclusively in turtle.

**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
Bahamas National Trust	?	Public education Assists Caribbean Conservation Corporation with project concerned with turtle growth rates from infancy to maturity.
Caribbean Conservation Corporation	?	Growth of green turtles under quasi-natural conditions.
Department of Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government	20	Public education concerning local sea turtle regulations. Collection of statistical data.



Name and Location	Area Km <sup>2</sup>	Reason(s) for Protection	Type and Effectiveness of Enforcement
Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, Exuma	455.8	Protect from development and protection of marine resources	1 warden Enforcement fair
Inagua Park, Great Inagua	743.3	Protection of wildlife especially flamingo and Bahama parrot. Site of Turtle research project	2 wardens Enforcement fair
Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park, Abaco	?	Protection of plant and bird life and coral reefs	No enforcement
Conception Island Park	?	Protection of migratory & other birds; nesting beaches for green turtles	No enforcement
Peterson Cay Park Grand Bahama	?	Protection of natural flora and fauna	No enforcement

Indicate all entities with statutory responsibilities (e.g., Fisheries Departments and Ministries, Police, Coast Guard, etc.)			
Name and Address of Organization	Budget Allocation to Turtles	No. of Staff Assigned to Turtles	Comments on Levels of Enforcement
Department of Fisheries	0	9	Effective at primary landing sites where fisheries inspectors are present. Not assigned specifically to turtles but all marine resources.
Police Department	0	0	
Defence Force	0	0	

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

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

1. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The Bahamas is a signatory to CITES. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government is the Management Authority. The Bahamas National Trust is the Scientific Authority.
2. Local Legislation – The Marine Products (Fisheries) Rules (1954)
  - (i) Min. size of E (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) of 17" (431.8 mm\*) from neck scales – tail pieces.
  - (ii) Min. size of Cm (*Chelonia mydas*) of 15" (381 mm\*) from neck scales – tail pieces.
  - (iii) Closed season of Cc (*Caretta caretta*) 01 April – 30 June inclusive.
  - (iv) Protection of turtles on the beach.
  - (v) Protection of turtle eggs.
3. Legislation in draft
  - (i) Min. size limits for Cc (*Caretta caretta*\*) and Cm (*Chelonia mydas*) of 30" (762 mm\*).
  - (ii) Complete protection of E (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and closed season for other turtles April – July inclusive.
  - (iii) Prohibit capture of turtles within 500 yds (457.2 m\*) of any beach.
  - (iv) Protection of turtle eggs.

*Editor's note (2009):* \* Metric conversions inserted by Editor

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WESTERN ATLANTIC TURTLE SYMPOSIUM

San Jose, Costa Rica  
July 1983

NATIONAL REPORT FOR THE COUNTRY OF

The Bahamas

NATIONAL REPORT PRESENTED BY

Wendell Clarke  
The National Representative

Address: Department of Fisheries

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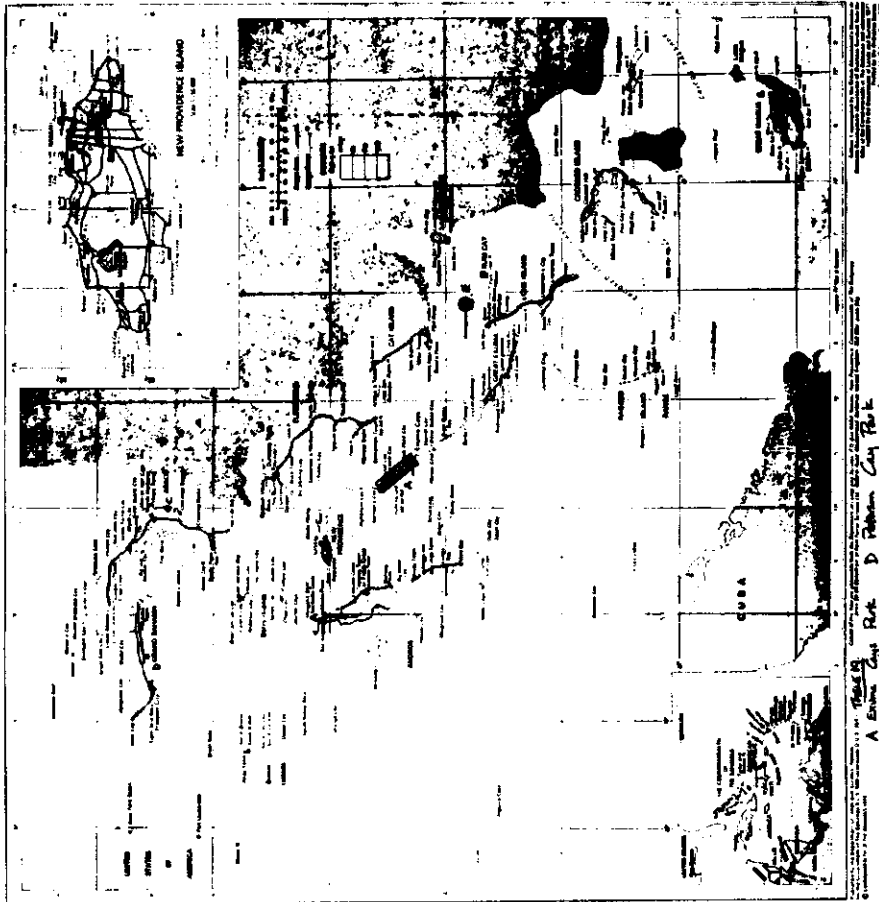
NATIONAL REPORT PREPARED BY

Colin Biggs

DATE SUBMITTED: 1 Dec. 1982

Please submit this NATIONAL REPORT no later than 1 December 1982  
to: IOC Assistant Secretary for IOCARIBE, 5 UNDP, Apartado 4540,  
San Jose, Costa Rica.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS



- A Nassau
- B Freeport
- C Grand Cayman
- D Paradise Cay
- E Grand Cayman

Country	The Bahamas
Length of Coastline*	..... Km
km <sup>2</sup> of Continental Shelf Area	..... 124,320 Km
Seaward Extent of Jurisdictions:	
Territorial Sea	..... 4.82 Km
Extended Economic Zone	..... 221.8 Km
Fisheries Jurisdiction	..... 221.8 Km
Other (Describe)	..... Km

TABLE 1. GEOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

\* 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.

NAME OF AREA (or give coordinates)	TERRESTRIAL AREA (km <sup>2</sup> )	SPECIES ABUNDANCE (use abbreviations approx. numbers)	NATURE OF EVIDENCE (Observation, fishery, incidental catch)
1. Bahama Banks	124,320	Cc, Ch, & B1	Observation and fishery
2. Surrounding oceanic waters		Bc	Observation
3.			
4.			
5.			

Species Abbreviations:  
 Cc *Larrea carolinensis*  
 Ch *Chelonia mydas*  
 Bc *Bremichthys carolinensis*  
 B1 *Eretmochelys imbricata*  
 B2 *Lepidochelys kempi*  
 B3 *Lepidochelys olivacea*

TABLE 7. FISHING AREAS INVENTORY

SPECIES	MONTH												MONTHS OF GREATEST ACTIVITY	
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
<i>Squilla carolinensis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	Apr. - Jul.
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	Mar. - Aug.
<i>Bremichthys carolinensis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	
<i>Lepidochelys kempi</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	Sept. - Mar.
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	

TABLE 8. WATLE SPECIES SURVEY ON FISHING AREAS.  
 Please complete of these tables for each of the areas identified in Table 7. Number each table as enumerated in Table 7 (7-1, 7-2, etc.).

TURTLE PRODUCT	YEARS			CURRENT MARKET PRICE/UNIT	METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION
	1982*	1981	1980		
	No. of eggs	-	-		
Meat (kg)	2469.2	1129.8	801.3	US\$2.20/kg	Landing Stations
Shell No./Mt.	-	-	-	-	-
Skins No./Mt.	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Juveniles	7	7	7	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-

SPECIES CR \* Jan - Oct., 1982  
 \* Assumed 200 total turtle weights is meat  
 TABLE 15. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE PRODUCTION  
 Complete one of these tables for each species taken in the fishery.

TURTLE PRODUCT	YEARS			CURRENT MARKET PRICE/UNIT	METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION
	1982*	1981	1980		
	No. of eggs	-	-		
Meat (kg)	771.3	1577.5	3953.9	US\$2.20/kg	Landing Stations
Shell No./Mt.	2469.2	7	7531.3	US\$44.80/kg	Export returns
Skins No./Mt.	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Juveniles	7	7	7	7	-
Other	7	7	7	7	-

SPECIES CR \* Jan - Oct., 1982  
 \* Assumed 200 of total turtle weight is meat.  
 TABLE 15. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE PRODUCTION  
 Complete one of these tables for each species taken in the fishery.

ACTIVITY	TOTAL ANNUAL EMPLOYERS OF PERSONS	EST. ANNUAL INCOME FROM TURTLES	COMMENTS
Fishing	None		In fishing effort directed exclusively at turtles. Turtles caught are associated with multiple fishery i.e. fishing effort for lobster and scallop.
Processing	None		Turtle landings are not substantial. Account for approx. 1.0% of total marine products landed. Processed and sold local market.
Selling	None		No vendors deal exclusively in turtle.

TABLE 16. EMPLOYMENT DEPENDENT ON TURTLES

INSTITUTION OR ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. OF ACTIVE MEMBERS	ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS
Bahamas National Trust	7	Public education Assists Caribbean Conservation Corporation with projects concerned with turtle growth rates from infancy to maturity.
Caribbean Conservation Corporation	7	Growth of green turtles under quasi-natural conditions.
Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Local Government	20	Public education concerning local sea turtle regulations. Collection of statistical data.

TABLE 16. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED WITH TURTLE CONSERVATION/MANAGEMENT/UTILIZATION

LIFE STAGE UNIT	SPECIES (abbrev.)	CAUSES*	EXTENT OF MORTALITY (% of unit)
Eggs/eggs	Cc Ch El	Human poaching, crabs, vegetation rooba, erosion erosion	10 - 20
Highlings	Cc Ch El	Human predators and marine predators	7
Juveniles	Cc Ch El	Commercial fishery and marine predators	50 - 60
Adults (in water)	Cc Ch El	Commercial fishery	20 - 30
Nesting females	Cc Ch El	Human poaching	7

TABLE 13. NATURAL MORTALITY

\* Natural mortality causes may include:  
 Beach erosion of nests; man and/or nesting predation by crabs, wild animals, sea birds, etc.; diseases; sharks and other predators at sea; etc.

Species Abbreviations:  
 Cc Carollia carollia  
 Ch Chelonia mydas  
 El Eretmochelys imbricata  
 Le Lepidochelys olivacea  
 Lk Lepidochelys kempi

SPECIES	YEAR			METHODS OF DETERMINATION
	1982	1981	1980	
<u>Carollia carollia</u>	7/7183	7/9166	7/9514	Landing Station
<u>Chelonia mydas</u>	7/1206	7/9134	7/6003	
<u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u>	7/3056	7/7887	7/21769	
<u>Lepidochelys olivacea</u>				

TABLE 12. TOTAL ANNUAL TURTLE LANDINGS IN NUMBERS AND WEIGHTS (N/kg)  
 Do not include turtles caught incidental to other fishing operations (e.g., shrimp trawling).

\* Jan - Oct., 1982

NAME OF PORT OR SITE	SPECIES LANDED (Use abbrev.)	FISHING GEAR USED	NUMBERS & WEIGHTS (Estimate)
1. Nassau N.P.	Cc Ch El	Boats, diving, spears	7 19000 kg
2. Abaco (central)	Cc Ch El		7 200 kg
3. Nassau Island	Cc Ch El		7 3500 kg
4. Andros (north)	Cc Ch El		7 2000 kg
5. Great Bahama	Cc Ch El		7 250 kg
6. Grand Bahama (west)	Cc Ch El		7 2500 kg
7. Other uninhabited islands	Cc Ch El		7 unknown subsistence fishery

TABLE 11. LANDING SITES FOR TURTLES & TURTLE PRODUCTS

\* Closed season for Cc Apr. - June inclusive.

Species Abbreviations:  
 Cc Carollia carollia  
 Ch Chelonia mydas  
 El Eretmochelys imbricata  
 Lk Lepidochelys kempi  
 Lo Lepidochelys olivacea

TURTLE PRODUCT	YEARS			METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION
	1982	1981	1980	
No. of eggs				
Meat (kg)	1436.7	1032.3	1100.0	Landing Station
Shell No./MT.				
Shine No./MT.				
Skipped juveniles				
Other				

SPECIES Cc

\* Jan - Oct., 1982  
 \* Assumed 20% total turtle weight is meat.

TABLE 15. OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF TURTLE PRODUCTION  
 Complete one of these tables for each species taken in the fishery.

NAME AND LOCATION	AREA SQ-KM	REASON (s) FOR PROTECTION	TYPE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ENFORCEMENT
Boys Cove Land and Sea Park Nassau	433.8	Protect from development and production of marine resources	1 Warden Enforcement fair
Spring Park Great Inagua	743.3	Protection of wildlife especially Flamingo and Bahama parrot. Site of Turtle research project.	2 Wardens Enforcement fair
Paliton Cays Land and Sea Park Nassau	7	Protection of plant and bird life and coral reefs.	No enforcement
Crossinham Island Park	7	Protection of adjacency and other birds and nesting beaches for green turtle	No enforcement.
Parson's Cays Park Grand Bahama	7	Protection of natural flora and fauna	No enforcement

TABLE 19. SACRUITARIES AND RESERVES

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION	BUDGET ALLOCATION TO TURTLES	NO. OF STAFF ASSIGNED TO TURTLES	COMMENTS ON LEVELS OF ENFORCEMENT
Department of Fisheries	0	9	Effective at primary landing sites where fisheries inspectors present. Not assigned specifically to turtles but to all marine resources.
Police Department	0	0	
Defence Force	0	0	

TABLE 20. REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
Indicates all entities with statutory responsibilities (e.g., Fisheries Departments and Ministeries, Police, Coast Guard, etc.)

TABLE 20. REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
(Supplementary page)

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

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)  
The Bahamas is a signatory to CITES. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government is the Management Authority. The Bahamas National Trust is the Scientific Authority.
- Local Legislation  
The Marine Products (Fisheries) Rules (1954)
  - Min. size limit for EI of 17" from neck scales - tail pieces
  - " " " " Cm of 15" " " " "
  - Closed season for Cc 1 April - 30 June inclusive.
  - Protection of turtles on the beach.
  - Protection of turtle eggs.
- Legislation in Draft
  - Min. size limits for Cc and Cm of 30".
  - Complete protection of EI and closed season for other turtles Apr - Jul. inclusive.
  - Prohibit capture of turtles within 500 yds of any beach.
  - Protection of turtle eggs.