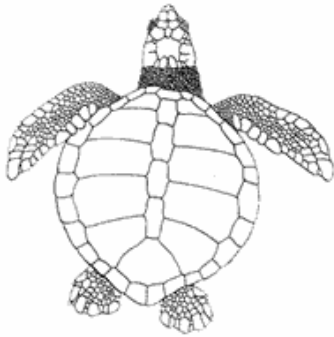
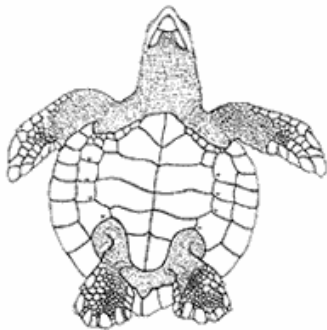


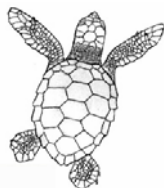
***Lepidochelys kempii*: Kemp's ridley (Eng), Tortuga Lora (Sp), Tortue de Kemp (Fr)**



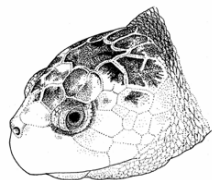
Adult (top)



Adult (bottom)



Hatchling



Head

Physical Characteristics

- Length-adult: Carapace (upper shell) length of 2-2.5 feet (ca. 60-75 cm), smallest sea turtle
- Length-hatchling: Carapace length of 1.6-1.8 in (ca. 40-47 mm)
- Weight: 75-110 lb (ca. 35-50 kg)
- Color-adult: Carapace is grey or black; Plastron (belly) is pale yellow
- Color-hatchling: Uniform in color; grayish black

Gulf of Mexico Reproduction/Nesting

- Peak nesting: April-July (no nesting south of the Gulf of Mexico)
- Number of nests: On average, 2-3 times per season; often a daytime nester
- Average clutch size: 100-105 eggs per nest
- Incubation time: about 45-55 days

Global Status

- Critically Endangered (World Conservation Union: IUCN *Red List*); international trade prohibited by CITES; Protected (Annex II) by the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) to the UNEP *Cartagena Convention*; Protected by the Interamerican Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles.

