

**~ 2009 Annual General Meeting ~
Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
(WIDECAST)**

**Meeting Room: Auditorium
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Basseterre, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Eastern Caribbean
18-20 December 2008**



WIDECAST

Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network



**ROSS
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SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



AGENDA

Thursday, 18 December 2008

SPECIAL SEMINAR - Sea Turtle Medicine

- 13:00 **Welcome** - *Karen Eckert, Ph.D., WIDECAST Executive Director*
- 13:15 **Sea Turtle Health Assessment in St. Kitts** - *Kimberly Stewart, D.V.M., Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine*
- 14:00 **Sea Turtle Rehabilitation** - *Terry Norton, D.V.M., Georgia Sea Turtle Center*
- 14:45 ~ **Coffee Break** ~
- 15:15 **Fibropapillomatosis in Sea Turtles** - *Mike Walsh, D.V.M., University of Florida*
- 16:00 **Sea Turtle Necropsy and Mortality Event Management** - *Terry Norton, D.V.M., Georgia Sea Turtle Center*
- 18:00 ~ **DINNER** ~

Special Dinner Performance: *Saint Christopher Choral Society Christmas Concert*

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**AGENDA
Friday, 19 December 2008**

Session I: Welcome

08:00 ~ **BREAKFAST** ~

09:00 **Welcome** - *Randolph Hamilton, Manager, Product Development & Cruise, St. Kitts
Tourism Authority*

09:15 **Welcome** - *David DeYoung, Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, Ross University*

09:30 **Opening Remarks** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

09:40 **Introductions**

09:50 **Announcements**

- Meeting Secretary
- List of Participants
- Accommodations, transportation, meals

Session II: Executive Director's Report

10:00 **Executive Director's Report** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

Session III: Country Reports

- 10:30 **Anguilla** - Rhon Connor, Anguilla National Trust and James Gumbs, Director, Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources
Antigua - Mykl Clovis, Jepson Prince and Junior Prosper, Environmental Awareness Group

11:00 ~ Coffee Break ~

- 11:30 **Dominica** - Errol Harris and Marcella Harris, Dominica Sea Turtle Conservation Organisation (DomSeTCO)
Dominican Republic - Yolanda León, Universidad INTEC, Dominican Republic
Guadeloupe - Sophie Bedel, Association Kap Natirel/ Réseau Tortues Marines Guadeloupe

12:30 ~ LUNCH ~ [catered to the meeting room]

Special Interactive Presentation: Using OBIS-SEAMAP (Ocean Biogeographic Information System - Spatial Ecological Analysis of Megavertebrate Populations: <http://seamap.env.duke.edu/>), an Interactive Management Tool - Andrew DiMatteo, Associate in Research / SWOT Database Manager, Marine Geospatial Ecology Lab, Duke University

13:30 Open Room - Displays and Sharing

Session IV: Bycatch Assessments and Mitigation Programs

- 14:30 **Bycatch Reduction in the Coastal Gillnet Fishery in Trinidad** - Scott Eckert, Director of Science, WIDECAST
14:50 **Impact of Artisanal Coastal Fisheries on Marine Turtles in the French West Indies** - Laurent Louis-Jean, Observatoire du Milieu Marin Martiniquais

Session V: Outreach and Capacity Building

- 15:10 **Public Awareness and Outreach Programme in Guyana** - Michelle Kalamandeen, Project Coordinator, Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society
15:30 **Public Awareness and Outreach Programme in Guadeloupe** - Sophie Bedel, Association Kap Natirel/ Réseau Tortues Marines Guadeloupe

16:00 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

17:00 **Dutch Caribbean Sea Turtle Training Course** - *Mabel Nava, Manager, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire*

17:20 **Green Stepping Stone: Grant Writing Assistance** - *Dominique Vissenberg, Coordinator, Green Stepping Stone*

Session VI: Achieving Conservation Success - Case Study: Brazil

17:40 **The Role of Science, Conservation and Community Development in the Recovery of Sea Turtles in Brazil** - *Neca Marcovaldi, Presidente, Fundação Pró-TAMAR*

18:10 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**

18:30 ~ **Reception with Live Entertainment** ~

19:30 ~ **DINNER** ~

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Saturday, 20 December 2008

Session VII: Welcome

08:00 ~ **BREAKFAST** ~

08:45 Welcome and Opening Remarks - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

09:00 Introductions and Announcements

Session VIII: Sea Turtle Conservation in St. Kitts and Nevis

09:15 **Sea Turtle Conservation in St. Kitts: History and Future** - *Ralph Wilkins, Fisheries Officer, Department of Fisheries (St. Kitts)*

09:30 **Sea Turtle Program of Ross University** - *Kimberly Stewart, Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine*

09:45 **Man and the Biosphere Project: Protecting Sea Turtle Habitat in St. Kitts** - *Austin Jay Farier, Physical Planner, Department of Physical Planning and the Environment, St. Kitts*

10:00 **Youth and Sea Turtles in St. Kitts** - *Azilla Clarke, President, St. Kitts National Youth Parliament Association (SKNYPA)*

10:15 **Sea Turtle Conservation in Nevis** - *Emile Pemberton, Department of Fisheries (Nevis) and Patrice Pemberton, Nevis Turtle Group*

10:30 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

Session IX: "Big Picture" Conservation

- 11:20 **"Caribbean Challenge"** - *Elianny Dominguez Tejo, Marine Program Manager, Central Caribbean Program, Mesoamerica & Caribbean Region, The Nature Conservancy*
- 11:40 **Estimating Population Size: Lessons Learned from Leatherbacks in Trinidad** - *Scott Eckert, WIDECAST and Dennis Sammy, Nature Seekers*
- 12:00 **WWF Guianas' Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme** - *Marie-Louise Felix, Marine Turtle Coordinator, WWF Guianas Programme (Suriname)*
- 12:15 **Hawksbill Genetic Studies in the Eastern Caribbean** - *Darren Browne, Barbados Sea Turtle Project, University of the West Indies*
- 12:30 ~ LUNCH ~
- 13:30 **Open Room - Displays and Sharing**

Didiher Chacón, Director of WIDECAST's Latin American Program, will be on hand to display and share information about THREAD and WEAVING FOR NATURE, two innovative community handicraft revenue programs in Central America

Session X: Working Groups - 2009-2010 Workplan Priorities

- 14:00 **Introduction and Objectives** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*
- 14:15 - 16:45 **Working Groups** * *see attached list*
- 15:30 ~ Coffee Break ~
- 17:00 **Working Group Conclusions and Recommendations**
- 17:30 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**
- 18:30 ~ DINNER ~ (your choice in town)

Thank You so Much for Joining Us!
Safe Travels, and Happy Holidays!

~ 2009 WORKING GROUPS ~

These are the Working Group topics that have been requested so far. Others may be suggested at the Meeting. Working Groups provide a forum for discussing topics of interest with colleagues and experts. Working Groups often develop recommendations for new programmatic directions that we can focus on as a WIDECAST family. The regional tagging centre in Barbados, the comprehensive nesting atlas, our database management software, attention to bycatch issues, models of eco-tourism and community crafting, and building capacity for responding to sick and injured sea turtles, among many other initiatives, all emerged from recommendations made by Working Groups convened at an annual meeting. Working Groups might also convene simply as an informal venue for discussion on a topic of shared interest.

Working Group I

"Certification" for Turtle-Friendly Tourism Businesses

Chair: Kimberly Stewart, WIDECAST Country Coordinator in St. Kitts

Working Group II

GIS Conservation Tools

Chair: Andrew DiMatteo, Duke University Marine Spatial Ecology Lab

Working Group III

Health, Disease, and Veterinary Care

Chair: Terry Norton, Director of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center

Working Group IV

Monitoring Sea Turtle Populations: Data Collection and Analysis

Chair: Scott Eckert, WIDECAST Director of Science

Working Group V

Trash to Treasure: Community-Based Eco-Crafting

Chair: Didier Chacón, WIDECAST Director of Latin American Programs