

~ 2015 Annual General Meeting ~  
Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network  
(WIDECAST)

Mauna Caribe Hotel Conference Room

<http://www.tropicalinnspr.com/>

Maunabo, Commonwealth of Puerto

"AGM" 5-6 March / "CSI" 7-12 March 2015

## AGENDA

### Wednesday, March 4

8:00 **Reception** - Hotel Conference Room

**Welcome Greeting** - *Hon. Jorge Marquez, Mayor of Maunabo*

**Natural History of Maunabo** - *Luis Crespo, President, Amigos de las Tortugas Marinas de Maunabo (ATMAR)*

### Thursday, March 5

7:30 ~ **BREAKFAST** ~

#### Session I: Opening

8:30 **Registration** - Hotel Conference Room

9:00 **Opening Remarks** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

9:10 **Announcements** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

- List of Participants, Logistics

9:20 **Introductions**

9:30 **Welcome Address** - *Hon. Carmen R. Guerrero Pérez, Secretaria, Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales*

#### Session II: Sea Turtle Research & Conservation in Puerto Rico

10:00 **Community-based Conservation and Management** - *Luis Crespo, President, Amigos de las Tortugas Marinas de Maunabo (ATMAR)*

- 10:15 **Proyecto Tinglar Dorado** - *Albert Rivera, Chelonia Inc.*
- 10:30 **23 Years of In-Water Surveys at Mona Island and other Critical Habitats** - *Carlos Diez, Research Biologist, Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales*
- 10:45 **New Guidelines for the Control and Prevention of Light Pollution and their Role in the Conservation of Sea Turtles in Puerto Rico** - *José A. Alicea Pou and J. D. Gerente, Area Control de Ruidos y Contaminación Lumínica, Junta de Calidad Ambiental de Puerto Rico*
- 11:00 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

### **Session III: Sea Turtle Research & Conservation in the French West Indies**

- 11:30 **Sea Turtle Research and Conservation in Martinique** - *Emilie Dumont-Dayot, Coordinatrice du réseau Tortues marines de Martinique*
- 11:45 **TORSOOI: Photo Identification Surveys** - *Antoine Chabrolle, Coordinateur du Plan de Restauration des Tortues Marines de Guadeloupe, & Emilie Dumont-Dayot, Coordinatrice du réseau Tortues marines de Martinique*
- 12:00 ~ **LUNCH** ~
- 1:00 **Open Room - Displays and Sharing**

### **Session IV: Sea Turtle Research & Conservation in the Eastern Caribbean**

- 1:30 **Use of Remote Sensing to Evaluate Risk in Zones of Seismic Testing** - *Sietske van der Wal, Richard van der Wal, & Eidth van der Wal, Turtugaruba Foundation, Aruba*
- 1:45 **Who's Your Daddy? Using Genetics to Count Male Turtles at Sandy Point National Wildlife Refuge** - *Kelly Stewart, Research Scientist, The Ocean Foundation*
- 2:00 **Research Collaborations in the Turks & Caicos Islands** - *Katharine Hart, Environmental Officer, Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs*
- 2:15 **Sea Turtle Research at the University of the Virgin Islands** - *Paul Jobsis, University of the Virgin Islands*
- 2:45 **Genetic Characterization of Tobago Hawksbills (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and their Regional Connectivity** - *Michelle Cazabon-Mannette, Technical Advisor, Save Our Sea Turtles (SOS)*
- 3:00 ~ **Coffee Break** ~
- 3:30 **Sea Turtles in Anguilla** - *Kafi Gumbs, Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources, & Janeczka Richardson, Anguilla National Trust*
- 3:45 **EcoTour Station: Finally!** - *Kimberly Stewart, Director, St. Kitts Sea Turtle Monitoring Network*

## Session V: Projeto TAMAR's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

- 4:00 **35 Years of Sea Turtle Research and Conservation in Brazil** - *Neca Marcovaldi, Presidente, Fundação Pró-TAMAR*
- 4:30 **Mark and Recapture Studies of Green (*Chelonia mydas*) and Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) Turtles in Fernando de Noronha** - *Armando Jose Barsante S., Regional Coordinator, Fundação Pró-TAMAR*

## Session VI: Sea Turtle Conservation Awareness

- 4:45 **Evolving Roles in Endangered Species Conservation: The Story of Gaia** - *Claire Saladin, IUCN/SSC Wildlife Health Specialist, Saint Martin*
- 5:00 **Designing Nature Conservation Media Outreach Campaigns: How Can I Help You?** - *Marc Pierson, Producer, Interrelated Arts Foundation*
- 5:45 **Open Forum**
- 6:00 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*
- 6:30 ~ DINNER ~
- 8:00 **Areyto, Ballet Folklórico Nacional de Puerto Rico<sup>1</sup>** - Hotel Lobby

## **Friday, March 6**

- 7:30 ~ BREAKFAST ~
- 8:30 **Late Registration** - Hotel Conference Room
- 8:45 **Opening Remarks** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

## Session VII: Regional Initiatives

- 9:00 **State of the World's Sea Turtles, "SWOT"** - *Connie Kot, SWOT Database Manager, Duke University*
- 9:15 **Migration Routes, Population Demographics and Habitat Use of Sea Turtles in the Dutch Caribbean** - *Lisa Becking, Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies, & Marjolijn Christianen, University of Groningen*
- 9:30 **What to do about all that Sargassum?!<sup>2</sup>** - *Emma Doyle, Board of Directors, Ocean Spirits*

<sup>1</sup> For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/AreytoPR> and <http://www.areyto.webs.com/>

<sup>2</sup> At the last Conference of Parties to the SPAW Protocol in Cartagena, Colombia (December 2014), the following recommendation was made concerning Sargassum: "support more research on origins, impacts and ways to control the brown algae, as well as to improve the development of models in response to the increasing incidence of such events which affect the marine environment, biodiversity and health in the Region."

- 9:45 **Wider Caribbean Analysis of Hawksbill Populations** - *Blanca González G., Technical Project Coordinator, Sea Turtle Program - Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatán A.C.*
- 10:00 **Spatial Planning for Seabirds** - *Louise Soanes, University of Liverpool and Anguilla National Trust*

### Session VIII: Field Trip

- 10:30 **Field Trip: Point Tuna Lighthouse**
- Trolley to Point Tuna Lighthouse to enjoy lovely views of beaches and mountains
  - Visit Patillas to learn how an interagency coalition of community, Commonwealth, and US federal managers are addressing conservation issues facing nesting sea turtles in these "neighborhood beaches"

12:30 ~ LUNCH ~

1:30 **Open Room - Displays and Sharing**

### Session IX: Central American & Cuban Research Updates

- 2:00 **Gales Point Wildlife Sanctuary (Video)** - *Kevin Andrewin, Conservation Coordinator, Gales Point, Belize*
- 2:15 **Situational Analysis of Sea Turtle Conservation in Guatemala** - *Colum Muccio, Director, Administrativo y Desarrollo - ARCAS*
- 2:30 **New Hope for Sea Turtles in Honduras** - *Lidia Salinas, Field Coordinator, ProTECTOR*
- 2:45 **Spatial Marine Planning in Costa Rica** - *Didiher Chacón C., Executive Director, Latin American Sea Turtles*

3:00 ~ Coffee Break ~

### Session XI: Working Groups

3:30 **Working Groups**

5:00 **Working Group Reporting**

5:30 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn** - *Karen Eckert*

6:00 **Poster Session: "Sea Turtle Conservation and Management Projects in Puerto Rico"**

7:30 **ATMAR Anniversary Dinner Fiesta: 15 Years of Community Success!** - *ATMAR Research Center (next to the Hotel)*

## WORKING GROUPS<sup>3</sup>

Topic 1: Lighting; Chair: Haynes Cowie-Clarke (Tobago)

Topic 2: Veterinary Issues; Chair: Nancy Mettee, DVM (USA)

Topic 3: Microenterprise Development; Chair: Didiher Chacón (Costa Rica)

Topic 4: Sargassum Accumulations; Chairs: Emma Doyle (USA) and Chavez Edwards (Anguilla)

Topic 5: Media Outreach Development; Chair: Marc Pierson (USA)

Topic 6: Resolutions of the Meeting; Chair: Dr. Karen Eckert (USA)

Topic 7: Climate Change; Chair: Dr. Renata Platenberg (US Virgin Islands)

Topic 8: Regional Hawksbill Genetic Studies; Chair: Blanca Idalia González (Mexico)

Topic 9: "Certifying" Turtle-Friendly Hotels; Chairs: Kimberly Stewart, DVM (St Kitts) and Sara Ramirez (USA)

Topic 10: Standardizing PIT Tag Use/Reporting; Chairs: Dr. Julia Horrocks (Barbados) / Emilie Dumont-Dayot (Martinique)

*Many thanks to our hosts, CHELONIA and ATMAR, and also to the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium for their financial support of the Marine Forensics training workshop "CRCSI" that will follow our annual meeting here in Maunabo!*



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<sup>3</sup> Some of these groups resulted in or recommended Resolutions, letters, or other next steps. Stay tuned!