



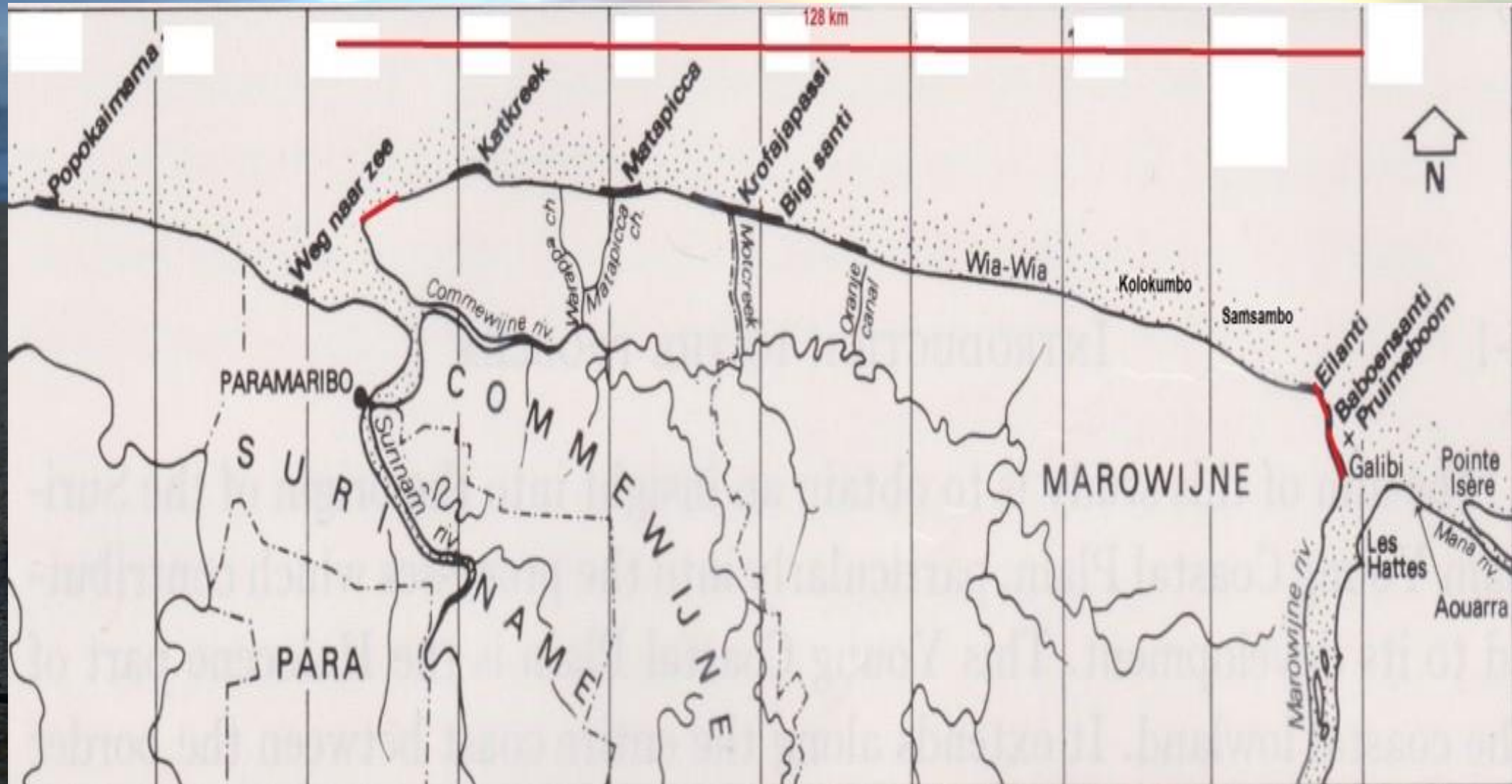
Assessment of Braamspunt as a sea turtle nesting beach

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Introduction









Purpose of study

Suitability of the Braamspunt as nesting beach based on hatching and emergence success as well as the threats for sea turtles on this beach



Beach zone 3

Beach zone 2

Beach zone 1

Collection method



Identification and assessment of threats

- Observations on the beach
- Interviews
- Significance of the threat = severity \times exposure
 - 1= Minor
 - 2= Moderate
 - 3= High
 - **Minor significance**
 - **Moderate significance**
 - **High significance**

Severity \ Exposure	1	2	3
1	1	2	3
2	2	4	6
3	3	6	9

Results nest analyses

- 206 nest studied: 196 Green sea turtle nests and 10 Leatherback nests
- Mean hatching success: $90\% \pm 12\%$
- Mean emergence success: $89 \pm 13\%$

	CM 100% n= 196	CM 4% n= 12	DC n= 10	CM 4% - DC (Mann-Whitney U test)
Hatching success %	91 ± 8	92 ± 6	60 ± 25	p=0.002
Emergence success %	91 ± 10	92 ± 6	59 ± 25	p=0.002
Undeveloped eggs %	3 ± 5	2 ± 2	12 ± 10	p=0.025
Embryonic mortality %	1 ± 1	1 ± 1	3 ± 4	p=0.254
Total predation %	4 ± 4	3 ± 4	15 ± 17	p=0.03
Predation by mole cricket %	2 ± 3	2 ± 2	5 ± 7	p=0.628
Predation by ghost crab %	2 ± 3	1 ± 2	10 ± 12	p=0.001
Rotten eggs %	3 ± 3	2 ± 2	10 ± 11	p=0.014
Distance nest to STL in m	7.47 ± 6.27 m	10.5 ± 4.46 m	-1.4 ± 4.58 m	p=0.000



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Threats

	Threats	Severity	Exposure	Significance
Natural	Beach debris	2	2	Moderate
	Predators (natural)	2	2	Moderate
	Erosion	3	3	High
Anthropogenic	Predators (dogs)	2	1	Minor
	Tourism	2	1	Minor
	Sand mining	3	3	High
	Poachers	2	3	High

A photograph of a beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and reflecting on the water. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. In the foreground, a small sea turtle is visible on the sand, facing away from the camera. The text "Conclusion and recommendations" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Conclusion and recommendations

A photograph of a beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the ocean and sky. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds. The ocean has gentle waves breaking on the shore. In the foreground, the sandy beach is visible, with a small sea turtle resting on it. A blue speech bubble with a white border is centered over the image, containing the text "Thank you".

Thank you