



Annual General Meeting, March 2019

Conservation, research and education programs: 2014-2023 French Guiana National Action Plan



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Rachel Berzins (rachel.berzins@oncfs.gouv.fr)



1. The French Guiana National Action Plan
2. Location, habitats, populations
3. Monitoring & research
4. Conservation
5. Education & communication
6. Conclusions to WIDECAST partners



1. French Guiana National Action Plan

What is a National Action Plan ?

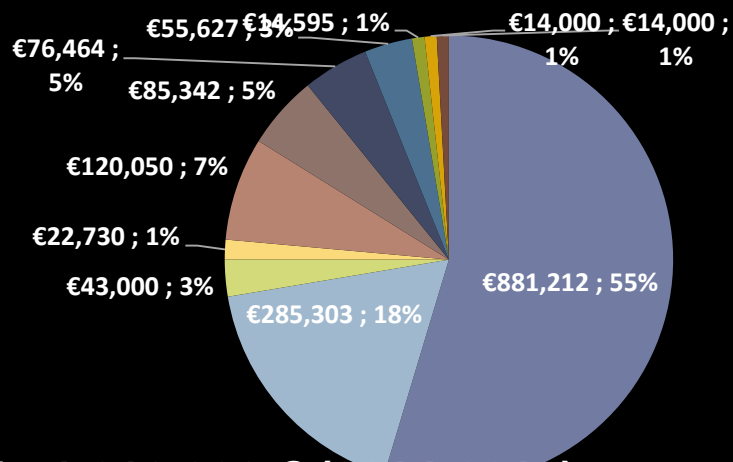


- France response to preserve **CR** and **EN** species on its territory.
- Develop a **realistic** intervention strategy based on the **priorization of identified conservation issues**.
- Strategy gathering all the **stakeholders**.



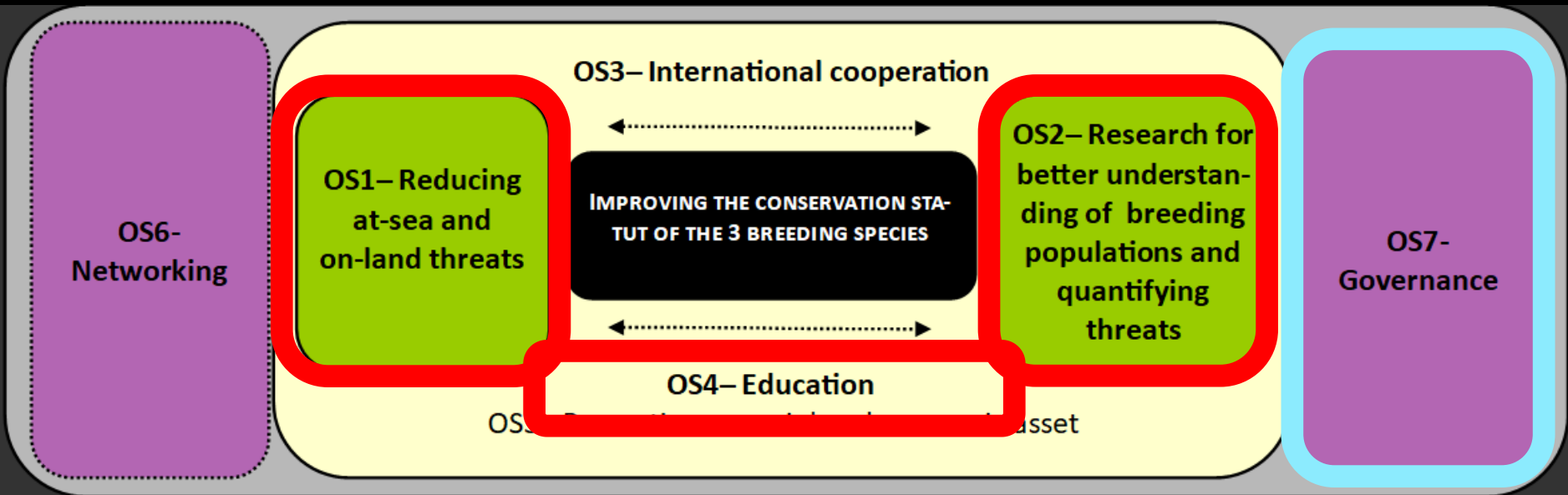
1. French Guiana National Action Plan

1st plan from 2007 to 2012 – 2nd plan from 2014 to 2023



- DEAL Guyane
- Europe (FEDER PProToMaG)
- Europe (FEAMP Palica)
- Europe (BEST-RUP REG)
- ONCFS
- RNN Amana
- CNRS-IPHC
- KWATA
- Ville de Cayenne
- WWF Guyane
- Min Agriculture & Alimentation

Total : 1 612 000 € (2014-2018)



1. French Guiana National Action Plan

- Frequent **working groups** on specific topics (monitoring, bycatch, education...)
- **Annual plenary meetings**
- **Indicators** yearly filled by the stakeholders to measure the progress.

OS 4	S'approprier les enjeux de protection des tortues marines	Cible	Priorité	Résultats attendus à la fin de la planification	Intitulé de l'indicateur (NB: indicateurs corrigés en 2016)	Valeur de l'indicateur pour la période (année 2015)	% d'atteinte de l'indicateur vis-à-vis des résultats attendus à la fin de la planification	
								Public jeune (collège et hors scolaire)
Favoriser les comportements respectueux via la pédagogie de projets	Monter, valoriser et mettre en œuvre des programmes d'Animation auprès du jeune	X		2	1) Meilleure connaissance de la biologie des tortues marines 2) Meilleure appropriation des enjeux de conservation des tortues marines	1) Nombre d'animations créées (différenciation Est / Ouest) 1) Kwata : Est = 2 RNA : Ouest = NE	100	
	Elaborer des outils pédagogiques adaptés	X	X	3	Amélioration de la qualité des supports d'information et de communication s'inscrivant dans une véritable réflexion pédagogique Meilleure appropriation des enjeux par la population qui concourt à l'amélioration des comportements, et une plus grande portée des messages de sensibilisation	1) Harmonisation des supports pédagogiques (d'animation ou de communication) au niveau du territoire (différenciation Est / Ouest) 2) Nombre de supports de communication élaborés via un projet pédagogique (différenciation Est / Ouest) 1) Nombre de réseaux citoyens créés 2) Nombre de personnes impliquées dans chaque réseau 3) Nombre de projets mis en place dans chaque réseau	1) Kwata : Est = NE RNA : Ouest = NE 2) Kwata : Est = NE RNA : Ouest = NE 1) NE 2) NE 3) NE	
	Impliquer la population			3				
	Promouvoir les connaissances	Valoriser les actions du PNA via des actions de communication		X	2	1) Bonne connaissance des actions du PNA au sein de la population 2) Meilleure appropriation des enjeux de conservation	1) Nombre/ Pourcentage de personnes sensibilisés par les spots tv et radio 5) Site internet : nombre de sessions, d'utilisateurs (et % de nouveaux), de pages vues et pages/session 6) Réseaux sociaux : nombre d'abonnés(% de la population guyanaise) / nb de publications	1) ONCES : NE / NE 5) ONCES : 7471 sessions dont 89% nouveaux visiteurs, 6618 utilisateurs, 11 253 pages vues, 1,51 pages par session, 1min04 par session. 6) ONCES : 1920 abonnés (env <1 % de la population Guyanaise) / 76 publications.
		Assurer une présence en période de ponte sur les plages		X	1	Amélioration des comportements d'observation	1) Nb d'heures de patrouilles de sensibilisation (Nb d'h de patrouille bénévole à l'Est, nb d'h de patrouille saisonnière à l'Est, nb d'h de patrouille saisonnière à l'Ouest) 4) Nb d'interventions de communication en radio, en TV et presse écrite	1) Kwata : Est = 2 057 h de patrouille (1541h bénévolat + 516h agents saisonniers). Ouest = 448 h de présence sur plage. RNA : Ouest = 59 patrouilles. 4) Kwata : 5 communications TV, 7 communications radios, 9 sites internet, 3 commun de presse écrite. RNA : NE
	Former et Echanger	Développer et mettre en œuvre des programmes et des actions de formation		X	X	3	1) Meilleure connaissance et prise en compte des enjeux de conservation des tortues marines auprès des socio-professionnels et des élus 2) Valoriser et professionnaliser les agents d'animation par des formations reconnues	1) Nombre d'interventions menées auprès des socio-professionnels 2) Nombre de formations proposées et nombre de participants 3) Nombre d'interventions auprès des élus
Faciliter les échanges de savoirs et de pratiques entre les acteurs		X	X	4	1) Tisser des ponts entre les savoirs scientifiques et populaires ou traditionnels 2) Développer la compétence et le savoir par l'échange	1) Nombre de situations d'échanges mises en place 2) Nombre de rencontres entre les animateurs de l'Est et de l'Ouest	1) Kwata : 1 RNA : NE 2) Kwata : 2 RNA : NE	

2. Location, habitats, populations

Leatherback

Dermochelys coriacea

IUCN : World (2013) Fr. Guiana (2017)



West

East



Green

Chelonia mydas

IUCN : World (2004) FG (2017)



Olive ridley

Lepidochelys olivacea

IUCN : World (2008) Fr. Guiana (2017)



Nesting



Juvenile development for a few

2. Location, habitats, populations

Sea turtles Nesting beaches in French Guiana



Main nesting species (>10 nests/y):
 - Leatherback - Green



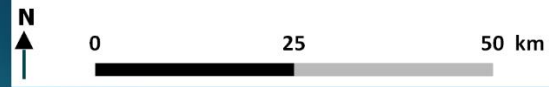
Monitoring structures :



Legend

Nesting beaches

- Main
- Secondary
- Difficult access



Main nesting species :
 - Leatherback - Green - Olive ridley



Monitoring structure (Kourou) :



Main nesting species (>50 nests/y) :
 - Leatherback - Olive ridley



Monitoring structure :

2. Location, habitats, populations

Sea turtles Nesting beaches in French Guiana



Legend

Nesting beaches

Main

Secondary

Difficult access



N



Monitoring started in the 70s

From 70's to 80's:

- Schulz, Pritchard, Fretey
- MNHN
- Greenpeace
- WWF Guianas



From 1998 to now

- KWATA
- Nest counting
- PIT tagging

90's: Campagne Kawana



Yalimapo and previous remote beaches.

Beginning of tagging:

- Late 80s: *Dc* flipper tagging
- Late 90s: *Dc* PIT tagging

1998: Amana Natural Reserve created



Nest counting & PIT tagging from 98 to 05.

2006: CNRS-IPHC



PIT-tagging since 2006 for *Dc* & 2012 for *Cm*

Between 1997 & 2009

KULALASI & SEPANGUY

Nest counting
PIT tagging

On remote beaches in the West and Center.



Main nesting species (>50 nests/y):

- Leatherback
- Olive ridley



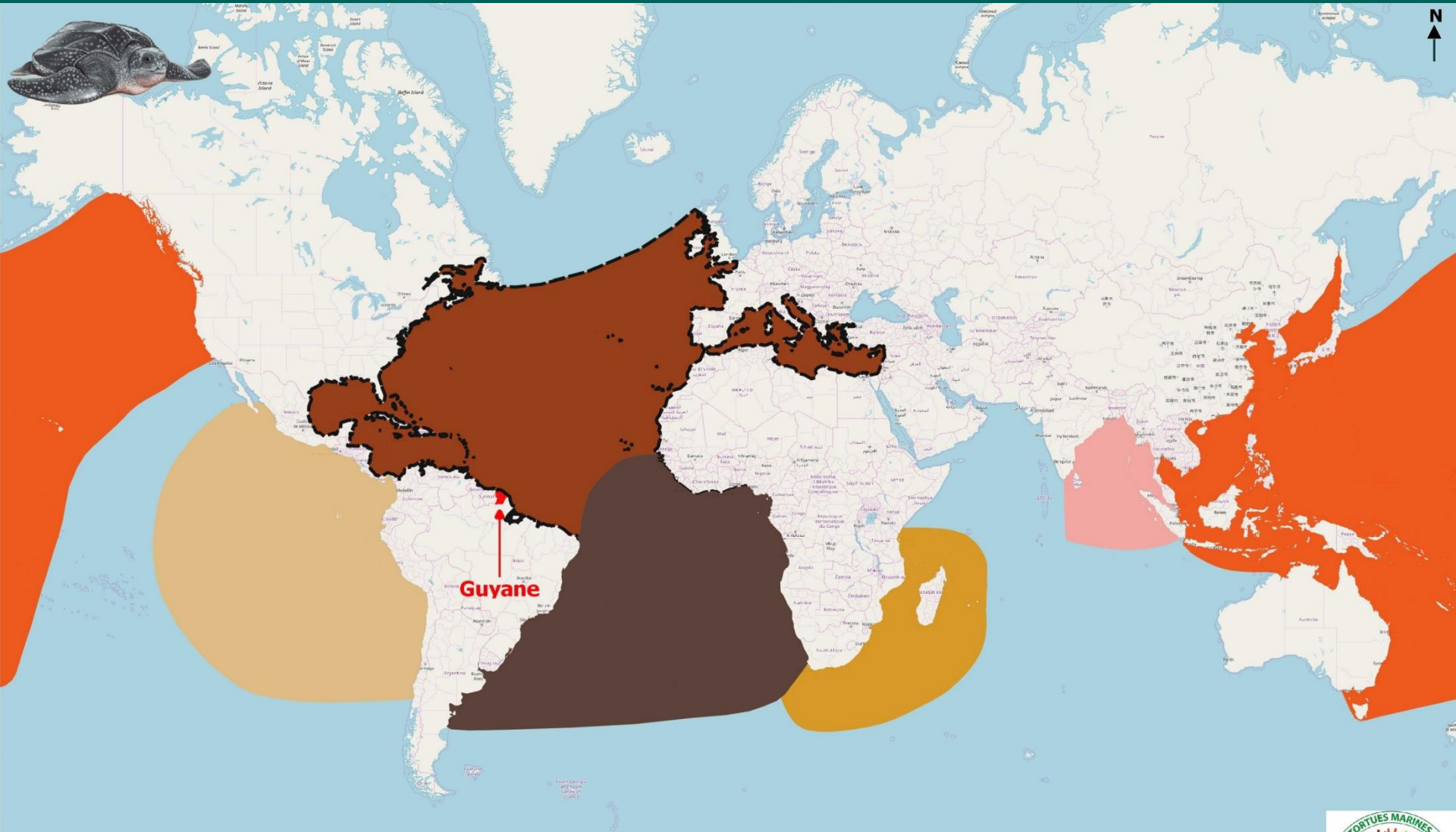
Monitoring structure:



Figure 4. GUYANE

2. Location, habitats, populations

Dermochelys coriacea regional management units



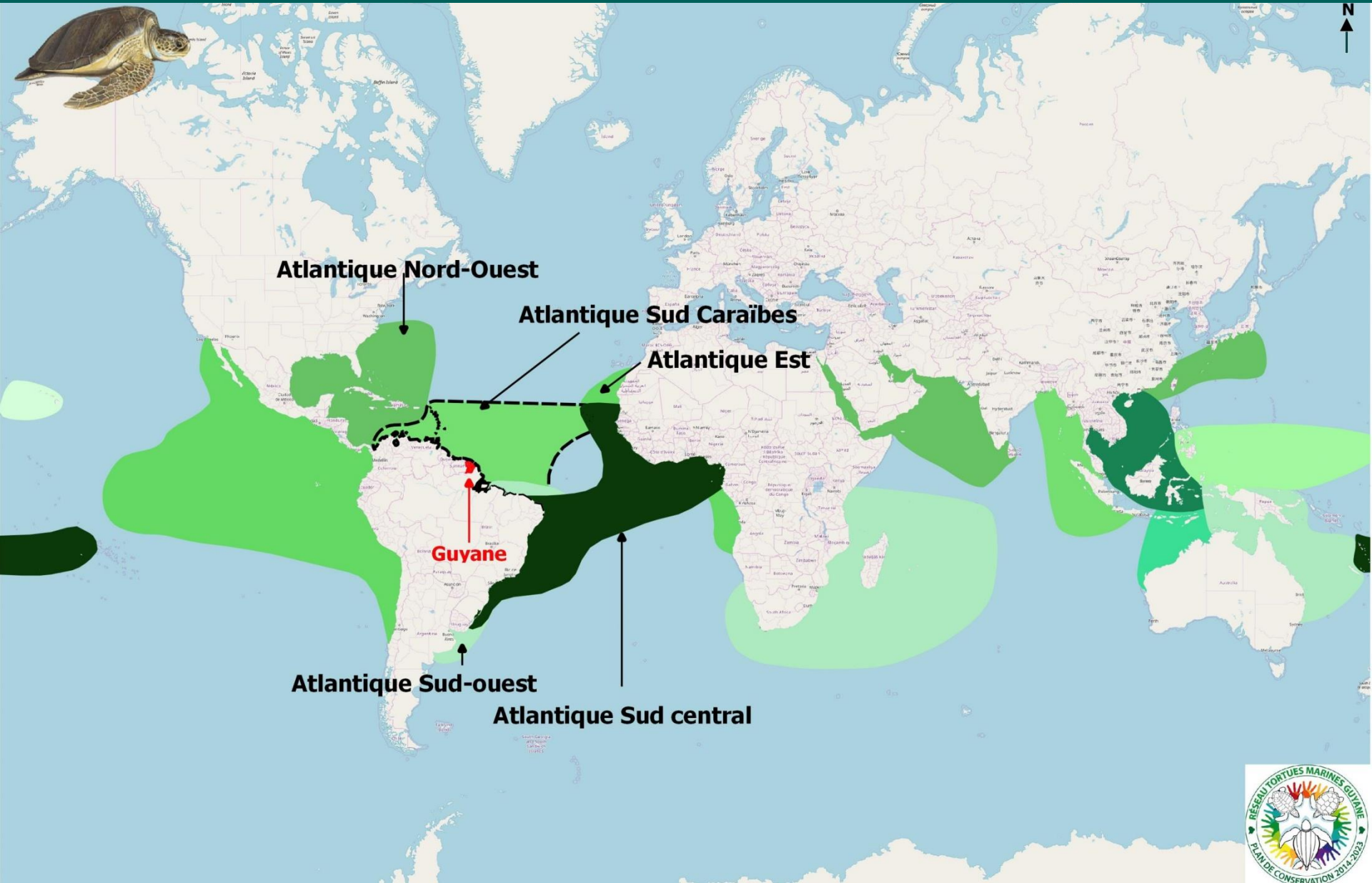
Unités régionales de gestion de la Tortue luth

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Atlantique Nord-Ouest | Indien Nord-Est | Pacifique Est |
| Atlantique Sud-Est et Sud-Ouest | Indien Sud-ouest | Pacifique Ouest |



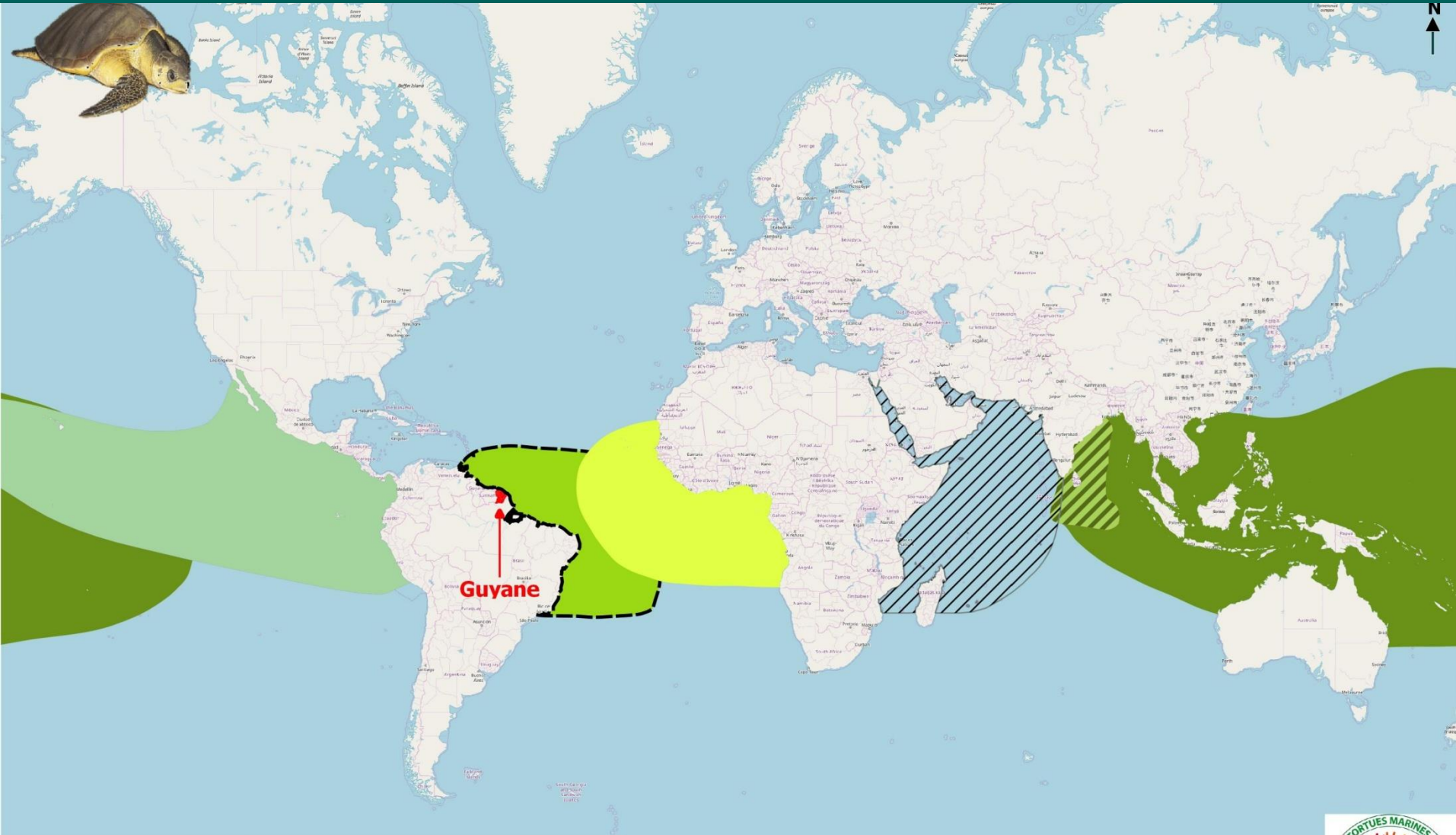
2. Location, habitats, populations

Chelonia mydas regional management units

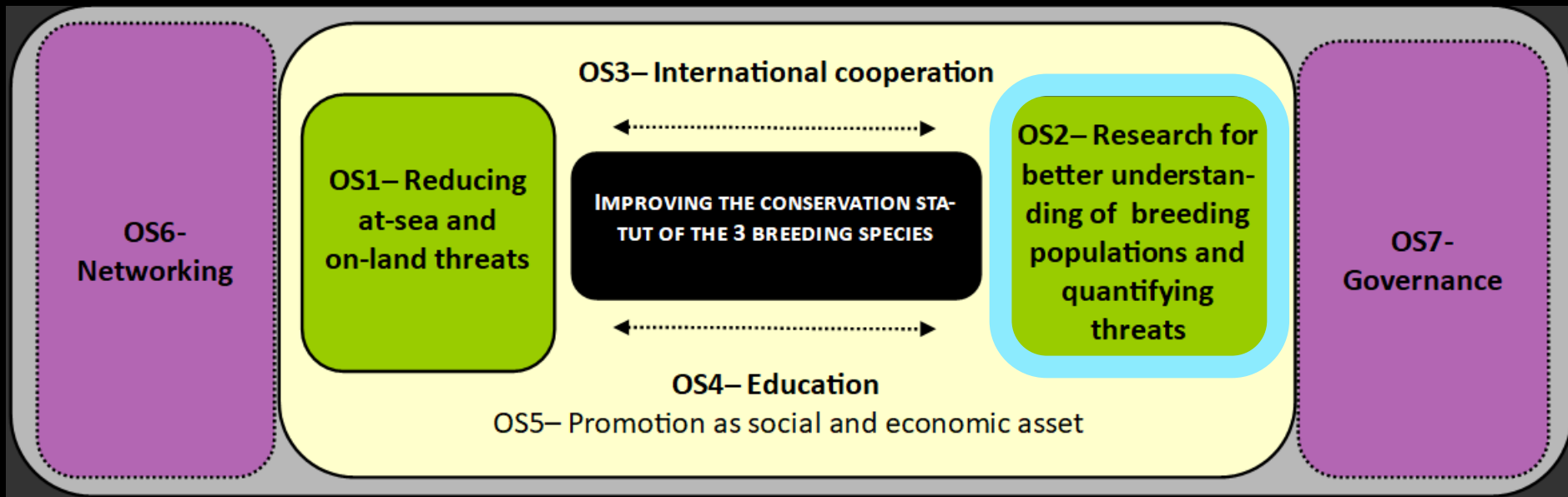


2. Location, habitats, populations

Lepidochelys olivacea regional management units



1. French Guiana National Action Plan



18 actions under this goal: *focus on 3 of them*

Priority #1. Monitoring the populations demography:

Nest counting each year

Nesting females individual tagging each year

Priority #1. Identifying and quantifying the threats to the populations:

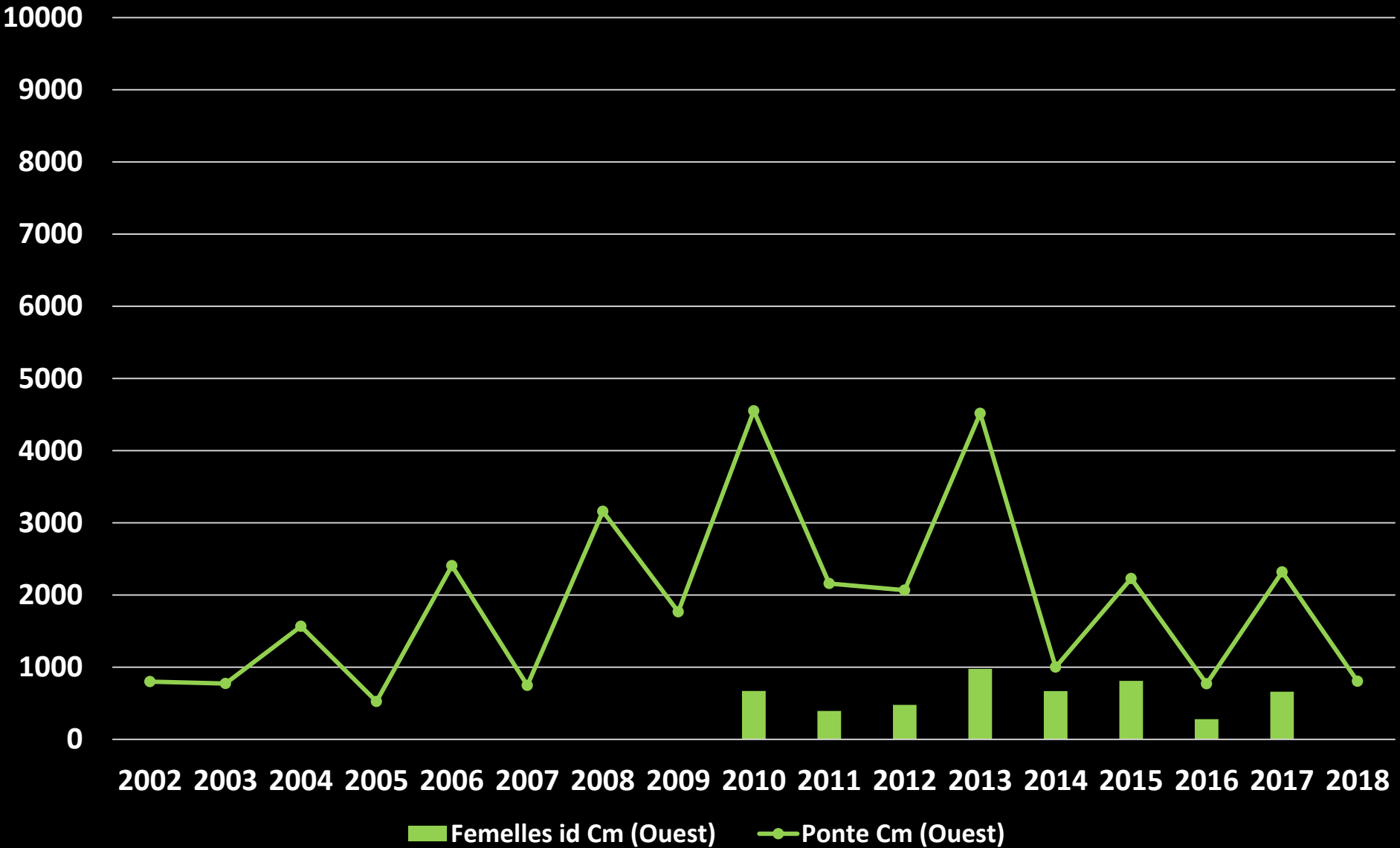
Localizing the routes of the ♀ adults during the nesting season.

Interaction between adults and illegal fishing.

_____ legal fishing.

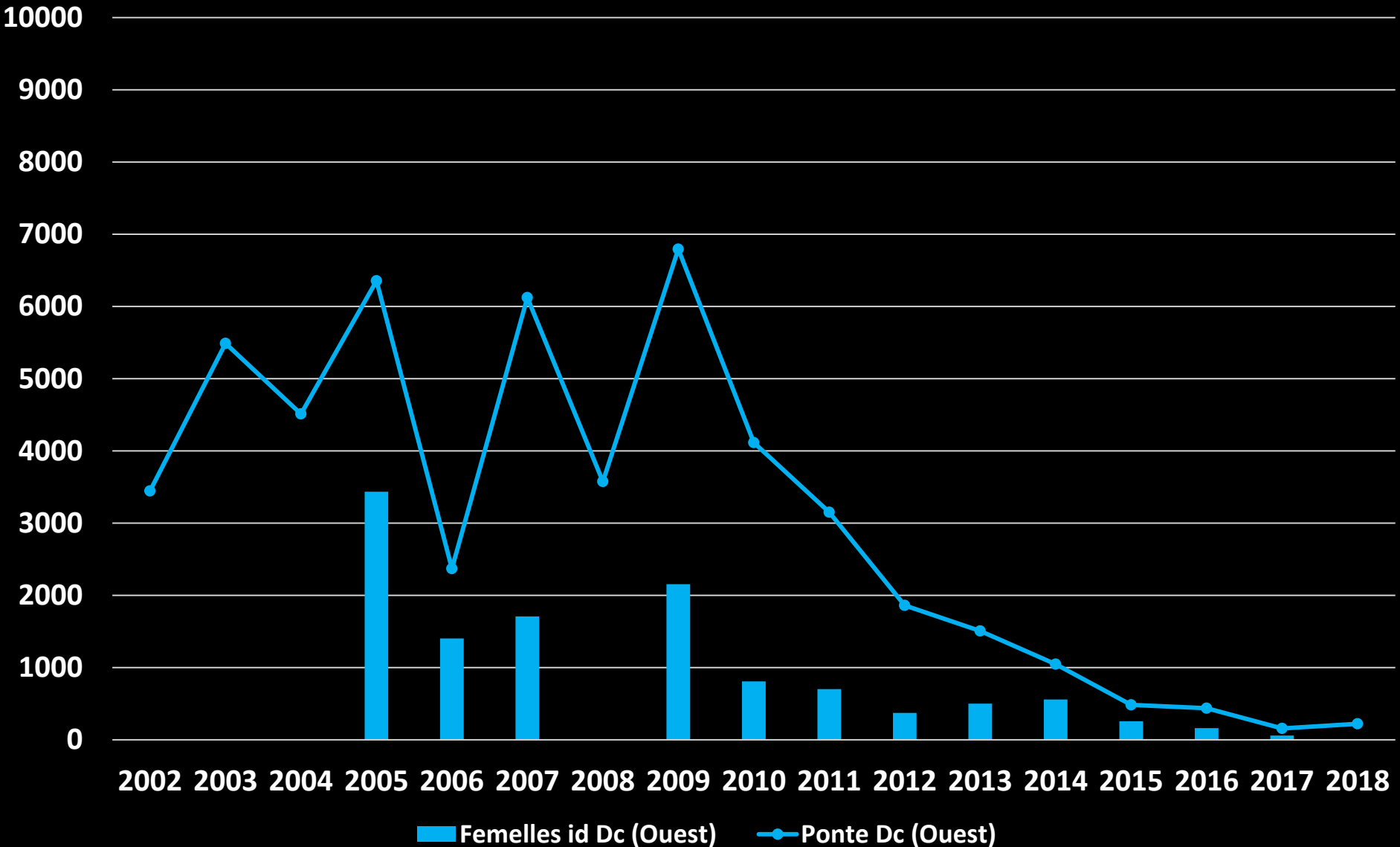
3. Monitoring and research

Nesting activity from 2002 to 2018 in **western FG** : nest counts (line) and number of nesting females (bars) for the **Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)**



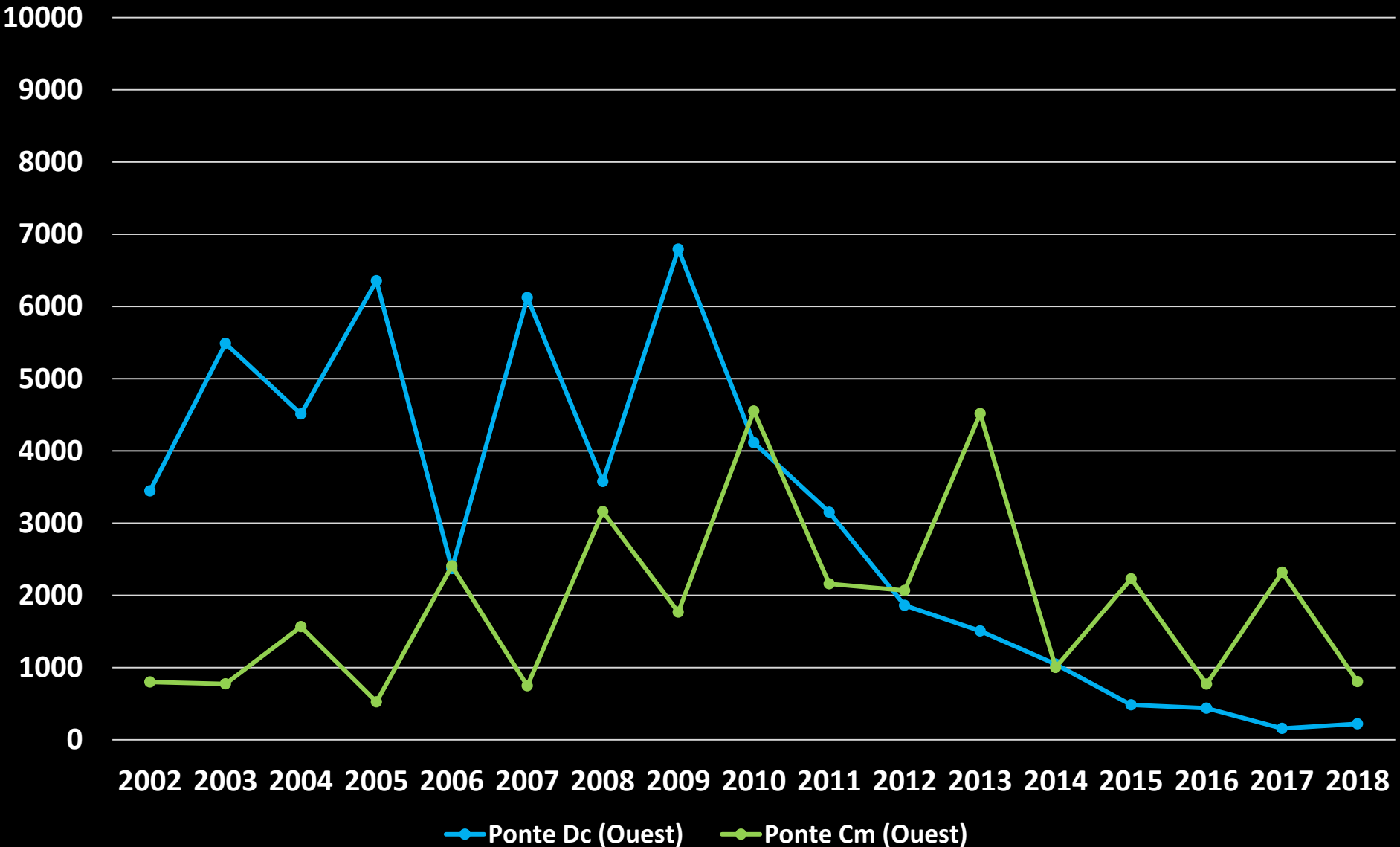
3. Monitoring and research

Nesting activity from 2002 to 2018 in **western FG**: nest counts (line) & number of nesting females (bars) for the **Leatherback** (*Dermochelys coriacea*)



3. Monitoring and research

Nesting activity from 2002 to 2018 in **western FG**: nest counts (line) for the **Leatherback** and the **Green**



3. Monitoring and research



→ Transborder nesting females monitoring project submitted to AFB for 2019 – 2020.

3. Monitoring and research



Nesting activity from 2002 to 2018 in **eastern** and **western FG**: nest counts for the **Leatherback**



3. Monitoring and research

Northwest Atlantic Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) Status Assessment

Prepared by the Northwest Atlantic
Leatherback Working Group

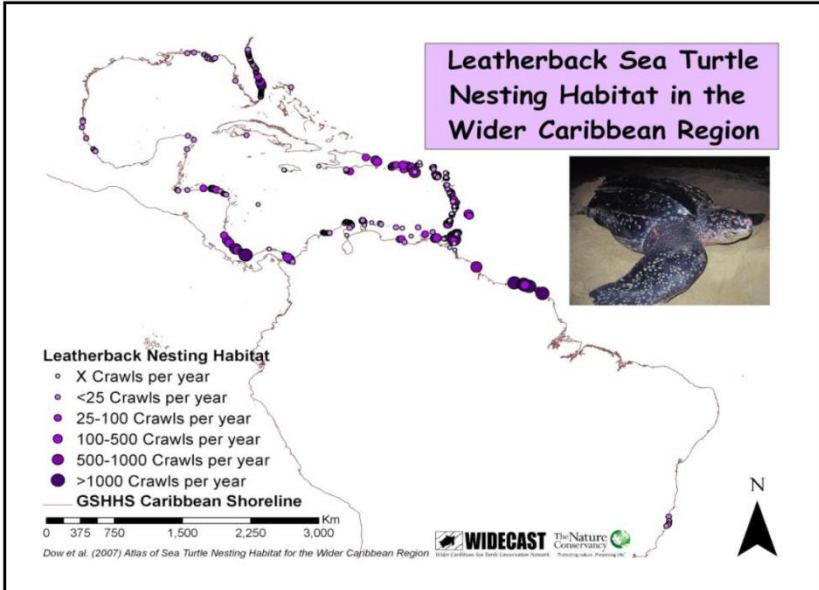
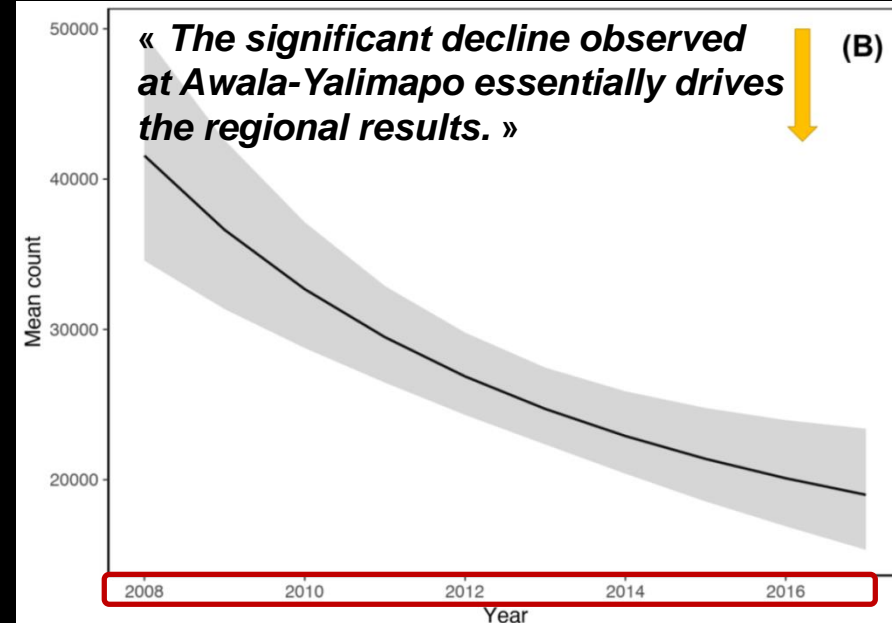
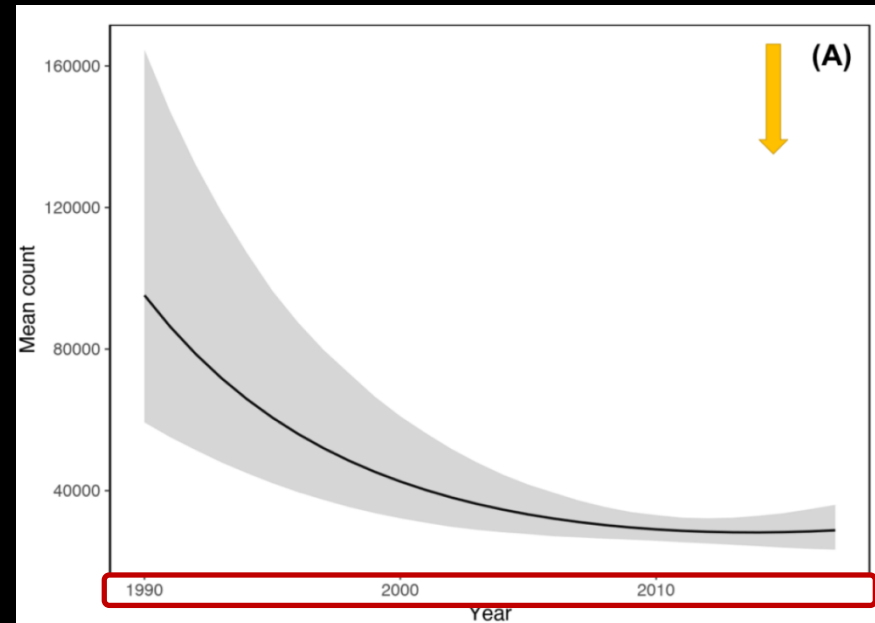
Bryan Wallace and Karen Eckert
(Compilers and Editors)



Generously supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, with additional funding provided by SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment Inc.



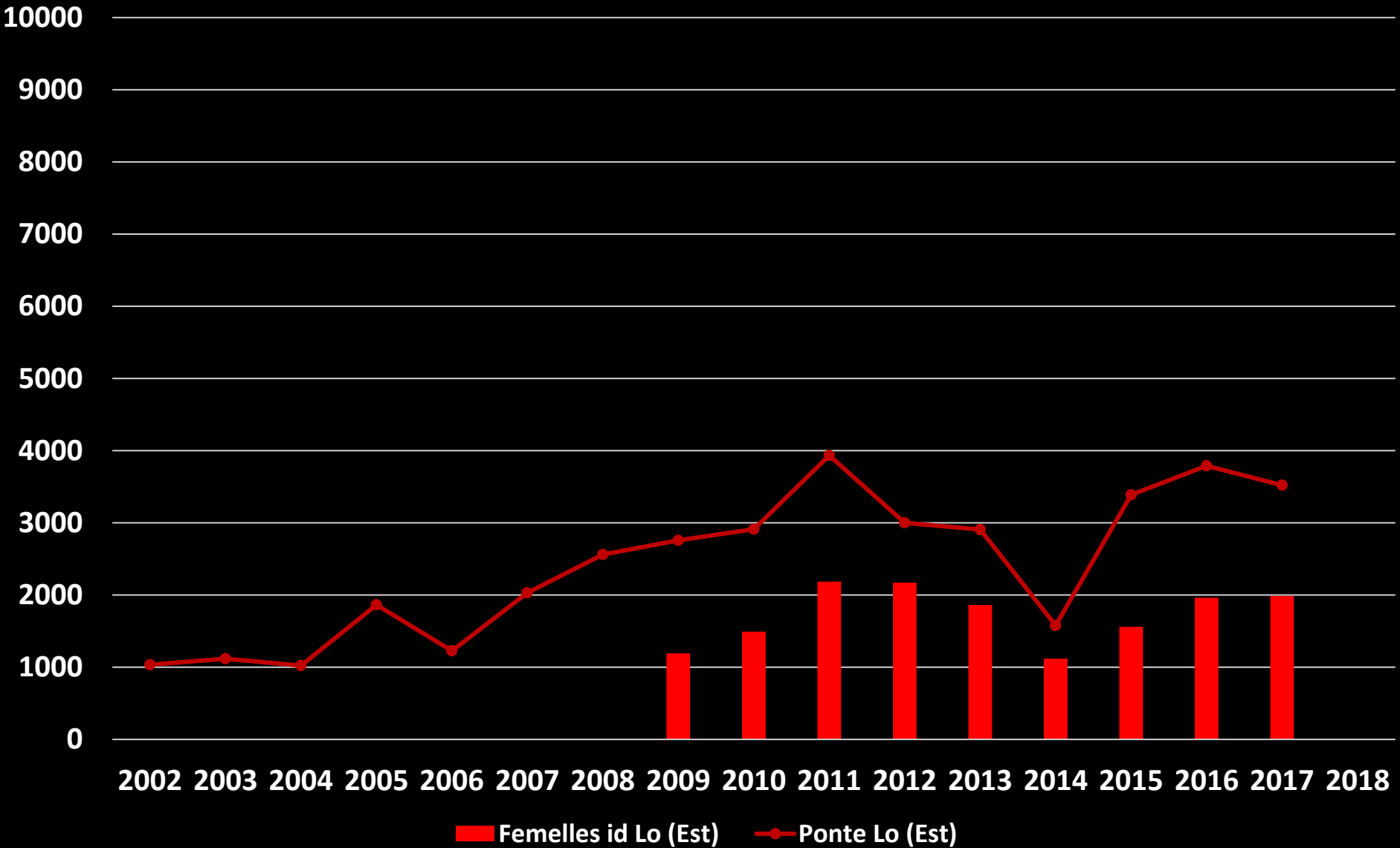
2018



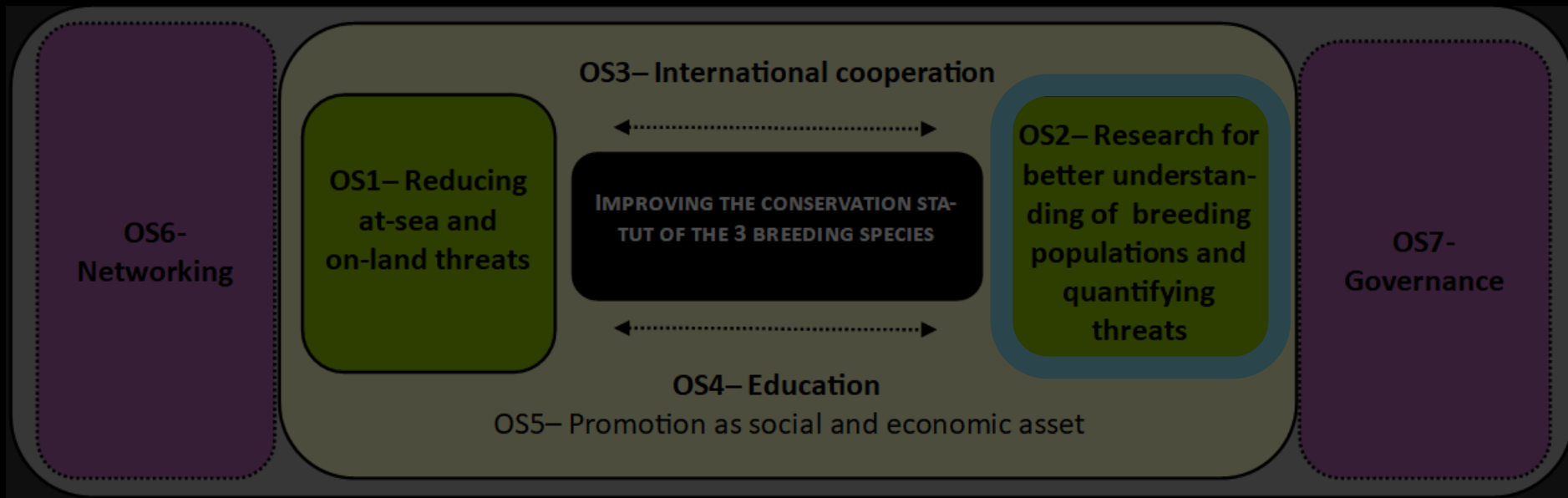
Distribution of nesting sites for NWA leatherback turtles. Source: Dow et al. 2007.

3. Monitoring and research

Nesting activity from 2002 to 2018 in eastern FG : nest counts (line) and number of nesting females (bars) for the Olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*)



1. French Guiana National Action Plan



18 actions under this goal: *focus on 3 of them*

Priority #1. Monitoring the populations demography:

Nest counting each year

Nesting females individual tagging each year

Priority #1. Identifying and quantifying the threats to the populations:

Localizing the routes of the ♀ adults during the nesting season.

Interaction between adults and illegal fishing.

_____ legal fishing.

3. Monitoring and research

Leatherback (*Dc*)



Ongoing
(Cf. Damien Chevallier's presentations)

Green (*Cm*)



Vol. 55: 235–248, 2016
doi: 10.3354/meps11813

MARINE ECOLOGY PROGRESS SERIES
Mar Ecol Prog Ser

Published August 18

Inter-nesting behavioural adjustments of green turtles to an estuarine habitat in French Guiana

Philippe Chambault^{1,2,*}, Benoît de Thoisy³, Laurent Kelle⁴, Rachel Berzins⁵, Marc Bonola^{1,2}, Héléne Delvaux⁶, Yvon Le Maho^{1,2}, Damien Chevallier^{1,2}

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²CNRS, UMR 7178, 23 rue Bequerel, 67087 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
³Association Kwala, 16 avenue Pasteur, BP 672, 97335 Cayenne cedex, France
⁴WWF Guyane, N°5 Lotissement Kaloury, 97300 Cayenne, France
⁵Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage-Cellule technique Guyane, Campus agronomique, BP 316, 97379 Kourou cedex, France
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2012

Olive ridley (*Lo*)



Journal of Marine Systems 105 (2013) 115–123

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Marine Systems

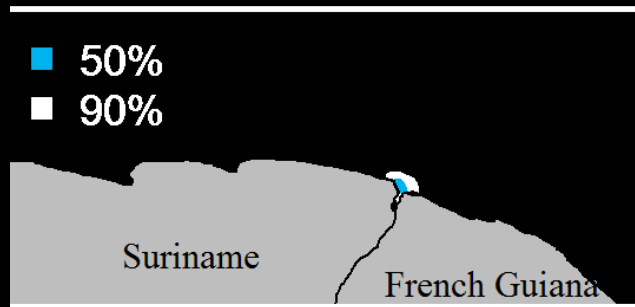
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jmsys

Habitat use and diving behaviour of gravid olive ridley sea turtles under riverine conditions in French Guiana

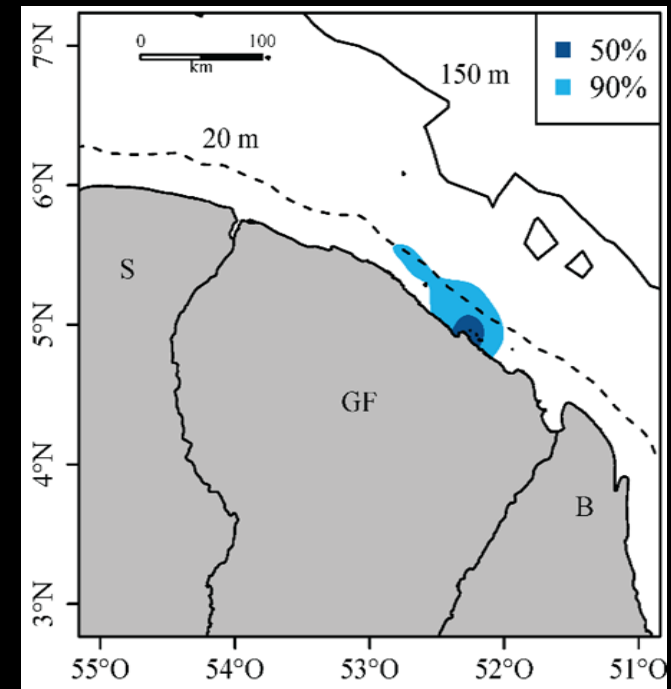
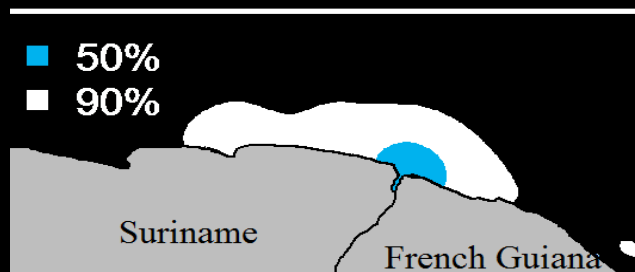
Philippe Chambault^{a,b,*}, Lucie Giraudou^{a,b}, Benoît de Thoisy^c, Marc Bonola^{a,b}, Laurent Kelle^d, Virginie Dos Reis^e, Fabian Blanchard^e, Yvon Le Maho^{a,b}, Damien Chevallier^{a,b}

^a Université de Strasbourg, Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien, 23 rue Bequerel, F-67087 Strasbourg Cedex 2, France
^b CNRS, UMR 7178, 23 rue Bequerel, F-67087 Strasbourg Cedex 2, France
^c Association Kwala, 16 avenue Pasteur, BP672, F-97335 Cayenne Cedex, France
^d WWF Guyane, N°5 Lotissement Kaloury, F-97300 Cayenne, France
^e UMIR I-DESA, Université de Guyane, CNRS, IRSEM, DMG (Département de Guyane, Centre de Statist), BP 47, F-97331 Cayenne, France

2013-2014

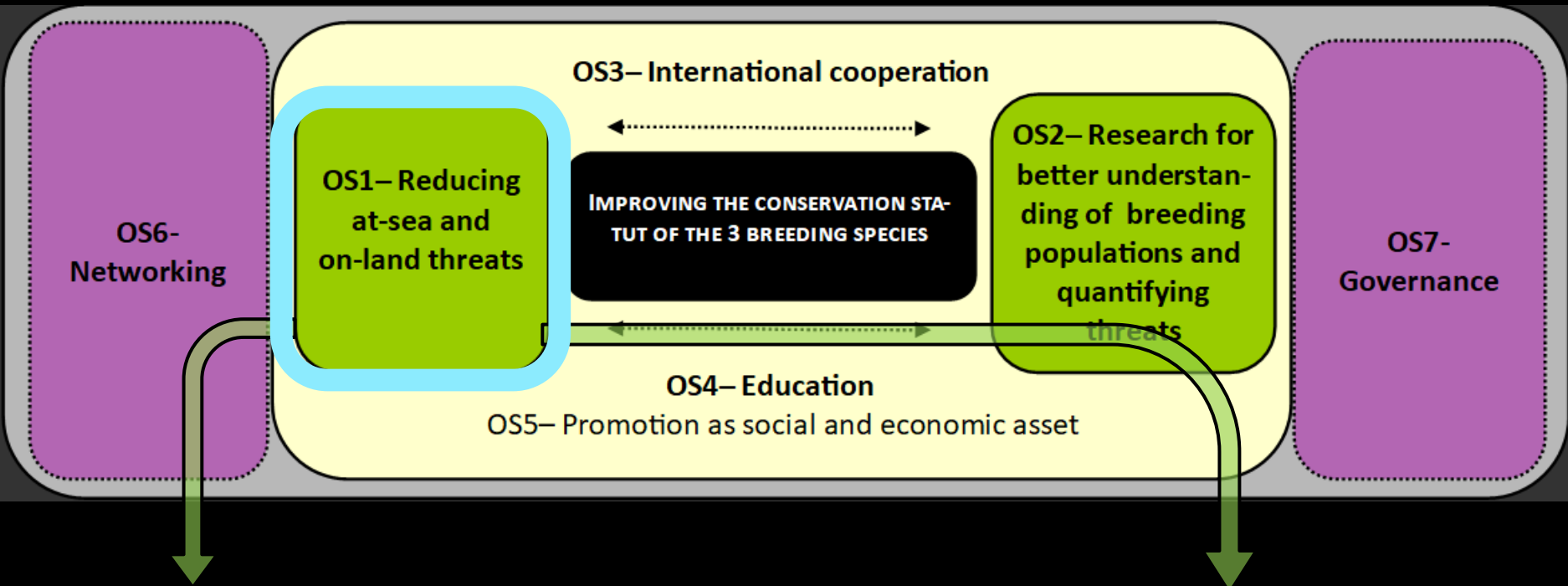


2014



4. Conservation

Goal #1 of the National Action Plan



Reducing at-sea threats:

Bycatch

- Illegal fishing using gillnets
- Legal fishing using gillnets
- Trawl fishing: TTED implementation
- Recreational fishing using coastal gillnets
- Longline fishing

Offshore mining

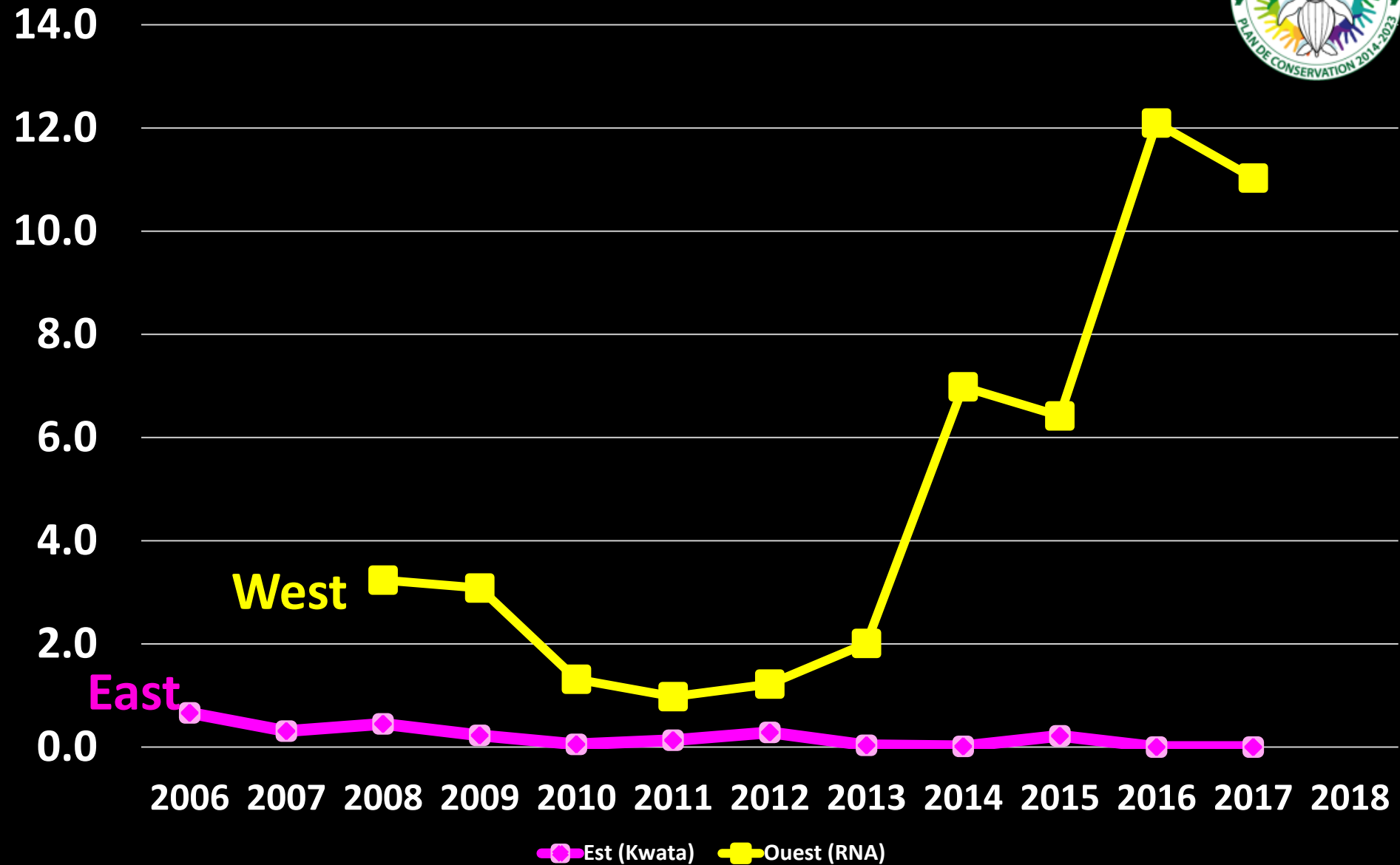
Reducing on-land threats:

Poaching

- Dog predation on nests & ♀
- Light pollution
- Turtle watching disturbances
- Land planning on nesting sites

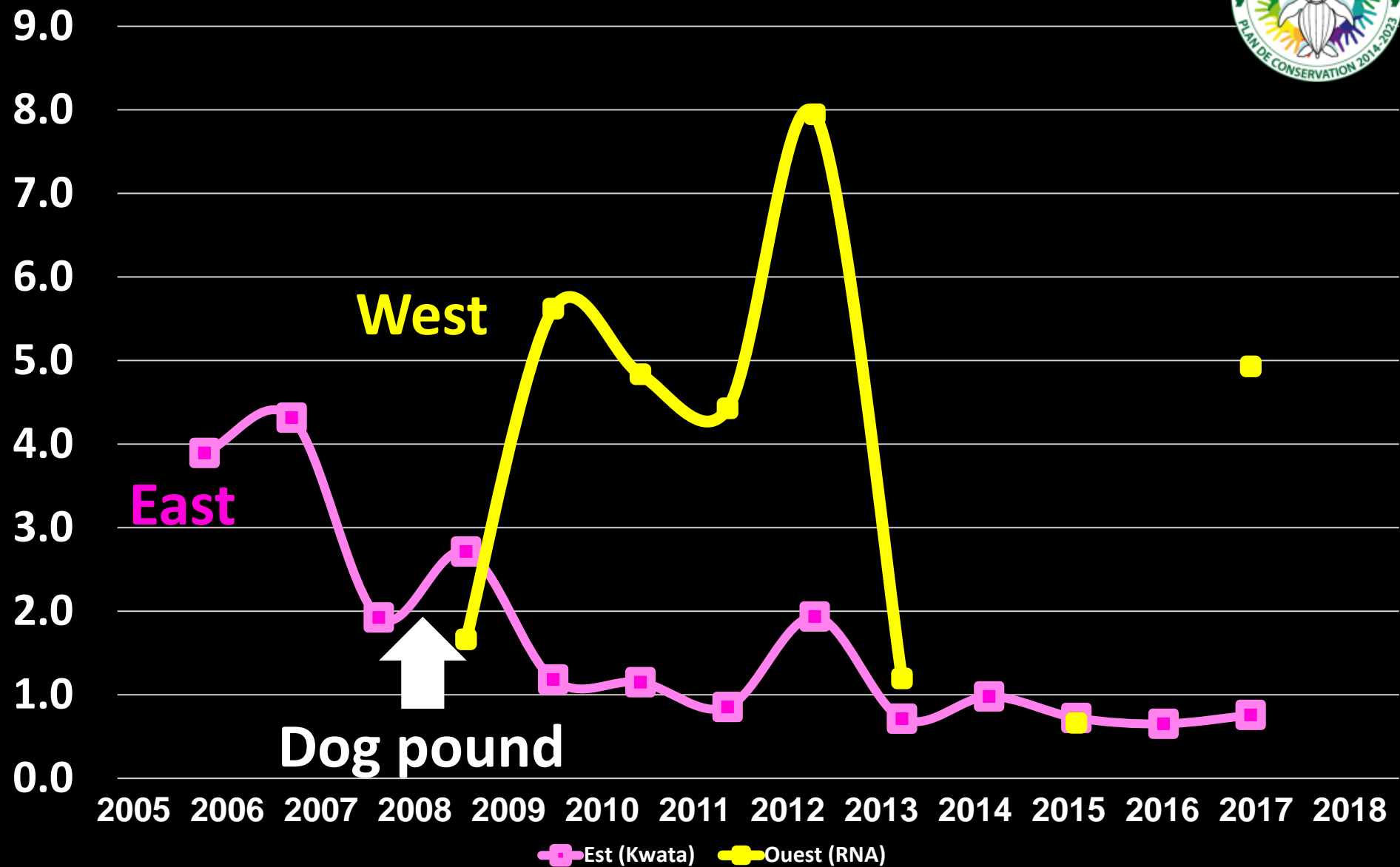
4. Conservation

Poaching: % of poached nests

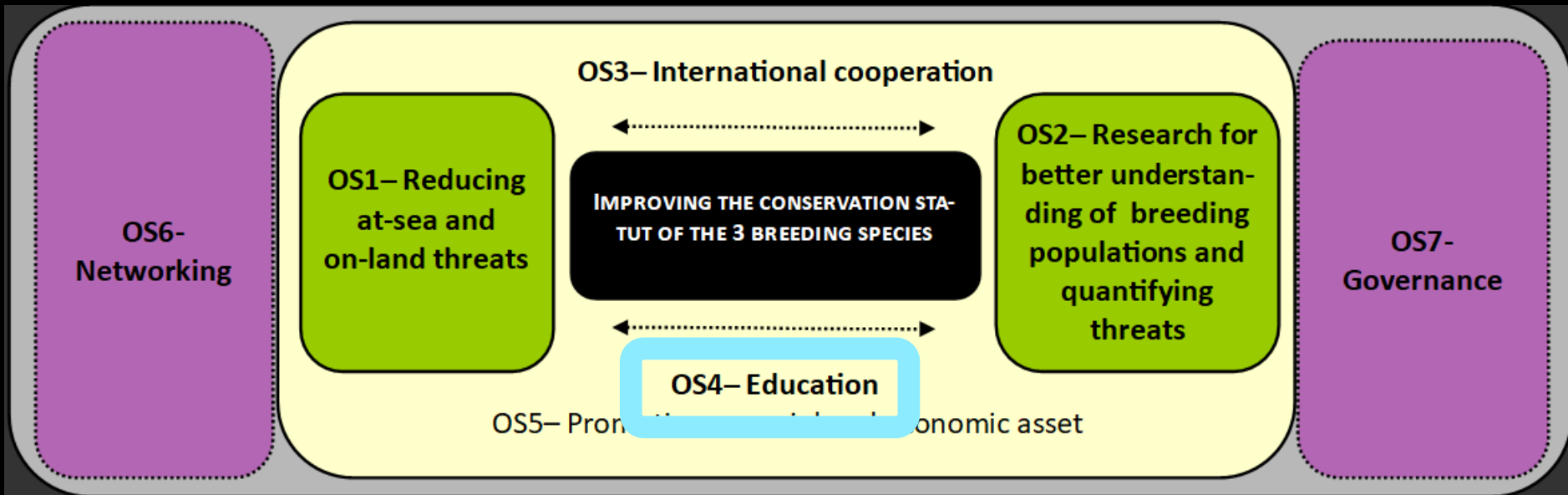


4. Conservation

Dog predation on nests: % of destroyed nests



5. Education and communication



School education programs: > 2,500 pupils through 130 classes (2013-18)



Education project « turtles on scene » involving 3 primary schools. Photo : ©Kwata



Beach trash cleaning day on the Yalimapo beach. Photo : ©RNA

5. Education and communication

Citizens education programs: > 53 000 people from 2009 to 2018

Turtle watching opportunity

Patrols to educate people

Free guided tours



Communication

Radio spot

Events : turtle day

Media communication : fb, website



6. Conclusion to WIDECAST partners



1. Monitoring and research:

Based on the success of the *NW Atlantic Leatherback working group* using nest counts to get population trends, we would like to extend data analysis to CMR datasets to get demographic parameters.

French Guiana has 33 years of CMR data (1986-2013) for **Leatherback**.

Chevallier D., Lebreton JD. Et al. in prep. → analysis from 1986 to 2013 (28 years).

Suriname has at least 6 years of CMR data (1999-2005) for **Leatherback**

Hilterman M. & Goverse E., 2007

Others data available ?

Conduct similar work on **Green** (FG : 9 years of PIT tagging from 2010 to 2018) and **Olive ridley** (FG: 10 years of PIT tagging from 2009 to 2018) ?

Complementary outcome: guidelines for future tagging programs at population levels : where do we need info ? How (PIT vs flipper) ? For how long ?

→ shared vision at a regional scale.

6. Conclusion to WIDECAST partners



2. Conservation (reducing threats):

- Identifying and addressing leatherback bycatch priorities in Trinidad and the Guianas

- started with the **bycatch prioritization workshop** on 17 and 18th, March 2019
- Let's keep going to next steps (multi-stakeholders national workshops, Investigate patterns in life history and demographic parameters to put bycatch information in a population-level context.

- Share and maybe extend the French Guiana PALICA program to reduce gillnet bycatch to other countries :

- see the presentation this afternoon.

- IUU fishing bycatch issue:

- started with the **Guianas regional IUU fishing workshop** on 27 and 28th, November 2018
- Organize a new workshop in 2019 including Brazil and ask for the Marine Affairs transborder meeting reports.



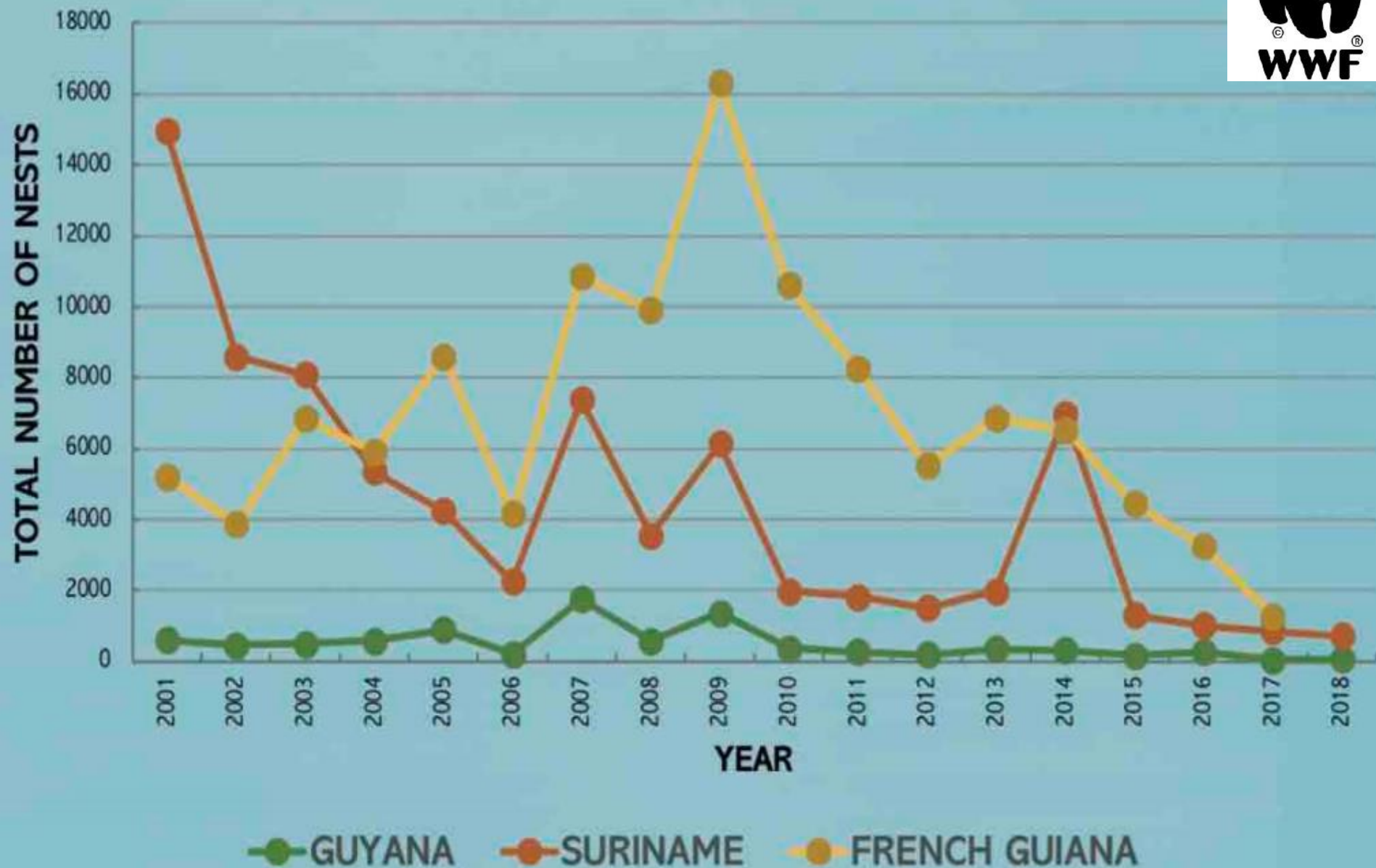
Thank you !

2nd Marine Turtles National Action Plan (2014-2023)

1st Marine Turtles National Restoration Plan (2007-2012)

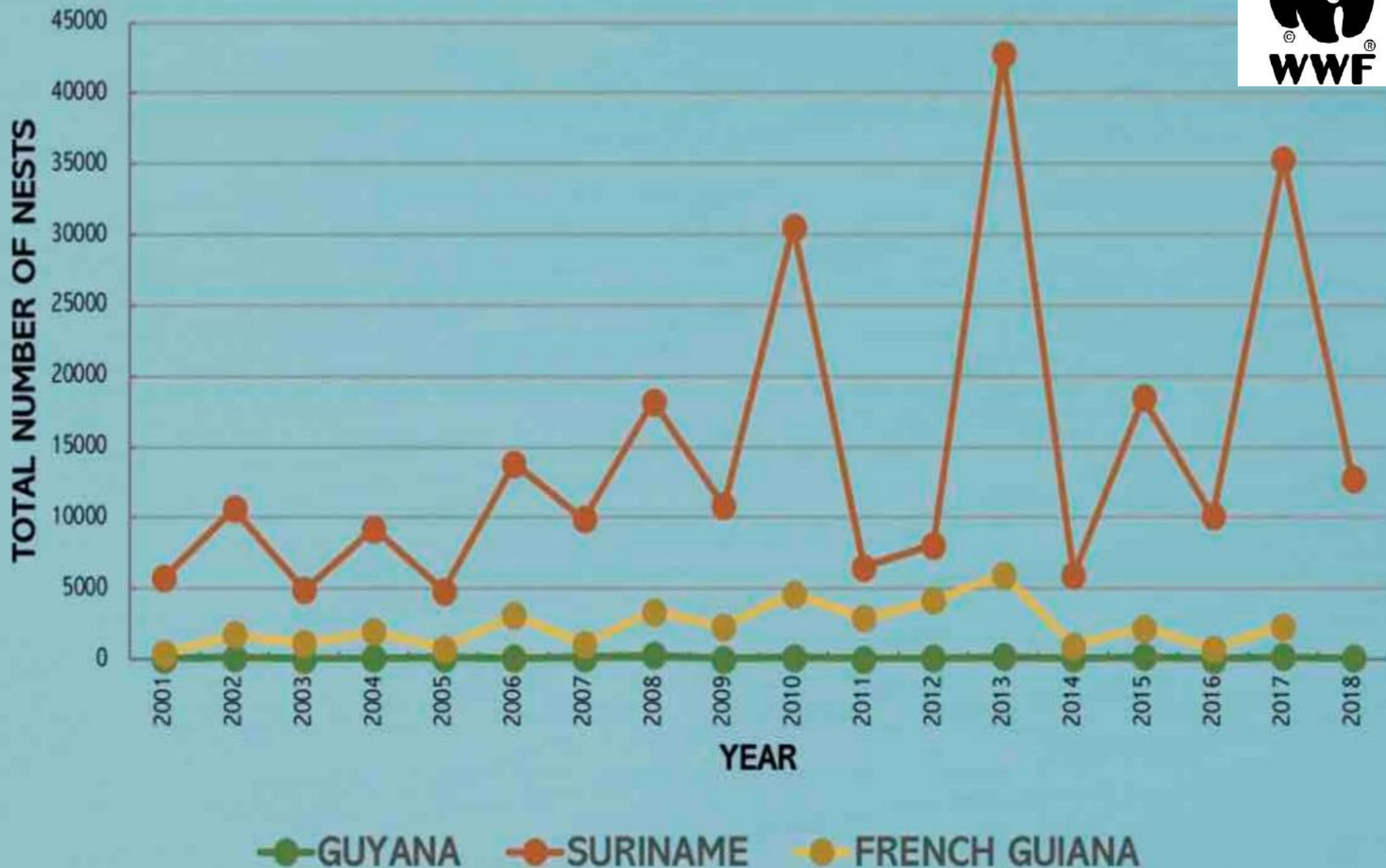
Nicolas Paranthoen (coordination.prtm@gmail.com)
Rachel Berzins (rachel.berzins@oncfs.gouv.fr)

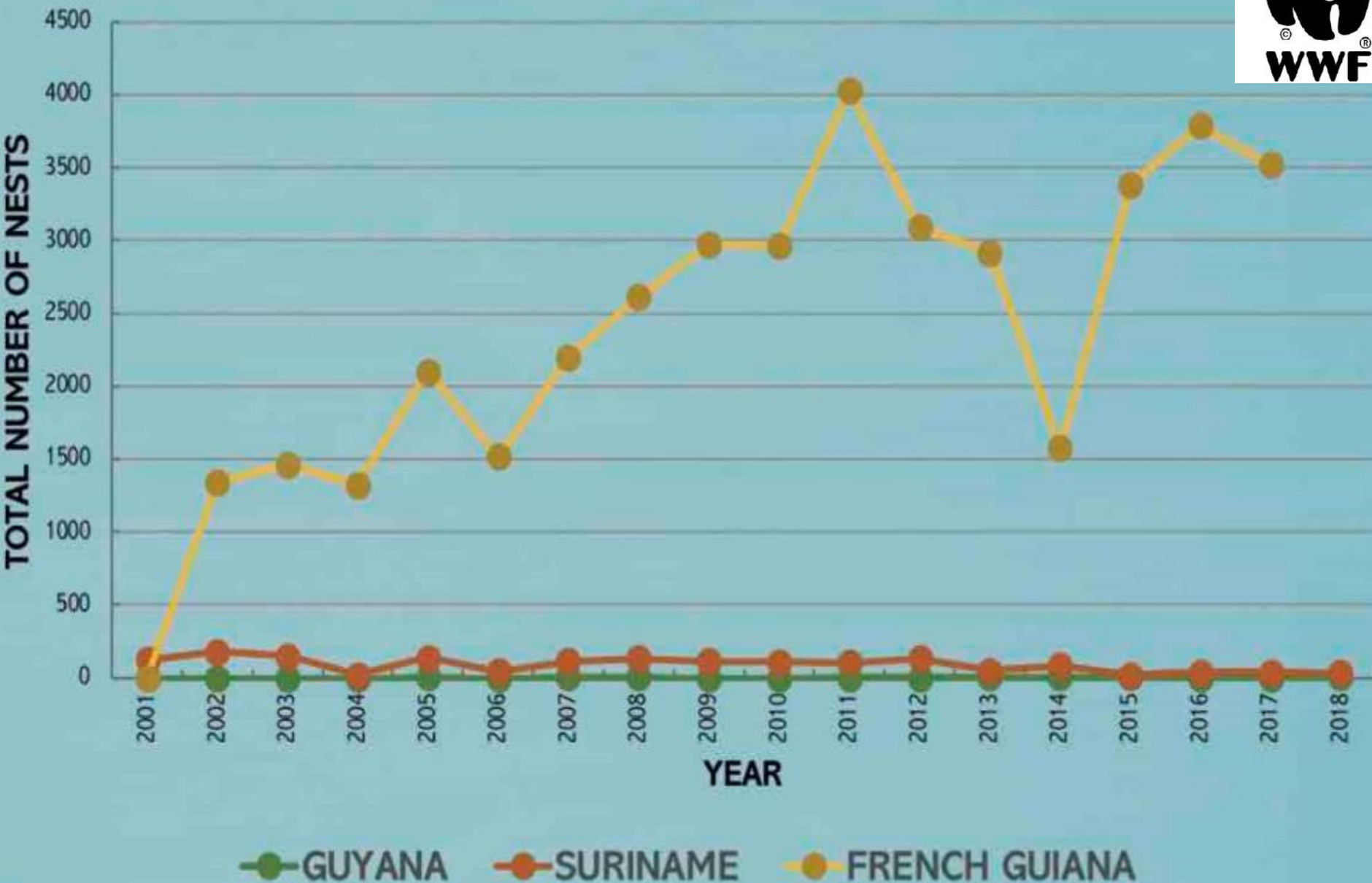


LEATHERBACK (*Dermochelys coriacea*) - NESTING TRENDS



GREEN TURTLE (*Chelonia mydas*) - NESTING TRENDS



OLIVE RIDLEY (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) - NESTING TRENDS

Progress in Oceanography 143 (2016) 58–71
 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Progress in Oceanography
 journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/pocean

The influence of oceanographic features on the foraging behavior of the olive ridley sea turtle *Lepidochelys olivacea* along the Guiana coast
 Philippine Chambault^{a,*}, Benoît de Thoisy^b, Karine Herreb^c, Anna Conchon^d, Sébastien Barrioz^b, Virginie Dos Reis^b, Rachel Berzins^e, Laurent Kelle^f, Baptiste Picard^g, Fabien Roquet^h, Yvon Le Maho^a, Damien Chevallier^a

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^dUMR 5175 CNRS, UMR 7176, CNRS IAE, 23 rue Beaucourt, 43100 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
^eUMR 5175 CNRS, UMR 7176, CNRS IAE, 23 rue Beaucourt, 43100 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
^fUMR 5175 CNRS, UMR 7176, CNRS IAE, 23 rue Beaucourt, 43100 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
^gUMR 5175 CNRS, UMR 7176, CNRS IAE, 23 rue Beaucourt, 43100 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
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Biological Conservation 184 (2015) 35–41
 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Biological Conservation
 journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bioco

Identification of key marine areas for conservation based on satellite tracking of post-nesting migrating green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*)
 Marie Baudouin^{a,*}, Benoît de Thoisy^b, Philippine Chambault^c, Rachel Berzins^d, Mathieu Entraygues^e, Laurent Kelle^f, Avasantia Turry^g, Yvon Le Maho^h, Damien Chevallier^{a,*}

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^bService Biens, 16 avenue Pasteur, BP 672, 97332 Guyane cedex, France
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^dUMR 5175 CNRS, UMR 7176, CNRS IAE, 23 rue Beaucourt, 43100 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
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^hUMR 5175 CNRS, UMR 7176, CNRS IAE, 23 rue Beaucourt, 43100 Strasbourg cedex 2, France

PLOS ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE
Dispersal and Diving Adjustments of the Green Turtle *Chelonia mydas* in Response to Dynamic Environmental Conditions during Post-Nesting Migration
 Philippine Chambault^{1,2,*}, David Pinaud³, Vincent Ventrone⁴, Laurent Kelle⁵, Mathieu Entraygues⁶, Christophe Guinet⁷, Rachel Berzins⁸, Karim Bli⁹, Philippe Gaspar¹⁰, Benoît de Thoisy¹¹, Yvon Le Maho¹², Damien Chevallier¹³

¹ Université de Strasbourg, Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien, 23 rue Beaucourt, F-67087 Strasbourg cedex 2, France; ² CNRS, UMR 7176, 23 rue Beaucourt, F-67087 Strasbourg cedex 2, France; ³ Centre d'Écologie Evolutive et Fonctionnelle, UMR 5175 CNRS – Université de La Rochelle, 79300 Villiers-en-Bois, France; ⁴ Laboratoire d'Océanographie et des Géosciences, UMR 6102 CNRS, 28 avenue Pasteur, BP 66200 Villeneuve, France; ⁵ CNRS Guyane USR 3466, av. Chateaubriand, 97300 Cayenne, France; ⁶ WWF Guyane, BP 5, L'Estuaire, 97300 Cayenne, France; ⁷ Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage – Centre technique Guyane, Centre agricole, BP 146, 97332 Kourou cedex, France; ⁸ WWF Guyane, Herak Anonimil 43, Penanallo, Surinam; ⁹ Collectif Lousaikan Sabalika, Direction Océanographique, Bât 44, 8–10 rue Herminie, 97532 Rémouille, France; ¹⁰ Association Kewala, 16 avenue Pasteur, BP 672, F-97332 Cayenne cedex, France

ARTICLE IN PRESS
 Deep-Sea Research Part I xxx (xxxx) xxx
 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
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 journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/dsri

The Gulf Stream frontal system: A key oceanographic feature in the habitat selection of the leatherback turtle?
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