

~ 2019 Annual General Meeting ~
Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network
(WIDECAST)

Torarica Hotel / Eco Resort Inn

Paramaribo, Suriname

19-21 March 2019



Monday, March 18

6:00 - 7:30 pm **Evening Welcome Reception- [Eco Resort Inn](#)**

Welcome! Join us for hors d'oeuvres (meat + vegetarian options) and a special cultural performance! Alcohol is available at your expense.

AGENDA DAY 1

Tuesday, March 19

6:00 - 8:30 am ~ **BREAKFAST: [Riverside Hut](#), EcoResort Inn ~**

Session I: Opening

8:45 **Registration - [Torarica Hotel](#) Conference Room**

9:15 **Opening Remarks - Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director**

Announcements - Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director

- List of Participants, Logistics, Dinner Tally Day 1/3

9:30 **Introductions**

9:45 **Welcome Address - Laurens Gomes, Suriname Country Representative, WWF Guianas**

10:00 **Welcome Address - Minister Samsloedien, Ministry of Spatial Planning, Land and Forest Management**

Session II: Sea Turtle Research & Conservation in the Guianas I

- 10:15 **Sea Turtle Monitoring and Protection in Suriname: Past & Present** - Roy Hotsoi and Loor Katidjo, Nature Conservation Division (includes 5 min film on Braampunt Turtle Rangers)
- 10:30 **Giants of the Wild Coast: Connecting People and Protected Areas in Northern Guyana** - Odacy Davis, Protected Areas Commission
- 10:45 **Conservation, Research and Education Programs: 2014-2023 French Guiana National Action Plan** - Nicolas Paranthoen and Rachel Berzins, ONCFS
- 11:00 ~ Coffee Break ~
- 11:30 **Coastal Dynamics in the Guianas** - Michael Hiwat, WWF Guianas
- 11:45 **WWF Programme on Protecting Nesting Turtle Populations in Suriname** - Hanneke Van Lavieren, WWF Guianas
- 12:00 **Hatching Success and Threats on Braampunt** - Cheyenne Samson, Green Heritage Fund Suriname
- 12:30 ~ LUNCH: [Torarica Hotel](#) Conference Room ~
- 1:30 **Open Room - Displays and Sharing**
Film: "The TTED - Toward more Sustainable Shrimp Trawling" (26 min)

Session III: Sea Turtle Research & Conservation in the Guianas II

- 2:00 **Nest Monitoring in French Guiana: History, Methods, Results and Perspectives** - Benoit de Thoisy, Kwata and Damien Chevallier, CNRS-IPHC
- 2:15 **No Fishing Zone Suriname: What Works and What Doesn't** - Roy Hotsoi, Nature Conservation Division (NCD)

Session IV: Bycatch Assessment and Reduction

- 2:30 **Fisheries Interaction and Bycatch Reduction: PALICA Assessment and CPUE Training** - Tony Nalovic, CRPMEM and Nolwenn Cozannet, WWF France
- 2:45 **Sea Turtle Conservation in Ubatuba, Southeastern Brazil, a Feeding Area with Incidental Capture in Coastal Fisheries** - Henrique Becker, TAMAR
- 3:00 ~ Coffee Break ~
- 3:30 **Effective Sea Turtle Bycatch Mitigation through Modification of Fishing Practices: Perspectives and Pitfalls** - Jeff Gearhart, US National Marine Fisheries Service
- 3:45 **TTED and CTED Initiatives in Suriname** - Tomas Willems, FAO & MAAHF- Fisheries Department Suriname

- 4:00 **Bycatch Assessment of Artisanal Fisheries in Suriname: 2006-2016** - *Kim Sys, Project Assistant, WWF Guianas*
- 4:15 **Bycatch in Costa Rica: National and International Effects** - *Didiher Chacón, Latin American Sea Turtles*
- 4:30 **Sea Turtles and Bycatch in the Canadian Atlantic** - *Brianne Kelly, WWF-Canada*
- 5:00 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*
- 7:00 ~ **DINNER BUFFET:** *Riverside Hut, EcoResort Inn* ~

AGENDA DAY 2

Wednesday, March 20

6:00 - 8:30 am ~ **BREAKFAST:** [Riverside Hut](#), *EcoResort Inn* ~

Session V: Opening

- 8:30 **Late Registration** - *Torarica Hotel Conference Room*
- 8:45 **Opening Remarks, Announcements** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

Session VI: Regional Initiatives and Updates I

- 9:00 **Outcomes and Next Steps from the Regional Leatherback Bycatch Prioritization Workshop** - *Michael Hiwat, WWF Suriname and Avanaisa Turny, AT-OSS*
- 9:15 **PLEDGE: Northeastern Caribbean Sea Turtle Recovery Zone** - *Kendal Richardson, Anguilla Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources*
- 9:30 **Northwest Atlantic Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) Status Assessment** - *Bryan Wallace, Ecolibrium, Inc.*
- 9:45 **Re-evaluating the RedList Category for Northwest Atlantic Leatherbacks** - *Bryan Wallace, Ecolibrium, Inc.*
- 10:00 **Discussion** - *Bryan Wallace, Ecolibrium, Inc.*
- 10:30 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

Session VII: Caribbean Island Research Updates

- 11:00 **Puerto Rico: Insights into the Dynamics of Green Turtle Fibropapillomatosis** - *Carlos Diez, Dept. of Natural and Environmental Resources and Rita Patricio, Exeter University*

- 11:15 **Puerto Rico: Migratory Patterns of Leatherback Turtles** - *Luis Crespo, ATMAR and Kara Dodge, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution*
- 11:30 **Population Demographics and Health Parameters of Nesting Leatherback and Juvenile Hawksbill and Green Sea Turtles in St. Kitts** - *Kimberly Stewart, St. Kitts Sea Turtle Monitoring Network and Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine*
- 11:45 **Sea Turtle Conservation: The Nevisian Experience** - *Emile Pemberton, Nevis Turtle Group*
- 12:00 **Afternoon River Tour Logistics** - *Michael Hiwat, WWF*
- 12:30 ~ **LUNCH:** *Torarica Hotel Conference Room* ~
- 1:30 **Open Room - Displays and Sharing**
- 2:00 **St Lucia: A Decade of Conservation Challenges** - *Marie-Louise Felix, 4BluCs*
- 2:15 **Grenada: Ocean Spirits Turns 20!** - *Kate Charles and Kester Charles, Ocean Spirits*
- 2:30 **Jamaica: Current Programs** - *Damany Calder, National Environment and Planning Agency*
- 2:45 **Bonaire: 2018 Update!** - *Kaj Schut, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire*
- 3:30 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

Session VIII: "Dolphin & Sea Turtle Watching Tour"

Much gratitude to WWF Guianas for sponsoring this cruise, tour, and meal!



- 9:00 ~ **DINNER & RETURN CRUISE TO PARAMARIBO** ~

AGENDA DAY 3

Thursday, March 21

6:00 - 8:30 am ~ BREAKFAST @ Riverside Hut, EcoResort Inn ~

Session IX: Opening

8:45 **Opening Remarks, Announcements** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

Session X: Public Awareness and Outreach

9:00 **Effective Conservation through Collaboration with Precious Plastic Initiatives** - *Sabine Berendse, Sea Turtle Conservation Curaçao (STCC won the "Grassroots Conservation Award" at the 2019 International Sea Turtle Symposium ☺)*

9:15 **Sea Turtle Education Program Development, Implementation, and Outcome Assessment in St. Kitts, West Indies** - *Kimberly Stewart, St. Kitts Sea Turtle Monitoring Network and Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine*

9:30 **Shell Beach Protected Area, Guyana** - *Two-minute film, "Help Us Safeguard Our Marine Turtles... Will you?" presented by Sopheia Edghill, WWF Guianas*

10:00 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

As needed ... Nesting Beach Atlas meetings with Adam Eckert, GIS Specialist

Session XI: Regional Initiatives and Updates II

10:30 **Sea Turtles and International Law in the Wider Caribbean Region** - *Sandrine Pivard, UNEP/CEP/RAC for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife and Olga Koubrak, Sealife Law Centre, Dalhousie University*

10:45 **Geographic Life Cycle of Green Sea Turtles: Nesting in the Guianas, Development in the Caribbean, and Foraging in Brazil** - *Benoit de Thoisy, Kwata and Damien Chevallier, CNRS-IPHC*

Session XII: Film Festival!

11:00 **Film Festival!**

12:00 ~ **LUNCH:** *Torarica Hotel Conference Room* ~

Open Room - Displays and Sharing

*As needed ... Nesting Beach Atlas meetings with Adam Eckert, GIS Specialist
Departure Confirmations with Melissa Gordyk, WWF-Guianas Suriname*

Session XII: Working Groups

1:00 **Working Groups - Select Topics & Group Leaders**

1:30 **Working Group Sessions**

How do we Perceive Conservation? - *Bryan Wallace, Ecolibrium (USA)*

Sustainable Community Programs - *Lemme Pemberton (Nevis)*

Data Collaborations - *Nicolas Paranthoen (French Guiana)*

Sargassum Influx - *Carla Daniel (Barbados)*

Making the Economic Case - *Sabine Berendse (Curaçao)*

Sea Turtle Bycatch: Next Steps - *Tony Nalovic (French Guiana)*

3:00 ~ **Coffee Break** ~

3:30 **Working Group Reporting**

4:00 **Logistics and Notices for the Post-Meeting Field Trip to Galibi** - *Michael Hiwat, WWF*
What to bring, where/when to meet, where to store my luggage, airport returns ...

4:30 **Departure Confirmations** - *Melissa Gordyk, WWF-Guianas Suriname*

5:00 **Closing Remarks and Adjourn** - *Karen Eckert, WIDECAST Executive Director*

7:00 ~ **DINNER BUFFET: Riverside Hut, EcoResort Inn** ~

Phagwa Celebration 2019

Enjoy this unique Indian festival at Independence Square and at the Boulevard

*We hope you enjoyed the Meeting! Safe travels!
See you in Colombia next year!*

