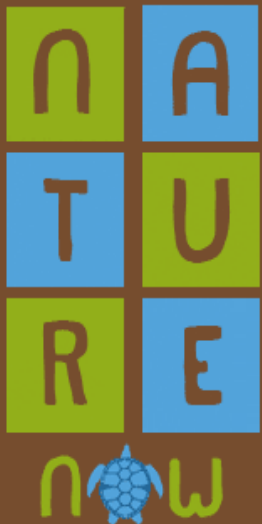


Sea Turtle Conservation Work



Sea Turtle Projects in Costa Rica



Sea Turtle Species

- Olive Ridley
- Leatherback
- Green
- Hawksbill



Importance of Sea Turtles

- Provide nutrients for coastal vegetation
- Control the balance in the food chain
- Assist in cycling of nutrients
- Nutrients for fish
- Hawksbill eliminate sponges in coral reefs
- Greens maintain health of sea grass beds
- Leatherbacks control jellyfish



Threats

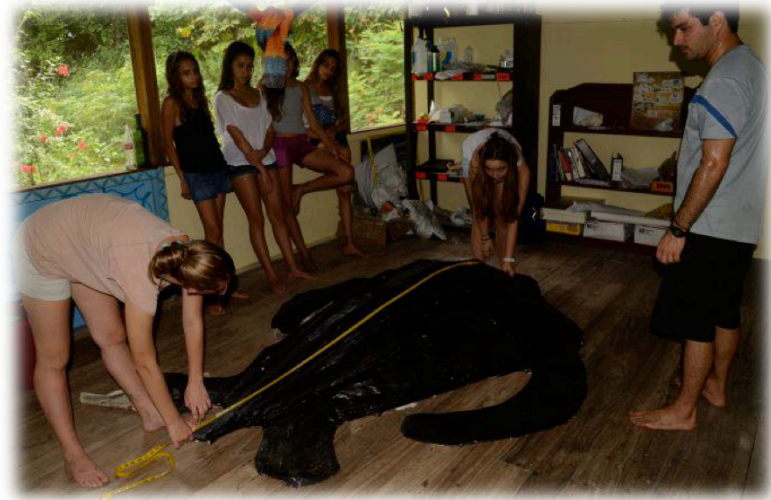


Objectives of Monitoring Projects Nesting Beach

- Obtain data to understand:
 - Growth rates
 - Sexual cycle
 - Migration
 - Nesting Habits
- Protect against poachers
- Ensure greater hatchling success rate

Night Patrols

- Record:
 - Encounter time
 - Activity
 - Species
 - Measure (CCL, CCW)
 - Number of eggs
 - Location
 - Health
- Tag
- Relocate nests to hatchery
- Monitor number of nests and turtles





Morning Patrols

- Record activity from previous night
- Monitor nests
- Nest Excavation



Why tag?

- Migration routes and geographical coverage
- Reproduction frequency
- Nesting frequency
- Precision with which turtle returns to beach
- Longevity after time when first tagged
- Growth rates
- Population



Raising Awareness



High School Experiential Learning



Teens Take Action with Different Interests and Skill Sets

- Science/Technology/Engineering Projects
- Policy/Advocacy
- Community Service

Beach clean up, reforestation,

- Education/Raising Awareness (schools, churches, conferences)
- Arts: Documentaries, performing arts, fine arts, creative writing
- Fundraising