

Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

#### IAC Annual Report General Instructions

Annex IV of the Convention text states that each Contracting Party shall hand in an Annual Report. To complete this Annual Report, Focal Points should consult with various stakeholders involved in sea turtle issues. If you have any questions regarding this Annual Report, please write to the PT Secretariat at <u>secretario@iacseaturtle.org</u>

Please note that the date to submit this Annual Report is April 30<sup>th</sup> of 2017.

#### Part I (General Information)

Please fill out the following tables. Add additional rows if necessary.

#### a.\_ Focal Point

Institution	Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Name	Dámaso Luna Coron
Date Annual Report submitted	May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2017

#### b.\_ Agency or Institution responsible for preparing this report

Name of Agency or Institution	Foreign Affairs Secretary
Name of the person responsible for completing this report	Dámaso Luna Corona
Address	Plaza Juárez No. 20, Piso 14, Col Centro, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, Distrito Federal, México DF 06010
Telephone(s)	+52 (55) 3686 5682
Fax	+52 (55) 3686 5632/5633
E-mail	dlunac@sre.gob.mx



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

#### c.\_ Others who participated in the preparation of this report

Name	Agency or Institution	E-mail
Alejandro del Mazo Maza	Natural Protected Areas National Commissioner	adelmazo@conanp.gob.mx correspondencia.comisionado@conanp. gob.mx
C. Abraham Reyes Sánchez	Environmental Protection Federal Attorney	areyess@profepa.gob.mx
Biol. Mónica Arciniega Rossano	Environmental Protection Federal Attorney	monica.arciniega@profepa.gob.mx
Alejandra Reta Lira.	Primary Sector and Renewable Resources General Direction, Development and Environmental Regulation Sub-secretary SEMARNAT	alejandra.reta@semarnat.gob.mx
Adriana Cárdenas González	Primary Sector and Renewable Resources General Direction, Development and Environmental Regulation Sub-secretary SEMARNAT	adriana.cardenas@semarnat.gob.mx
Alejandro Nyssen Ocaranza	Regional Operation General Direction CONANP	alejandro.nyssen@conanp.gob.mx
José Francisco Bernal Stoopen	Priority Species for Conservation Direction, CONANP	jose.bernal@conanp.gob.mx
Adriana Laura Sarti Martínez	Priority Species for Conservation Direction, CONANP	lsarti@conanp.gob.mx
Ninel García Téllez	Priority Species for Conservation Direction, CONANP	ngarcia@conanp.gob.mx
Christiane Aguilar Girón	Priority Species for Conservation Direction, CONANP	cagiron@conanp.gob.mx
José Luis Pedro Funes Izaguirre	Wildlife General Director, Management and Environmental Protection Sub-secretary SEMARNAT	josel.funes@semarnat.gob.mx
Judith Silveira Aguirre	Use of Wildlife Director, Wildlife General Direction, Management and Environmental Protection Sub-secretary SEMARNAT	judith.silveira@semarnat.gob.mx
M.en C.Víctor Manuel Arriaga Haro	General Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Management CONAPESCA	varriagah@conapesca.gob.mx
Ing. Jorge Luis Moreno Reyes	General Director of CONAPECA Management and Development.	jorge.reyes@conapesca.gob.mx
Ing. José Roberto Vázquez González	Director of Planning, Programming and Evaluation CONAPESCA	roberto.vazquez@conapesca.gob.mx
Dr. Pablo Roberto Arenas Fuentes	General Director Fisheries National Institute INAPESCA	pablo.arenas@inapesca.gob.mx



Mexico

#### **Annual Report 2017**

Ing. Raúl Villaseñor Talavera	CONAPESCA Regulations Director	rvillasenort@conapesca.gob.mx
Mtra. Isabel Cristina Reyes Robles	CONAPESCA International Affairs Director.	ireyesr@conapesca.gob.mx
Biol. Pedro Antonio Ulloa	Fisheries Research Center Bahía	pedro.ulloa@inapesca.gob.mx
Ramírez	de Banderas Senior Researcher B	
	INAPESCA	
Biol. Santos Roberto	Global Issues General Direction	shernandez@sre.gob.mx
Hernández López	Environment Sub-director	
	International Affairs Secretary	

#### Part II (Policy and Management)

# a.\_ General description of activities carried out for the protection and conservation of sea turtles

In accordance with Articles IX and XVIII of the text of the Convention, each Party shall establish monitoring programs, policies and plans for implementation at a national level for the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitat.

As a result, the Party shall report on the action plans, management plan or other types of instruments, describing their location, the species considered and the actions implemented by governmental, non-governmental and private institutions related to sea turtles.

In addition to the above, please fill out the following tables and explain the level of progress in the comments column.

	YES/NO/ In Progress	Comments
Does your country have a national plan of action in accordance with Article XVIII?	Yes	The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) jointly with the Federal Attorney for the Protection of the Environment and the National Commission of National Protected Areas (CONANP) implement the National Program for the Conservation of Sea Turtles (PNTM) every year, framed in the Program for the Recovery of Species at Risk (PROCER). The implementation of the main conservation actions is done through the Action Programs for Conservation of Species (PACE). The six species of sea turtles have their corresponding PACE including actions such as knowledge production, management, recovery, protection, operation and culture towards conservation and recovery of the species and their habitat, in federal natural protected areas and other priority areas of the country (see *1)
Does your country have policies and		Since 1994, there is a total closure for an indefinite period to catch the 6 species of sea



Mexico

programs at local and	turtles found in Mexican waters: Dermochelys
regional levels in	coriacea, C. agassizzi, Lepidochelys olivacea, L
accordance with	kempii and Caretta caretta (DOF 16/03/94), as
Article XVIII?	being categorized as "Endangered Priority
	Marine Species."
	In fisheries where sea turtles are incidentally
	caught, regulations to minimize it have been
	established, such as:
	Mexican Official Norm NOM-001-SAG/PESC-
	2013, Number 4.1.4.2, Tuna Responsible
	Fishing.
	C .
	Specifications for purse seine fishing operations
	(DOF 16/01/14). Prohibits the vessels to have,
	live, dead, or in pieces, dolphins, sea turtles or
	other endangered species, unless the event is
	related to a program authorized by the
	Secretariat. Additionally, number 4.1.4.4.
	establishes obligations to release live sea turtles
	and other endangered species caught
	incidentally. If necessary, as much as possible
	must be done for an onboard recovery of the sea
	turtles to release them shortly (According to
	Appendix B of this same norm)
	Mexican Official Norm NOM-002-SAG/PESC-
	2013, to manage the extraction of shrimp
	species in the Mexican United States federal
	waters (DOF $11/07/13$ ), which mandates
	installing and using rigid Turtle Excluder
	Device (TED) in trawling nets used for
	industrial and leisure fishing in federal
	jurisdiction waters in the Pacific Ocean,
	including Gulf of California, Gulf of Mexico
	and the Caribbean Sea.
	Mexican Official Norm NOM-022-
	SAG/PESC-2015, Number 4.15.4 for the use of
	tuna species in pole-line vessels in Mexican
	waters (DOF 12/06/15) Prohibits the vessels to
	have, live, dead, or in pieces, dolphins, sea
	turtles or other endangered species.



Mexico

Mexican Official Norm NOM-023-SAG/PESC- 2014, regulates the use of tuna species on longline vessels in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea (DOF 16/04/14). Its number 4.8 establishes that any specimen of a dolphin or other marine mammals, sea turtles, or seabirds caught during fishing operations, should be released in the best conditions of survival, prohibiting keeping live, dead or pieces of any specimen on board.
Mexican Official Norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, responsible fishing of sharks and rays. Specifications for their use (DOF 14/02/07). It establishes that fisheries targeting sharks and rays should not take place within a 5 km marine strip from shore in front of the main sea turtle nesting beaches during the nesting season. These nesting beaches are specified in the Appendix "B" of the regulation.
The sea turtle excluder devices should meet the technical specifications for components, building materials, structure and installation defined in the Mexican Official Norm NOM-061-SAG-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 "Technical Specifications for the Sea Turtle Excluder Devices used in the shrimp trawl fleet in Mexican waters (DOF 13/12/16)" comparable with those authorized by NOAA in the United States fisheries.
Mexican Government has made important efforts to protect sea turtles, particularly <i>Caretta caretta</i> at <i>Golfo de Ulloa</i> , South Baja California expanding the refuge zone, in which measures to reduce the interaction of sea turtles with fisheries are implemented. The new area covers 1,993,229 hectares and the refuge zone now includes 724,372 hectares, under the "Agreement to establish a refuge zone and new measures to reduce potential interactions of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California west



Mexico

<i>coast</i> ". (DOF 23/06/16).
The amendment to modify, the "Agreement to establish a fish refuge and new measures to reduce potential interactions of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California west coast" was published on November 18, 2016, aiming to allow the use of trawling nets in the area, if they comply with the use of DETs and DEFs (for fishes) in compliance with what provisions of law applicable thereto.
The Onboard Observers Program operates in this regions (Technical Assistants Onboard "ATB"), and a video recording system for monitoring the area where the artisanal fleets fish. These programs record the whole fishing cycle, coordinates of fishing grounds, fishing gears, real interaction, and complement the information available on the distribution of sea turtles and its relative abundance with <i>Caretta</i> <i>caretta</i> , therefore identifying the area and time of the different fishing techniques with an increased accuracy.
Mexico has a permanent policy of total protection of sea turtles and their habitats conveyed in a vast legal framework including several Laws, Regulations, Federal Criminal Code, Mexican Official Norms regarding fisheries and the environment, Decrees, Agreements, Disclaimers and Environmental protection Programs.
Every year, the Federal Attorney for the Protection of the Environment jointly with SEMAR and the National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) implement two permanent operations during the nesting season of two species, the olive ridley <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i> , and the leatherback turtles <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> . The olive ridley arrives at the beaches of La Escobilla and El



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

		Morro Ayuta in Oaxaca State, and the leatherback arrives at Tierra Colorada in Guerrero State, Mexiquillo in Michoacán State and Barra de la Cruz and Cahuitan in Oaxaca.	
Does your country have monitoring programs in accordance with Article IX?	Yes	<ul> <li>and Barra de la Cruz and Cahuitan in Oaxaca.</li> <li>All fishing vessels with a length longer than 10.5 m, operating in federal jurisdiction waters, as well as vessels with Mexican flag fishing in the high seas, should follow the Mexican Official Norm NOM-062-SAG/PESC-2014 for the use of Fishing Vessels Localization and Monitoring System (DOF 03/07/15), which allows monitoring their fishing areas.</li> <li>PACE provides mechanisms for evaluating</li> </ul>	
		results with measurable indicators at short, medium and long-term.	

\*1. National Action Plan: a general description of the protection and conservation of sea turtles program:

The National Program for the Conservation of Sea Turtles is the oldest wildlife conservation program in Mexico, as it was developed 50 years ago. The program has shown important achievements in the recovery of some species and is currently coordinated by the Environmental Sector. The Wildlife General Direction establishes measures and policies for management, conservation, protection, use and research on sea turtles in Mexico. Its main objectives are to develop a diagnosis of the different species of sea turtles populations in our country, comply with the current legislation, coordinate the different sectors which take part in protection and conservation actions and establishing instruments which will support protection strategies. The program also develops activities to encourage compliance with current regulations on sea turtles, their protection, conservation, research, and use.

As of November 2006, it is established in SEMARNAT internal regulation that the National Program for the Conservation of Sea Turtles will be operated through CONANP's General Direction of Regional Operations. This program issues the policies and guidelines for the development of actions for the protection and conservation of sea turtles. It protects nesting sites of the different species of sea turtles found in Mexico and encourages the development of projects specific for each species. This program coordinates the actions of different stakeholders towards conservation of sea turtles. The Commission carries out protection and monitoring activities in 32 sites, used for nesting as well as for foraging. These sites include priority nesting beaches for the six species of sea turtles found in our country. Many of the centers have more than 25 years



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

in operation, and their mission has been to protect and recover populations of sea turtles in situ found in Mexican territory.

In terms of sea turtles nesting habitats protection, 17 reserves for sea turtles reproduction were established by Decree in 1986. Sixteen of them were re-categorized in 2002 as Sanctuaries because they meet the conditions of biodiversity, endemism, singularity, extent, and level of conservation.

The Sea Turtle Mexican Center is a fundamental part of the Program. The Center's mission is to preserve Mexico's national patrimony through direct and indirect conservation of sea turtles and their ecosystems, and a harmonic and sustainable link with local communities.

Communities' participation in sea turtles conservation actions has been promoted from the Commission through two main programs: Temporal Work Program (PET) and Conservation Program for Sustainable Development (PROCODES). From 2011 to 2015, communities have received support for \$46,243,778 pesos (\$2,642,501 USD) through PET and \$27,518,788 pesos (\$1,572,502 USD) through PROCODES.

Among relevant actions, the following are highlighted:

- 1. Clutches protection for releasing hatchling in 38 nesting sites results. CONANP official camps preliminary results for 2015 were: protection of 1,594,803 clutches of the six species of sea turtles nesting in our country, out of 1,609,173 clutches recorded; releasing 35,810,854 hatchlings. These data include information from two massive arrival beaches of Lepidochelys olivacea.
- 2. Emerging plan for the Recovery of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle Dermochelys coriacea implemented since 1982. The aim of the plan is to recover the Mexican Pacific leatherback protecting females, eggs, and hatchling at the main nesting beaches in Mexico, as well as to maintain the knowledge of the population trend. It proposes the actions to develop in the next ten years and fosters actions required to reduce incidental catches with longline and drift nets, in national and international fisheries. In the last five years clutches protection at priority nesting beaches has reached 95%, with an average of 85%. Following are the main action of the plan.
  - a. Protection of females, eggs, and hatchlings in priority beaches
  - b. Population monitoring through standardized methods
  - c. Training for students and experts in the matter, as well as for residents of coastal populations.
  - *d.* Workshop for local communities on the recovery of leatherbacks and their habitat.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

e. Final report on Leatherback Project activities involving index beaches and more historical information

Currently, we are part of the LaudOPO network formed by expert conservationists and all those interested in the recovery of the Eastern Pacific leatherback population, through joint actions towards reversing the critical status of the population. The network encourages actions to reduce bycatch in longline and gillnet fisheries, in national as well as in international fisheries.

- 3. Bi-national plan for the Recovery of the Atlantic Ridley turtle Lepidochelys kempii, which aim is to recover the species. Among the most relevant results are:
  - a. Currently, the main nesting sites of Atlantic Ridley in Mexico are protected.
  - b. Nesting of Atlantic Ridley is increasing. In 2016, 17,127 nests were recorded and 788,446 hatchlings were released.
  - c. The population is showing a recovery trend. During 2011 the Bi-national Plan was signed by both countries, USA and Mexico.
- 4. Protection, Conservation, and Recovery of Hawksbill Turtle Eretmochelys imbricata. The aim of the project is the conservation and recovery of Hawksbill turtles (Eretmochelys imbricata) in Mexico. Among the main results are:
  - a. Establishment of critical area for hawksbill conservation in Campeche
  - b. Prioritization of threats, and review of the hawksbill PACE.
  - c. Strategy to improve sea turtle conservation best practices in Campeche.
  - d. Workshop Training on tagging using the autograft technique in hatchlings.
  - e. Project for the identification of red spots for the consumption of sea turtles focused on recognizing the issues regarding poaching, incidental catches, and consumption.
  - f. Research on juveniles in foraging areas in Campeche State.
  - g. Telemetry project in nesting females to track them after nesting
  - h. Work in areas of distribution of the species in the Gulf and Mexican Caribbean is ongoing.
  - *i.* Assessment of climate change impact on hatching of sea turtles nests using temperature in nesting beaches at Laguna de Terminos Flora and Fauna Protection Area.
  - *j.* Research on incidental captures of sea turtles, associated with coastal fishing in five ports of Campeche State, Mexico.

During 2016, 19 sea turtle related projects on monitoring, feeding grounds, and information standardization were carried out through PROCER, with an investment of



Mexico Annual Report 2017

13,188,634.00 (\$ 724, 650.12 USD). Other actions included how to determine sea turtle distribution and status in Golfo de Ulloa and San Lázaro beach, BCS; strengthening of social participation in the green turtle (C. agassizii) critical habitats monitoring at Ojo de Liebre and San Ignacion lagoons; monitoring in feeding and nesting grounds at Baja California Peninsula and North Pacific; monitoring of feeding grounds at California Gulf Islands; sea turtles conservation in Sinaloa; monitoring of juveniles in feeding grounds of APFF Laguna de Terminos and Ramsar Site Chenkan; strengthening of sea turtle camps in PN Chacahua Lagoon and surrounding areas; monitoring of nesting and nesting success of olive ridley in three massive arrival beaches in Oaxaca; evaluation of the presence of fibropapilloma in sea turtles at Quintana Roo; monitoring of feeding grounds in RB Banco Chinchorro and PN Arrecifes de Xcalak; sea turtle conservation in the south of RB Sian Ka'an; sea turtle conservation in PN Tulum; sea turtle monitoring in nesting beaches of PN Arrecife de Puerto Morelos and Punta Brava as well as determine the conservation status and ecosystem characteristics in two main observation polygons and in the swim with turtles refuge in Bahia Akumal; monitoring and conservation of sea turtles in PN Arrecife de Cozumel through social participation; carry out conservation action in the nesting zones of APFF Cozumel Island; use of technology to assess the results of sea turtle conservation actions; characterization of tourism activities with sea turtles in areas of Akumal Bay refuge and *Quintana Roo; and sea turtle conservation in Mexico through knowledge dissemination.* 

# b.\_National legislation and international instruments related to sea turtles adopted in the preceding year

Describe any national regulations, international agreements and other legal instruments adopted during the preceding year (April 30, 2016-April 30, 2017) related to sea turtles and/or relevant activities. Provide a reference and attach the digital file for the legislation and its corresponding number. The laws adopting the international legislation should be included when they exist.

A full list is included in the Spanish version of this document; this translation only includes those regulations adopted between April 30, 2016-April 30, 2017



Mexico

National Legislation				
Type and name of legal	Description (Range of	Sanctions(s) Imposed		
instrument (No.)	application)			
Ecologic Balance and Protection of the Environment General Law	Scope: National territory and the areas where the nation has	Administrative sanctions: Fine equivalent to 20 to fifty		
Last amendment published in the DOF on January 24, 2017.	sovereignty and jurisdiction. Description: Regulates the preservation and protection of biodiversity; regulates the establishment of natural protected areas in areas where original environments have not been disrupted significantly by human activities, or areas that required to be preserved or restored; establishes a criterion for preservation and sustainable exploitation of wildlife; bans the exploitation of natural populations of species endangered or threatened with extinction.	thousand days of the ruling minimum wage in the Federal District; temporal or permanent closure, partial or total; administrative detention up to 36 hours; confiscation of tools, individuals, products or sub-products directly related with infringements on forestry resources, wild flora or fauna or genetic resources, and suspension and withdrawal of concessions, permits or authorizations.		
National Goods General Law Last amendment published in the DOF on June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2016.	Scope: Applicable to all national goods, except goods regulated by specific laws. Corresponds to the Federal Executive, through the Environment and Natural Resources Secretary, to promote the use and sustainable extraction of the federal marine and terrestrial zone and land reclaimed from the sea. However, concession on federal properties can be withdrawn when damaging ecosystems as consequence of their use or exploitation. Those who use or exploit the federal marine-terrestrial and	Administrative sanctions: Withdrawal of concessions granted in the marine- terrestrial zone and land reclaimed areas.		
	land claimed areas without a permit or authorization from the competent authority, damaging an ecosystem or its components directly or indirectly, will be forced to			



Mexico

Federal Criminal Code Title twenty-fifth "Crimes against environment and environmental management" Last amendment published in the Federation Official Journal on April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2017. Official Mexican Norm NOM- 061-SAG/PESC/SEMARNAT- 2016. Technical specifications of the area turtle analysis	repair the damage to the environment or to provide an environmental compensation in accordance with the Environmental Responsibility Federal Law. Scope: All the Mexican Republic for federal crimes. Description: Establishes penalties for those who catch, damage, or kill a turtle or marine mammal, collect or store any form of their products or sub-products. Technical specification for the rigid sea turtle excluder devices (TED), installed in the	Criminal penalties: From one to nine years detention and a fine equivalent to 300 to 3,000 days. An additional penalty of three years and up to 1000 additional days of fine, when affecting a natural protected area or if done for commercial purposes. Infringement of this Official Mexican Norm will be penalized according to the Wildlife Concred Laws
the sea turtle excluder devices used by the shrimp trawl fleet in Mexican waters. Published in the Federation Official Journal on December 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	commercial and didactic shrimp fishing trawl gears in Mexican waters, aiming to contribute for the protection of sea turtles and reduce bycatch. This norm is applicable to the shrimp trawling fisheries in Mexican waters. This last version of the norm includes flat bars grills, among other.	Wildlife General Law, Sustainable Fisheries and Aquacultures General Law, the Federal Criminal Code, and other legal provisions. In the case of infringement in Natural Protected Areas, sanctions included in the Ecologic Balance and Environmental Protection General Law will apply as well.
Notice to inform on the	Article first of the Decree	According to the Sustainable Fisheries and Aquacultures General Law (LGPAS), Article 132, fraction XXIV, the infringement of any of the official norms coming from this law is also a violation with a fine of 101 to 1000 days of the minimum wages, in agreement with Article 138, Fraction II of the LGPAS.
Notice to inform on the establishment of time and areas of closure for different aquatic species fauna in waters of federal jurisdiction of the Mexican United States. (DOF March 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1994). Last reform published in the Federal Official Journal on July 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2016.	Article first of the Decree establishes full closure for an indefinite time to catch different species of aquatic fauna in federal jurisdiction waters of the Mexican United States, including the following species: <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i> , <i>Caretta caretta</i> , <i>Eretmochelys</i> <i>imbricata</i> and <i>Dermochelys</i>	Those in the Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture General Law and other applicable regulations.



Mexico

	coriacea.	
The agreement which establishes a fish refuge and new measures to reduce potential interactions of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California West Coast. Published in the DOF on June 23th, 2016 and amended in the DOF on November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2016.	Establishes a partial and temporal Refuge Zone in <i>Golfo</i> <i>de Ulloa</i> area, with an area of 19,934 km <sup>2</sup> (1,993,229 Hectares). Measures to reduce the potential interaction of sea turtles are implemented in this area. It establishes the fishing gears that cannot be used within the "fishing restricted area" of 7,244 km <sup>2</sup> (724,372 hectares). Prohibits the use of gillnets with light and mesh size over 15,2 cm (6 inches) throughout the whole year, gillnets with light and a mesh size between 10,8 – 15, 2 cm (4 ¼ - 6 inches) between May and August. Longline with "J" hooks will not operate more than six hours in a row under any circumstances; only longline with circular hooks with an angle of max 10 degrees to their vertical axis can be used. Trawl nets are completely vanned as well as traps. Establishes that trawl nets cannot be used in the No- fishing zone, during the period of the agreement, except those with sea turtles and fish excluder devices included in the agreement with legal provisions.	According to the Article 132, Fraction XIX in the Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries General Law (LGPAS) it is a violation to extract, catch, poses, transport or trade species banned or with a size or weight below the minimum allowed by the Secretariat, as well as it is a violation to obtain them in refugees or repopulation areas, a fine of 10,001 to 30,000 days of the minimum wage will be applied according to Article 138, Fraction IV de LGPAS.
An agreement modifying that one establishing a fish refuge and new measures to reduce potential interactions of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California West Coast. Published in the DOF on June 23th, 2016 and amended in the DOF on November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2016.	Establishes that trawl nets cannot be used in the No- fishing zone, during the period of the agreement, except those with turtles and fish excluder devices included in the agreement with legal provisions.	According to the Article 132, Fraction XIX in the Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries General Law (LGPAS) it is a violation to extract, catch, possess, transport or trade species banned or with a size or weight below the minimum allowed by the Secretariat, as well as it is a violation to obtain them in refugees or repopulation areas, a fine of 10,001 to 30,000 days of the



Mexico

#### **Annual Report 2017**

Agreement establishing Bahia de Akumal as a fish refuge for the protection of the species within the marine portion specified in Quintana Roo State. Published in the DOF March 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2016.	Establishes a fish refuge zone of more than 1653 hectares for the protection of sea turtle species including the green turtle ( <i>Chelonia mydas</i> ), loggerhead ( <i>Caretta caretta</i> ), and hawksbills ( <i>Eretmochelys</i> <i>imbricata</i> ). The area is under a protection program.	applied Article LGPAS The agr regulati Protect	reement does not have ions, when the ion Program is ready, es will be implemented ng to the Wildlife			
]	International Instruments					
Treaty, Convention, A	Year signed					
Une	and/or ratified					

*Note:* If this is the first time a country is submitting this information, please include all pertinent national legislation and international instruments currently in force.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

#### c.\_Actions for compliance with national and international legislation

#### c.1 IAC Resolutions

Fill in the following tables for each of the IAC Resolutions listed below. In the case that a Resolution does not apply to your country, please mark the box RESOLUTION DOES NOT APPLY, and if a specific question does not apply, please mark the column DOES NOT APPLY. If you need more space to describe these actions, please attach additional pages and note the resolution and question number to which you are responding.

			RESOLUTION DOES NOT A	PPLY	
IS COMPLYING WITH THE FOLLOWING:	YES	NO	DESCRIBE A	CTION (*)	DOES NOT APPLY
1a) Have you created conservation plans and long-term programs that can reverse the critical situation of the leatherback turtle in the Eastern Pacific?	Х		According to Mexican Official Norms on the subject (001, 002, 022, 023, 029 y 061), the corresponding inspection and surveillance actions are carried out.	In compliance with national and international laws and as part of sea turtle conservation actions PROFEPA has implemented the following inspection and	
1b) Are you implementing these conservation plans and monitoring programs?	X		Verification and certification of the proper use of TEDs have been carried out in the dock, before the beginning of the catching season, and in the sea during the period of catches of the shrimp fleet.	surveillance programs in nesting and fisheries landing beaches. 1. Inspection and Surveillance program for the protection of sea	
2. Have you taken conservation measures to eliminate poaching of leatherback turtles?	Х		The species has been permanently banned since March 16, 1994.	<ul><li>turtles in nesting beaches.</li><li>2016-2018</li><li>2. Protocol for terrestrial and marine operations,</li></ul>	
3. If your country has leatherback turtle nesting beaches in the Eastern Pacific: Have you taken conservation measures to protect the nesting sites and their associated habitats?	Х		Inspection and surveillance are carried out in nesting beaches, during the nesting season.	regarding the protection of endangered species in Ulloa Bay, South Baja Califonia. 2016-2018. NOM-261- SEMARNAT-2012 and the decrees and management programs in natural protected areas, establish regulations for the protection of nesting beaches, including the leatherback nesting beaches.	
				The final report including the results of protection in the season 2015-2016 is attached. Season 2016 is	



Mexico

		ongoing. Preliminary results are attached.
4. Has your country adopted fishing techniques that reduce incidental capture and mortality of this species?	X	Use of sea turtle excluder devices (TEDs) is compulsory according to the Mexican Official Norm NOM-061- PESC/SEMARNAT-2016. details technical specifications of sea turtle excluder devices (TED), used in shrimp fisheries trawling nets, taking place in federal jurisdiction waters, aiming to contribute to sea turtles populations' protection and to reduce incidental catches, including the use of flat bars grill which is more efficient excluding sea turtles. Similarly, the regulations presented previously in NOM 001, 002, 022, 023 and 029 to reduce incidental captures in several fisheries remain implemented. Additionally, there is an agreement to establish a no-fishing zone and measures to reduce potential interactions between fisheries and sea turtles in South Baja California coast.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

**Resolution CIT-COP7-2015-R2**: Conservation of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

#### ACCORDING TO RESOLUTION CIT-COP7-2015-R2, REPORT WHETHER YOUR COUNTRY:

(\*) Specify actions implemented, the name of the project or relevant document, location, objective(s), institutions responsible, contact, financial or other support (optional), results (both positive and negative) and duration.

Framed in the collaboration of CONANP with the LaudOPO network bycatch project, the "International Workshop on Leatherback Bycatch in the Eastern Pacific\*" was carried out on June 14-16.

The objectives were:

- 1. Strengthening the capacities for rapid assessments of bycatch in Mexico, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.
- 2. Discuss the standardization of the collection, compilation, and analysis of bycatch and nesting information.
- 3. Discuss and analyze priority conservation actions of the leatherback in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EP) for the following 5 years.

\*See a summary of the event in the Spanish Version of this document



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

**Resolution CIT-COP3-2006 R-1:** Hawksbill turtle conservation (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) VOY AQUI

#### ACCORDING TO RESOLUTION CIT-COP3-2006-R1, REPORT WHETHER YOUR COUNTRY:

		RES	OLUTION DOES NOT APPLY	
IS COMPLYING WITH THE FOLLOWING:	YES	NO	<b>DESCRIBE ACTION (*)</b>	DOES NOT APPLY
1. Are you strengthening monitoring of the illegal use and trade of hawksbill turtles and their products?	X		Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches, during nesting season. Identification of red spots in coastal communities in Campeche State, incidentally catching or targeting sea turtles and/or consuming and harvesting them. This project was developed during 2006 and 2007 by Defenders of Wildlife, the APFFLT-CONANP, and DECOL Ciudad del Carmen AC. Surveillance tours for hawksbill protection are carried out in their main nesting beaches in the States of <i>Nayarit</i> , <i>Quintana Roo</i> , and <i>Yucatán</i> . In Campeche, main nesting State for this species, eggs poaching trend decreased from 5% to at least 2% in the last 23 years. Operations specifically on sea turtles are implemented by the Environmental Protection Attorney (PROFEPA) in this States. Verification of cross-border movement in the main entrance and exit points of the country to import and export wildlife individuals, products, and byproducts including artisanal crafts made of hawksbill shells.	
2. Are you enforcing pertinent hawksbill legislation?	Х		Since March 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1994 this species is in permanent closure to take, consume or trade of products and by-products along with all the other species of sea turtles. According to the Ecologic Balance and Environmental Protection General Law, the Wildlife General Law and its Regulation, the Federal Crime Code, NOM-002-PESC-1993, NOM-126- SEMARNAT-200, NOM-059- SEMARNAT-2010 and NOM-029- PESC-2006, the Total Closure Agreement for all the Sea Turtle Species in Waters of Federal Jurisdiction in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, and the Pacific Ocean, including the Gulf of	



Mexico

		California, and the declaration of Natural	
		Protected Area declaratory, actions	
		toward the implementation of current	
		legislation for the protection of hawksbill	
		turtles are as follow:	
		<b>T 1</b>	
		Inspection and surveillance in sea turtle	
		protection centers focusing on hatchlings	
		release, avoiding to keep them for	
		several days or to release them at	
		inappropriate times.	
		Use of Sea Turtle Excluder Devices	
		(TEDs) remains compulsory according to	
		the Official Mexican Law NOM-061-	
		SAG- PESC/SEMARNAT-2016.	
		Technical specification for sea turtle	
		excluder devices used by the shrimp	
		trawl fleet in the United States of Mexico	
		waters (DOF $13/12/16$ ) to contribute for	
		the protection of sea turtles population	
		and reduce incidental capture, including	
		the use of flat bars grill, which is more	
		<b>S</b>	
		efficient in the exclusion of sea turtles.	
		Similarly, regulations in NOM 001, 002,	
		022, 023 and 029 to reduce bycatch in	
		diverse fisheries remain ruling.	
		Therefore, verification and certification	
		of TEDs in the shrimp fleet continue to	
		apply, in port as well as at sea during the	
		fishing period. NOM-029-PESC-2006	
		was issued for shark fisheries, including	
		regulations for the protection of nesting	
		beaches and incidental catches. Local	
		fishermen and communities have been	
		included in sea turtles protection and	
		conservation actions, increasing	
		awareness of their importance.	
		an archeos of aren importance.	
		Surveillance tours for their protection	
		take place in the main nesting beaches in	
		the States of Nayarit, Quintana Roo, and	
		-	
		Yucatán.	
		Strengthening of the inspections and	
		surveillance with operations to verify the	
		compliance with NOM-162-	
		SEMARNAT-2012 in the sea turtles	
		protection centers, checking the preferred	
		use of <i>in situ</i> hatcheries, the management	
		plan, and with special attention to the	
		most natural hatchlings release protocol,	
		avoiding to keep the hatchlings for	
		several days, as well as inappropriate	
		releasing times.	
		Verification of cross-border movement	
		in the main entrance and exit points of	
I	I	und enter points of	I



Mexico

		the country to import and export wildlife individuals, products, and byproducts including artisanal crafts made of hawksbill shells. For law enforcement, PROFEPA conducts operations of inspection and surveillance in markets, beaches and at the sea	
3. Are activities being carried out in order to stop the illegal trade of hawksbill products?		the sea. Inspection on extractive and non- extractive use of threatened marine species. Inspection and surveillance activities on nesting beaches and in vessels. With the support of SEMAR, PROFEPA carries out operations of inspection and surveillance for the protection of hatchling, aiming to avoid legal and illegal trade of sea turtles in markets, beaches and at sea. (Annex I-A-1,2 and 3, Part III- Information about research) Certification of shrimp fisheries vessels on the appropriate use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) In the Annual Operative Program POA, national implementation measures include actions toward the protection of sea turtles in general, such as: Certification and verification of the installation and use of the Sea Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) at sea; Inspections in Sea Turtles Conservation Centers, restaurants, markets, crafts and souvenirs stores, fur farms, taxidermists, tanneries and other that could commercialize products and byproducts of sea turtles; Marine and Terrestrial surveillance journeys in front of the nesting beaches, in feeding grounds, and in Natural Protected Areas; Promotion and establishment of Participative Environmental Surveillance Committees and specific operations, including actions in their nesting and feeding sites; all these to comply with the national regulations on sea turtles protection. Goals for the former actions are listed as follows: Operations against illegal trafficking of individuals, products, and byproducts of terrestrial and marine wildlife.	



Mexico

			Surveillance operations for the protection	
			of species at risk and the protection of sea turtle in nesting areas.	
			sea turtie in nesting areas.	
			Establishment of Participative	
			Environmental Surveillance Committees for the protection of Priority Species	
			PACE.	
			Attention to amorganoias reporting	
			Attention to emergencies regarding wildlife, marine resources, and coastal	
			ecosystems.	
			Through the federal government	
			subsidies program, fishermen and local	
			communities have been included in sea	
			turtle protection and conservation actions, increasing the awareness of their	
			importance.	
			Certification of shrimp fishing vessels in	
			the appropriate use of Turtle Excluder	
			Devices (TED).	
			Verification operation of shrimp fishing	
			vessels in compliance with NOM-061-	
			PESC-2006 (TED).	
			Inspection of the extractive and non-	
			extractive use of threatened species.	
			Goals compliance is measured in terms	
			of annual planning by PROFEPA Federal	
			Representatives in the Mexican Republic Coastal States.	
			The following legislation is available for	
			the protection of nesting habitats:	
			- Official Mexican Norm NOM-029-	
			PESC-2006, sharks and rays responsible	
			fishing. Specifications for their use (DOF 14/02/07), establishing that fisheries	
4. Indicate if your			targeting sharks and rays should not be	
country is strengthening the protection of			performed within a 5 km strip from shore	
important nesting and			in front of sea turtle nesting beaches, during the nesting seasons. This nesting	
foraging habitats by	a) Protection of	Х	beaches are specified in Normative	
declaring protected areas and regulating	nesting habitats		Annex "B" of the regulation.	
anthropogenic activities			-Natural Protected Areas Decree (ANP).	
that adversely impact these habitats.			There are 17 ANP under Sanctuaries	
mose naorais.			category which is specific for the	
			protection of nesting sites, additional to other ANP that protect these beaches as	
			well: RB Terminos Lagoon, RB Los	
			Petenes, RV Ría Celestún, RB Ría Lagartos, which polygons include	
			<i>Lagartos</i> , which polygons include nesting sites.	



Mexico

#### **Annual Report 2017**

			-NOM-162-SEMARNAT-2012, establishing specifications for the protection, recovery, and management of sea turtle populations in their nesting habitats. -Agreement establishing <i>Bahía de</i> <i>Akumal</i> as a fish refuge for the protection of the species mentioned. Quintana Roo State marine portion protects hawksbill turtles nesting habitats among other.	
			For the protection of feeding habitats we have:	
			-Agreement establishing <i>Bahía de Akumal</i> as a refuge for the protection of the species included, Quintana Roo State defined marine area protection hawksbill nesting areas, among other (Annex).	
,	Protection of eding habitats	X	Decrees of natural protected areas (ANP) with feeding habitats within the polygons: <i>RB Laguna de Términos, RB Los Petenes, RB Ría Celestún, RB Ría Lagartos,</i> are natural protected areas including feeding and nesting sites.	
			-Agreement establishing a fish refuge and new measures to reduce potential interactions of fisheries with sea turtles in BCS.	
			Decree declaring a Natural Protected Area with the character of biosphere reserve, the region known as Mexican Caribbean (Annex).	

(\*) Specify actions implemented, the name of the project or relevant document, location, objective(s), institutions responsible, contact, financial or other support (optional), results (both positive and negative) and duration.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

**Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R2**: Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

#### ACCORDING TO RESOLUTION CIT-COP3-2006-R2, REPORT WHETHER YOUR COUNTRY:

IS COMPLYING WITH THE FOLLOWING:	YES	NO	DESCRIBE ACTION (*)	DOES NOT APPLY
Adopted the "Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle M United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization				
1. Research and monitoring of adverse impact of	fisherie	s on sea	turtles	
Collect information by fishery			Mainly in shrimp and shark fisheries. Fishing activities in fisheries that interact with sea turtles are being watched to minimize potential	
Observer programs	X		bycatch of these species. There is a scientific on-board observers program in 100% of the tuna fleet, and in a smaller percentage of shrimp and shark long line, with a record of each trip with onboard observers.	
• Research on sea turtle/fishery interactions			There are ongoing studies to minimize bycatch in shrimp and shark fisheries.	
Information on non-Party vessels				Х
Cooperation with non-Party states to obtain information			Information exchange	
2. Mitigation measures for the following fisherie	s:			
i. Long-line			NOM-029-PESC-2006, sharks, and rays responsible fisheries mandate the use of circle hooks in waters at a certain depth. Agreement establishing a fish refuge and new measures to reduce the interaction of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California, establishes: an area where the use of gillnet, longline, and traps is not banned; measures to release individuals incidentally captured; a mortality limit of the yellow turtle (90 individuals) after which the commercial fishing will be suspended, and use of trawling nets only if they have installed sea turtle and fish excluder devices.	
	X		This fishing gear is not allowed to catch sharks and rays within a five km marine strip in front of main sea turtle nesting beaches, during	



Mexico

		the nesting season.	
		NOM-029-PESC-2006, sharks and rays responsible fishing obliging the use of circular hooks in certain areas and depths, releasing sea turtle incidentally captured immediately.	
<ul> <li>ii. Gillnets</li> <li>iii. Trawling (e.g., 1. TEDs: specify legally approved TEDs, their dimensions, material, and target species for that fishery, 2. time-area closures: specify geographical area, time of closure and target species for that fishery, 3. tow times and/or 4. other measures)</li> </ul>	x	This fishing gear is not allowed to catch sharks and rays within a five km marine strip in front of main sea turtle nesting beaches, during nesting season. NOM-029-PESC- 2006, sharks, and rays responsible fisheries prohibit its use in front of sea turtles nesting beaches during the turtles reproductive season. Agreement establishing a fish refuge and new measures to reduce the interaction of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California, establishes: an area where the use of gillnet, longline, and traps is not banned; measures to release individuals incidentally captured; a mortality limit of the yellow turtle (90 individuals) after which the commercial fishing will be suspended, and use of trawling nets only if they have installed sea turtle and fish excluder devices. NOM-002-SAG/PESC/-2013 specifies that the use of turtle excluder devices (TED) is compulsory in shrimp trawl fisheries, this norm is complemented with NOM-061- PESC/SEMARNAT-2016, which establishes technical specifications for shrimp trawl fleet in the United States of Mexico waters, including: the TED characteristics regarding shape, dimensions, building material, installation and angle of the greed; the TED should ease the exclusion of adult sea turtles and juveniles which shell height is higher than 10.2 cm, preventing them to get in the bag of the net, and allowing them to escape through the escape aperture. Also, the TED should aid the shrimp to get in the bag. The TEDs should be comprised of:	



Mexico

	<ul> <li>escape aperture</li> <li>b) Solid grill</li> <li>c) Cover for the aperture escape</li> <li>d) Floats</li> <li>Additionally, the following can be used:</li> <li>e) Speed funnel</li> <li>f) Tensor rope</li> <li>g) Protection rope</li> <li>h) A cloth cover to avoid abrasion</li> <li>4.1.3. Requirements for the components and building materials</li> </ul>	
	(More detail on these specifications is found in the Spanish version of this report.). Net extension with an escape cover. Built with one rectangular piece made of polyamide thread	
	piece made of polyamide thread (PA), tinted and treated multifilament number 18 or 36, or polyethylene (PE), mesh size 38 mm (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches) to 41 mm (1 5/8 inches) equivalent to 35 mm (1 3/8 inches) and 38 mm (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches) mesh size; and dimensions of at least 50 to 150 meshes which should be adjusted to the grid size. The panel smaller sides should be sewed to each other and attached to the net and the bag by their ends, maximum every two meshes.	
	Exit hole flap: Rectangular cut measuring not smaller than the following options:	
	1 142 cm (56") across and 51 cm (20") longitudinally (small TED), measured with the net stretched, from the middle of the mesh before the grill, where the cut for the exit hole begins.	
	The cover for this exit corresponds to specification 1) subparagraph c, and can be used in grills larger or smaller than 120 inches, considering that if a grill smaller than 120 inches is used, the exit hole longitudinal cut should be placed at a maximum of 4 inches from the total width in both sides. 2- 180 cm (71") across and 66 cm	



Mexico

	<ul><li>(26") longitudinally (large TED) measured with the net stretched, from the middle of the mesh before the grill, where the cut for the exit hole begins.</li><li>Cover for this exit-hole is in</li></ul>
	c), and will only be used in grills larger than 120 inches of the perimeter.
	Solid grid: Solid structured made of an oval or semi-rectangular frame without corners. Dimensions: minimum 81x115 cm and maximum 107x130 cm. Rods: vertical fixed to the frame with a maximum separation of 10.2 cm between them. Material: galvanized or stainless steel rod, aluminum rod, aluminum or galvanized tube. More detail on these specifications is found in the Spanish version of this report.
	The position of the grid: Installed inside the TED. Angle 30 to 50 degrees from the horizontal, the optimum is 45. The grid should be firmly tied to the length of the panel or along the frame's perimeter through polyamide multifilament thread joints.
	Floats (bottom opening excluders with buoyancy lighter than its own weight). Material: polyurethane, PVC, ethyl acetate (EVA), other rigid plastic or aluminum.
	For top exciting TEDs: one float off the TED structure; one float at each side of the grid below the exit hole flap margin. For bottom exciting TEDs: symmetrically fixed with polyamide or polyethylene ropes on both sides of the grid top-center (junction point with the TED) outside the TED body or inside behind the frame of the grid (when is polyurethane).
	4.1.4 Additional components. The detail on specifications for these components is found in the Spanish version of this report.



Mexico

#### **Annual Report 2017**

		<ul> <li>4.1.5 Installing specifications Detail on specifications for these components are found in the Spanish version of this report.</li> <li>Sea turtles are in permanent closure since 1994.</li> <li>Since 2010 until now CONAPESCA develops a Program of Training and Comprehensive Technical assistants on the use of TEDs, whereby the end of 2016, 17,370 crew members and netters were trained in the construction and operation of TEDs.</li> <li>Agreement establishing a fish refuge and new measures to reduce the interaction of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California, establishes: an area where the use of gillnet, longline, and traps is not banned; measures to release individuals incidentally captured; a mortality limit of the yellow turtle (90 individuals) after which the commercial fishing will be suspended, and use of trawling nets only if they have installed sea turtle and fish excluder devices.</li> <li>Sea turtles are in permanent and total closure since 1991, reinforced by the Announcement to advertise the establishment of seasonal and spatial closure for fishing in 1994.</li> </ul>
iv. Other fishing gear (indicate which one(s))		
v. Training programs for fisherman about best practices for safe handling and release of sea turtles incidentally caught	X	During 2016, training and learning processes for crew members and netters of high seas shrimp vessels were carried out in Baja California, Sonora, Sinaloa, Oaxaca and Chiapas state, training 1,967 people.
C. Socio-economic considerations	· · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
• Support socio-economic activities that help mitigate adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles		

(\*) Specify actions implemented, the name of the project or relevant document, location, objective(s), institutions responsible, contact, financial or other support (optional), results (both positive and negative) and duration.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

#### c.2 National and International Mandates

List actions that are being carried out to comply with national and international mandates (Ex: inspections, confiscations, sanctions, etc.

The process to modify the Mexican Official Norm "NOM-061-SAG-PESC/SEMARNAT-2016" concluded on December 2016. Technical specifications of the Sea Turtle Excluder Devices used by the Shrimp Trawl Fleet in Jurisdictional Waters of the United States of Mexico". This modification, included the use of flat solid grill with flat bars, in addition to the previously authorized solid grids, which are more efficient exclude big organisms, such as sea turtles, last longer, and improve the flow of shrimps to the bag. These modifications match the specifications for TEDs in other countries which with there as a commercial trade and technical cooperation.

On June 23, 2016 the DOF published the "Agreement to establish a fish refuge and new measures to reduce potential interactions of the fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California east coast" establishing a partial seasonal fish refuge with a surface of 19,924  $\text{km}^2$  (1,993,229 ha) in waters of federal jurisdiction, next to the central area of the east coast of South Baja California in an area called "Golfo de Ulloa". Establishing a fish refuge and new measures to reduce the interaction of fisheries with sea turtles in South Baja California, establishes: an area where the use of gillnet, longline, and traps is banned; measures to release individuals incidentally captured; a mortality limit of the yellow turtle (90 individuals) after which the commercial fishing will be suspend. Use of trawling nets will only be allowed if they have installed sea turtle and fish excluder devices. The agreement was amended from DOF November 18, 2016.

The agencies in charge of inspection and surveillance regarding sea turtle are The Federal Attorney for the Protection of the Environment (PROFEPA), SEMAR, the Republic General Attorney (PGR in Spanish), CONANP and CONAPESCA, who work in close coordination within their respective powers.

CONAPESCA has an annual Program on Training and Comprehensive Technical Support called: Emerging Program for Training on Sea Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) Effective Use, in addition to the Fishing Vessels Positioning and Satellite Monitoring System (SISMEP), which enhance the exchange of information with PROFEPA and SEMAR.

Among the actions to protect sea turtles in their nesting beaches and prevent the trade of their products and by-products during 2016, PROFEPA carried out 31 operations in the country, eight focused in fighting illegal harvest of sea turtles, and 23 in protecting their nesting and foraging areas. From that, there were 380 surveillance patrols in Baja California, South Baja California, Campeche, Colima, Chiapas, Guerrero, Michoacán, Nayarit, Oaxaca, Quintana Roo, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas, Veracruz, and Yucatan.



Mexico Annual Report 2017

In June 2016, inspection, surveillance and verification actions were implemented to ensure compliance with the protection and conservation of sea turtles in their nesting habitat in the Centers for Sea Turtle Protection and Conservation (CPCTM), where 76 inspections were carried out. Two inspections took place to verify the sea turtle closure, and 20 Participative Environmental Surveillance Committees were formed.

From these actions, 13,500 sea turtle eggs were seized and three people were presented to the Federal Public Ministry accused of illegal possession of sea turtle individuals, parts, and sub-products.

In Oaxaca beaches of *La Escobilla* and *Morro Ayuta*, which are the main beaches for olive ridley in this state, massive arrivals occur between June and December. Therefore with the objective of preventing poaching and sea turtle catches, PROFEPA carries out an operation with permanent surveillance of the area in coordination with the Marine Secretary – Mexican Navy, and technicians from the Mexican Sea Turtle Center. In 2016, there was a total of 1,335 surveillance patrols, protecting 16 massive arrivals, whit an estimate of 1'328,333 nesting actions protected.

The second operation was done for the threatened to extinction leatherback turtle. The operation was carried out at the end of season 2015-2016 between January and March, and at the beginning of the 2016-2017 season between November and December in the main nesting beaches, such as Mexiquillo, in Michoacán; Tierra Colorada, Guerrero; Barra de la Cruz and Cahuitán, Oaxaca. Operations are conducted in coordination with the Marine Secretary – Mexico Navy, and technicians from the Natural Protected Areas National Commission (CONANP) and from the Mexican Sea Turtle Center, with the permanent presence of these authorities in the beaches. From this operation, there were 178 surveillance patrols, with 85 individuals sighted. 120 nests were protected and 2,526 hatchlings were released. Given the overlapping in nesting beaches, protection was also provided for olive ridley and green turtles arriving at these beaches, with an estimate of 52 nests of the green turtle (Chelonia agassizii) and 223 of olive ridley (Lepidochelys olivacea) protected, releasing 1,032 and 52,200 hatchlings, respectively.

In 2016, the Environmental Protection Federal Attorney certified sea turtle excluder devices (TEDs) in two periods:

- a) 24 shrimp vessels were certified at the end of the season 2015-2016
- b) 1,117 shrimp trawling vessels operated in Mexican waters were certified at the beginning of the season 2016-2017.



Mexico Annual Report 2017

Certification of these vessels was carried according to the Mexican Official Norms NOM-002-PESC-1993 and NOM-061-SAG- PESC/SEMARNAT-2016, particularly the latest, establishing the TEDs technical specifications.

During 2016, there was a total of 1,141 certifications including both coasts, equivalent to 72% of the total of vessels, due to a higher relevance of the Pacific Ocean and Gulf of California shrimp fishery. A 28% of the shrimp fishing fleet was certified in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

Also, as part of 2016 actions to verify compliance with NOM-061-SAG-PESC/SEMARNAT-2016, there were additional efforts to reinforce inspection and surveillance, particularly in shrimp fishing areas, in addition to the activities in port, for which the collaboration of the Aquaculture and Fisheries National Commission (CONAPESCA) was very important; as well as the collaboration with Secretary of the Mexican Marin Navy (SEMAR) and the Natural Protected Areas National Commission (CONANP).

During season 2015-2016 (October-March) PROFEPA verified 263 shrimp vessels, imposing 35 administrative procedure but without irregularities.

In the first fraction of the season 2016-2017, there has been verification in compliance with NOM-061-SAG-PESC/SEMARNAT-2016 in 297shrimp vessels, which 35.74% were inspected in fishing grounds and the rest 64.26% in the dock. This is equivalent to a verification of 1,645 excluders that aid the exit of sea turtles from shrimp trawl nets.

#### d.\_Application[submission] of exceptions established in the Convention

Describe in detail the exceptions allowed in accordance with article IV, item 3 (a,b,d) and Annex IV of the text of the Convention, in accordance with the procedure established by the COP (Doc. CIT-COP5-2011-R2). Attach management program.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

#### **Part III (Research information)**

#### a.\_ Threats

Indicate threats (Coastal development, incidental capture, direct use, contamination and pathogens, and climate change) by species, with information on the area and activities taken to control them in the following table. Lo = Lepidochelys olivacea; Lk = Lepidochelys kempii; Dc = Dermochelys coriacea; Ei = Eretmochelys imbricata; Cc = Caretta caretta; Cm = Chelonia mydas.



Mexico

visitors. Inspection and surveillance actions and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR) to protect nesting.
Hurricanes (beaches erosion). Clutches management strategies are implemented to avoid losing them.
Lighting in beaches, vehicles circulation. Traffic in beaches increases, especially in tourist places and high season. Using signs in the beaches, the public is warned of the presence of the turtles. In some places, the way of the vehicles is blocked placing trunks or barriers across the beach. However, in Mexico, there is no law restricting circulation of vehicles.
Construction and Infrastructure in beaches. Inspection and surveillance aiming to verify that all construction has an Environmental Impact manifest, and comply with mitigation measures according to the Environmental Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and the regulation on the matter.
<u>Observations</u> : At tourist development places, it is verified that lighting follows the conditions established in the environmental impact manifest, such as lamps orientation, and type of lamps, aiming to avoid disturbances for sea turtles during nesting season.
Eggs and hatchlings predation by domestic and wild animals. Project in coordination with PROFEPA, SEMAR, and CONANP, and in some places with the Health Secretary, to conduct sterilization and sanitizing control of strait dogs.
Inadequate management of tourism; inspection and surveillance in sea turtles protection centers with a focus on hatchling release avoiding they are kept for several days or are released at inappropriate times.
<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to carry out environmental education training among tourist services providers, with the purpose of encouraging awareness and respect, transmitted to visitor aiming to avoid damaging sea turtles.
Trawl nets, longline, gillnets, etc. Certification and verification of the shrimp trawl fishing fleet on the appropriate use of turtle excluder devices (TED) at the dock as well as in high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.



Mexico

	<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to increase the inspections during shrimp fishing activities.
	Catch of sea turtles to use their meat, on the beach as well as at sea. In Mexico, the extractive use of sea turtles, products, and byproducts is not allowed by law. Mexico Navy does surveillance on boats to detect vessels fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors do the same in coordination with the Marine Secretary.
	Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during nesting season, and special operations (PROFEPA- SEMAR).
	Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
	<u>Observations</u> : During holidays, operations against consumption are conducted to discourage this activity.
	PROFEPA delegations in coastal States have boats, enabling trips in front of nesting beaches aiming to identify boats fishing sea turtles.
	Longline, driftnets, gillnets, trawling nets. Since 1993 in the Gulf of Mexico and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific sea turtle excluder devices are used are mandatory in the shrimp trawl fishing fleets. Although gillnets and longline interact with sea turtles, there are no bycatch studies that allow us to determine the scope of the problem (in time or space).
	Shark fishery is one with a higher number of fishermen. This fishery uses drift nets and longline. The Mexican government has approved the Mexican official norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, including incidental catches and mechanisms to reduce sea turtles bycatch.
	Other fisheries with a smaller fishing effort such as those for swordfishes, could have an impact on sea turtles, however, there is no existing statistics on the impact. In this case onboard observers, programs are developed to measure the interaction and obtain support information to make appropriate decisions.
	Workshops with coastal fishermen have taken place with the purpose of increasing their awareness and let them know about sea turtles regulations, especially of NOM- 029-PESC-2006, including shark fisheries and incidental catches. The coastal fishing sector is very open to



Mexico

			cooperate with sea turtle conservation programs and adopt more selective fishing techniques, and safety equipment to help recovery sea turtles populations.
			All shrimp fishing vessels must comply with the norm of using turtle excluder devices (TEDs), allowing sea turtles to get released from the net when they are incidentally caught.
			The Environmental Protection Federal Attorney is the agency in charge of verifying the use and appropriate installation of TED at sea as well as in the docks, as well as of certifying them every year according to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993.
			PROFEPA verifies the compliance with the IATTC resolution. Purse seine vessels should make all the efforts to release a turtle that has been trapped.
Lk	⊠Coastal development □Incidental capture	<ul> <li>☑ Contamination</li> <li>□ Pathogens</li> <li>☑ Climate</li> <li>change</li> </ul>	Nesting beaches inspection and surveillance during nesting season reporting turtles and eggs seized, eggs collected and replaced, hatchlings released, and fishing gears seized. Also, operations in coordination with PROFEPA.
	Direct use		Inspection and surveillance actions in sea turtle protection centers with a focus on hatchlings release, avoiding they are kept for several days and release them at inappropriate times.
			Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches by SEMAR and CONANP.
			Certification and verification of turtle excluder devices (TED) appropriate use by the shrimp trawl fishing fleet at the dock as well as at high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
			Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
			Inspection and surveillance in the marine-terrestrial federal zone aiming to verify that the activities carried out in this area comply with the norm.
			Eggs poaching during holidays on the beaches with more visitors. Inspection and surveillance actions and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR) to protect nesting. Obstacles in the beach due to human littering inland or at



Mexico

sea. During journeys, these obstacles are removed to allow sea turtle to pass.
Hurricanes (beaches erosion). Clutches management strategies are implemented to avoid losing them.
Hydrocarbons pollution (oil spills). Warn Mexico Navy Secretary (SEMAR) who is responsible for the operation in case of spills. Also, the Mexican Petroleum Company (PEMEX) is informed, who along with SEMAR send the equipment to clean the spill and clean the beach.
Lighting in beaches, vehicles circulation. Traffic in beaches increases, especially in tourist places and high season. Using signs in the beaches, the public is warned of the presence of the turtles. In some places, the way of the vehicles is blocked placing trunks or barriers across the beach. However, in Mexico, there is no law restricting circulation of vehicles throughout the territory.
Construction and Infrastructure in beaches. Inspection and surveillance aiming to verify that all constructions have an Environmental Impact manifest, and comply with mitigation measures according to the Environmental Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and the regulation on the matter.
<u>Observations</u> : At tourist development places, it is verified that lighting follows the conditions established in the environmental impact manifest, such as lamps orientation, and type of lamps, aiming to avoid disturbances for sea turtles during nesting season.
Eggs and hatchlings predation by domestic and wild animals. Project in coordination with PROFEPA, SEMAR and CONANP, and in some places with the Health Secretary, to conduct sterilization and sanitizing control of strait dogs.
Inadequate management of tourism; inspection and surveillance in sea turtles protection centers with a focus on hatchling release avoiding they are kept for several days or are released at inappropriate times.
<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to carry out environmental education training among tourist services providers, with the purpose of encouraging awareness and respect, transmitted to visitor aiming to avoid damaging sea turtles.
Trawl nets, longline, gillnets, etc. Certification and verification of the shrimp trawl fishing fleet on the appropriate use of turtle excluder devices (TED) at the



Mexico

	dock as well as in high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM- 029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
	Observations: It is necessary to increase the inspections during shrimp fishing activities.
	Catch of sea turtles to use their meat, on the beach as well as at sea. In Mexico, the extractive use of sea turtles, products, and byproducts is not allowed by law. Mexico Navy does surveillance on boats to detect vessels fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors do the same in coordination with the marine secretary.
	Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during nesting season, and special operations (PROFEPA- SEMAR).
	Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
	<u>Observations</u> : During holidays, operations against consumption are conducted to discourage this activity.
	PROFEPA delegations in coastal States have boats, enabling trips in front of nesting beaches aiming to identify boats fishing sea turtles.
	Longline, driftnets, gillnets, trawling nets. Since 1993 in the Gulf of Mexico and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific sea turtle excluder devices are used are mandatory in the shrimp trawl fishing fleets. Although gillnets and longline interact with sea turtles, there are no bycatch studies that allow us to determine the scope of the problem (in time or space).
	Shark fishery is one with a higher number of fishermen. This fishery uses drift nets and longline. The Mexican government has approved the Mexican official norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, including incidental catches and mechanisms to reduce sea turtles bycatch.
	Other fisheries with a smaller fishing effort such as those for swordfishes, could have an impact on sea turtles, however, there is no existing statistics on the impact. In this case onboard observers, programs are developed to measure the interaction and obtain support information to make appropriate decisions.



Mexico

			Workshops with coastal fishermen have taken place with the purpose of increasing their awareness and let them know about sea turtles regulations, especially of NOM- 029-PESC-2006, including shark fisheries and incidental catches. The coastal fishing sector is very open to cooperate with sea turtle conservation programs and adopt more selective fishing techniques, and safety equipment to help recovery sea turtles populations.
			All shrimp fishing vessels must comply with the norm of using turtle excluder devices (TEDs), allowing sea turtles to get released from the net when they are incidentally caught.
			The Environmental Protection Federal Attorney is the agency in charge of verifying the use and appropriate installation of TED at sea as well as in the docks, as well as of certifying them every year according to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993.
Dc	⊠Coastal development ⊠Incidental capture	<ul> <li>☑ Contamination</li> <li>□ Pathogens</li> <li>☑ Climate</li> <li>change</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PROFEPA verifies the compliance with the IATTC resolution. Purse seine vessels should make all the efforts to release a turtle that has been trapped.</li> <li>Nesting beaches inspection and surveillance during nesting season reporting turtles and eggs seized, eggs collected and replaced, hatchlings released, and fishing gears seized. Also, operations in coordination with PROFEPA.</li> </ul>
	Direct use		Inspection and surveillance actions in sea turtle protection centers with a focus on hatchlings release, avoiding they are kept for several days and release them at inappropriate times.
			Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches, as well as a permanent operation to protect Leatherback nesting at their main nesting, beaches Tierra Colorada, Gro., Mexiquillo, Mich., Barra de la Crus y Cahuitán Oax.
			Certification and verification of turtle excluder devices (TED) appropriate use by the shrimp trawl fishing fleet at the dock as well as at high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
			Inspection and surveillance at the marine-terrestrial federal zone to verify that activities carried out here comply with the norm.



Mexico

	Coastal development (land use changes for housing construction). There is surveillance in the area. Environmental education and community organization.
	Eggs poaching during holidays on the beaches with more visitors. Inspection and surveillance actions and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR) to protect nesting.
	Obstacles in the beach due to human littering inland or at sea. During journeys, these obstacles are removed to allow sea turtle to pass.
	Hurricanes (beaches erosion). Clutches management strategies are implemented to avoid losing them.
	Lighting in beaches, vehicles circulation. Traffic in beaches increases, especially in tourist places and high season. Using signs in the beaches, the public is warned of the presence of the turtles. In some places, the way of the vehicles is blocked placing trunks or barriers across the beach. However, in Mexico, there is no law restricting circulation of vehicles throughout the territory.
	Construction and Infrastructure in beaches. Inspection and surveillance aiming to verify that all constructions have an Environmental Impact manifest, and comply with mitigation measures according to the Environmental Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and the regulation on the matter.
	<u>Observations</u> : At tourist development places, it is verified that lighting follows the conditions established in the environmental impact manifest, such as lamps orientation, and type of lamps, aiming to avoid disturbances for sea turtles during nesting season.
	Eggs and hatchlings predation by domestic and wild animals. Project in coordination with PROFEPA, SEMAR, and CONANP, and in some places with the Health Secretary, to conduct sterilization and sanitizing control of strait dogs.
	Inadequate management of tourism; inspection and surveillance in sea turtles protection centers with a focus on hatchling release avoiding they are kept for several days or are released at inappropriate times.
	<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to carry out environmental education training among tourist services providers, with the purpose of encouraging awareness and respect, transmitted to visitor aiming to avoid damaging sea turtles.



Mexico

	Trawl nets, longline, gillnets, etc. Certification and verification of the shrimp trawl fishing fleet on the appropriate use of turtle excluder devices (TED) at the dock as well as in high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
	<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to increase the inspections during shrimp fishing activities.
	Catch of sea turtles to use their meat, on the beach as well as at sea. In Mexico, the extractive use of sea turtles, products, and byproducts is not allowed by law. Mexico Navy does surveillance on boats to detect vessels fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors do the same in coordination with the marine secretary.
	Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during nesting season, and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR).
	Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
	<u>Observations</u> : During holidays, operations against consumption are conducted to discourage this activity.
	PROFEPA delegations in coastal States have boats, enabling trips in front of nesting beaches aiming to identify boats fishing sea turtles.
	Longline, driftnets, gillnets, trawling nets. Since 1993 in the Gulf of Mexico and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific sea turtle excluder devices are used are mandatory in the shrimp trawl fishing fleets. Although gillnets and longline interact with sea turtles, there are no bycatch studies that allow us to determine the scope of the problem (in time or space).
	Shark fishery is one with a higher number of fishermen. This fishery uses drift nets and longline. The Mexican government has approved the Mexican official norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, including incidental catches and mechanisms to reduce sea turtles bycatch.
	Other fisheries with a smaller fishing effort such as those for swordfishes, could have an impact on sea turtles, however, there is no existing statistics on the impact. In



Mexico

			this case, onboard observers programs, are developed to measure the interaction and obtain support information to make appropriate decisions.
			Workshops with coastal fishermen have taken place with the purpose of increasing their awareness and let them know about sea turtles regulations, especially of NOM- 029-PESC-2006, including shark fisheries and incidental catches. The coastal fishing sector is very open to cooperate with sea turtle conservation programs and adopt more selective fishing techniques, and safety equipment to help recovery sea turtles populations.
			All shrimp fishing vessels must comply with the norm of using turtle excluder devices (TEDs), allowing sea turtles to get released from the net when they are incidentally caught.
			The Environmental Protection Federal Attorney is the agency in charge of verifying the use and appropriate installation of TED at sea as well as in the docks, as well as of certifying them every year according to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993.
			PROFEPA verifies the compliance with the
			IATTC resolution. Purse seine vessels should make all the efforts to release a turtle that has been trapped.
Ei	⊠Coastal development ⊠Incidental capture	<ul> <li>☑ Contamination</li> <li>□ Pathogens</li> <li>☑ Climate</li> <li>change</li> </ul>	Nesting beaches inspection and surveillance during nesting season reporting turtles and eggs seized, eggs collected and replaced, hatchlings released, and fishing gears seized. Also, operations in coordination with PROFEPA.
	⊠Direct use		Certification and verification of turtle excluder devices (TED) appropriate use by the shrimp trawl fishing fleet at the dock as well as at high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
			Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during the nesting reporting the number of females arriving at the coast, sea turtles and eggs seized, the number of eggs collected and relocated, hatchlings released, as well as fishing gears, seized. SEMAR jointly with PROFEPA conducts special operations.
			Habitat disruption (reefs disruption; beaches erosion due to dunes construction). According to the Ecologic Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA)



Mexico

	and to environmental Regulations all constructions in coastal zones require an environmental impact manifest. SEMARNAT establishes mitigation measures for those constructions and development. At El Verde beach, clutches are re-located in incubation chambers made with polyurethane boxes.
	Damage to reef communities due to development offshore and pollution impacts. Projects to learn the degree of the impact on Campeche coast population is carried out.
	Eggs poaching during holidays on the beaches with more visitors. Inspection and surveillance actions and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR) to protect nesting.
	Obstacles in the beach due to human littering inland or at sea. During journeys, these obstacles are removed to allow sea turtle to pass.
	Hurricanes (beaches erosion). Clutches management strategies are implemented to avoid losing them.
	Hydrocarbons pollution (oil spills). Warn Mexico Navy Secretary (SEMAR) who is responsible for the operation in case of spills. Also, the Mexican Petroleum Company (PEMEX) is informed, who along with SEMAR send the equipment to clean the spill and clean the beach.
	Lighting in beaches, vehicles circulation. Traffic in beaches increases, especially in tourist places and high season. Using signs in the beaches, the public is warned of the presence of the turtles. In some places, the way of the vehicles is blocked placing trunks or barriers across the beach. However, in Mexico, there is no law restricting circulation of vehicles throughout the territory.
	Construction and Infrastructure in beaches. Inspection and surveillance aiming to verify that all constructions have an Environmental Impact manifest, and comply with mitigation measures according to the Environmental Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and the regulation on the matter.
	<u>Observations</u> : At tourist development places, it is verified that lighting follows the conditions established in the environmental impact manifest, such as lamps orientation, and type of lamps, aiming to avoid disturbances for sea turtles during nesting season.
	Eggs and hatchlings predation by domestic and wild animals. Project in coordination with PROFEPA, SEMAR, and CONANP, and in some places with the Health



Mexico

Secretary, to conduct sterilization and sanitizing control of strait dogs.
Inadequate management of tourism; inspection and surveillance in sea turtles protection centers with a focus on hatchling release avoiding they are kept for several days or are released at inappropriate times.
<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to carry out environmental education training among tourist services providers, with the purpose of encouraging awareness and respect, transmitted to visitor aiming to avoid damaging sea turtles.
Trawl nets, longline, gillnets, etc. Certification and verification of the shrimp trawl fishing fleet on the appropriate use of turtle excluder devices (TED) at the dock as well as in high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to increase the inspections during shrimp fishing activities.
Catch of sea turtles to use their meat, on the beach as well as at sea. In Mexico, the extractive use of sea turtles, products, and byproducts is not allowed by law. Mexico Navy does surveillance on boats to detect vessels fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors do the same in coordination with the marine secretary.
Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during nesting season, and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR).
Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
<u>Observations</u> : During holidays, operations against consumption are conducted to discourage this activity.
PROFEPA delegations in coastal States have boats, enabling trips in front of nesting beaches aiming to identify boats fishing sea turtles.
Longline, driftnets, gillnets, trawling nets. Since 1993 in the Gulf of Mexico and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific sea turtle excluder devices are used are mandatory in the shrimp trawl fishing fleets. Although gillnets and longline interact with sea turtles, there are no bycatch studies that



Mexico

			allow us to determine the scope of the problem (in time or space). Shark fishery is one with a higher number of fishermen. This fishery uses drift nets and longline. The Mexican government has approved the Mexican official norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, including incidental catches and mechanisms to reduce sea turtles bycatch. Other fisheries with a smaller fishing effort such as those for swordfishes, could have an impact on sea turtles, however, there is no existing statistics on the impact. In this case, onboard observers programs are developed to measure the interaction and obtain support information to make appropriate decisions. Workshops with coastal fishermen have taken place with the purpose of increasing their awareness and let them know about sea turtles regulations, especially of NOM-029-PESC-2006, including shark fisheries and incidental catches. The coastal fishing sector is very open to cooperate with sea turtle conservation programs and adopt more selective fishing techniques, and safety equipment to help recovery sea turtles populations. All shrimp fishing vessels must comply with the norm of using turtle excluder devices (TEDs), allowing sea turtles to get released from the net when they are incidentally caught. The Environmental Protection Federal Attorney is the agency in charge of verifying the use and appropriate installation of TED at sea as well as in the docks, as well as of certifying them every year according to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993. PROFEPA verifies the compliance with the IATTC resolution. Purse seine vessels should make all the efforts to release a turtle that has been trapped.
Cm	⊠Coastal development ⊠Incidental capture ⊠Direct use	<ul> <li>☑ Contamination</li> <li>☑ Pathogens</li> <li>☑ Climate</li> <li>change</li> </ul>	Nesting beaches inspection and surveillance during nesting season reporting turtles and eggs seized, eggs collected and replaced, hatchlings released, and fishing gears seized. Also, operations in coordination with PROFEPA. Inspection and surveillance actions in sea turtle protection centers with a focus on hatchlings release, avoiding they are kept for several days and release them at inappropriate times Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches.



Mexico

	Certification and verification of turtle excluder devices (TED) appropriate use by the shrimp trawl fishing fleet at the dock as well as at high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
	Inspection and surveillance in the federal marine-terrestrial zone to verify that the activities in the area comply with the norm.
	Habitat disruption (reefs disruption; beaches erosion due to dunes construction). According to the Ecologic Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and to environmental Regulations all constructions in coastal zones require an environmental impact manifest. SEMARNAT establishes mitigation measures for those constructions and development. At El Verde beach, clutches are re-located in incubation chambers made with polyurethane boxes.
	Coastal development (change in the use of land for rural housing construction). Surveillance is permanent in the area. Environmental Education. Community Organization.
	Eggs poaching during holidays on the beaches with more visitors. Inspection and surveillance actions and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR) to protect nesting.
	Obstacles in the beach due to human littering in land or at sea. During journeys, these obstacles are removed to allow sea turtle to pass.
	Hurricanes (beaches erosion). Clutches management strategies are implemented to avoid losing them.
	Hydrocarbons pollution (oil spills). Warn Mexico Navy Secretary (SEMAR) who is responsible for the operation in case of spills. Also, the Mexican Petroleum Company (PEMEX) is informed, who along with SEMAR send the equipment to clean the spill and clean the beach.
	Lighting in beaches, vehicles circulation. Traffic in beaches increases, especially in tourist places and high season. Using signs in the beaches, the public is warned of the presence of the turtles. In some places, the way of the vehicles is blocked placing trunks or barriers across the beach. However, in Mexico, there is no law restricting circulation of vehicles throughout the territory.



Mexico

Construction and Infrastructure in beaches. Inspection and surveillance aiming to verify that all construction has an Environmental Impact manifest, and comply with mitigation measures according to the Environmental Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and the regulation on the matter.
<u>Observations</u> : At tourist development places, it is verified that lighting follows the conditions established in the environmental impact manifest, such as lamps orientation, and type of lamps, aiming to avoid disturbances for sea turtles during nesting season.
Eggs and hatchlings predation by domestic and wild animals. Project in coordination with PROFEPA, SEMAR, and CONANP, and in some places with the Health Secretary, to conduct sterilization and sanitizing control of strait dogs.
Inadequate management of tourism; inspection and surveillance in sea turtles protection centers with a focus on hatchling release avoiding they are kept for several days or are released at inappropriate times.
<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to carry out environmental education training among tourist services providers, with the purpose of encouraging awareness and respect, transmitted to visitor aiming to avoid damaging sea turtles.
Trawl nets, longline, gillnets, etc. Certification and verification of the shrimp trawl fishing fleet on the appropriate use of turtle excluder devices (TED) at the dock as well as in high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to increase the inspections during shrimp fishing activities.
Catch of sea turtles to use their meat, on the beach as well as at sea. In Mexico, the extractive use of sea turtles, products, and byproducts is not allowed by law. Mexico Navy does surveillance on boats to detect vessels fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors do the same in coordination with the marine secretary.
Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during nesting season, and special operations (PROFEPA- SEMAR).



Mexico

	Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
	<u>Observations</u> : During holidays, operations against consumption are conducted to discourage this activity.
	PROFEPA delegations in coastal States have boats, enabling trips in front of nesting beaches aiming to identify boats fishing sea turtles.
	Longline, driftnets, gillnets, trawling nets. Since 1993 in the Gulf of Mexico and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific sea turtle excluder devices are used are mandatory in the shrimp trawl fishing fleets. Although gillnets and longline interact with sea turtles, there are no bycatch studies that allow us to determine the scope of the problem (in time or space).
	Shark fishery is one with a higher number of fishermen. This fishery uses drift nets and longline. The Mexican government has approved the Mexican official norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, including incidental catches and mechanisms to reduce sea turtles bycatch.
	Other fisheries with a smaller fishing effort such as those for swordfishes, could have an impact on sea turtles, however, there is no existing statistics on the impact. In this case, onboard observers programs, are developed to measure the interaction and obtain support information to make appropriate decisions.
	Workshops with coastal fishermen have taken place with the purpose of increasing their awareness and let them know about sea turtles regulations, especially of NOM- 029-PESC-2006, including shark fisheries and incidental catches. The coastal fishing sector is very open to cooperate with sea turtle conservation programs and adopt more selective fishing techniques, and safety equipment to help recovery sea turtles populations.
	All shrimp fishing vessels must comply with the norm of using turtle excluder devices (TEDs), allowing sea turtles to get released from the net when they are incidentally caught.
	The Environmental Protection Federal Attorney is the agency in charge of verifying the use and appropriate installation of TED at sea as well as in the docks, as well as of certifying them every year according to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993.



Mexico

Cc	⊠Coastal	⊠Contamination	PROFEPA verifies the compliance with the IATTC resolution. Purse seine vessels should make all the efforts to release a turtle that has been trapped. Nesting beaches inspection and surveillance during nesting season reporting turtles and eggs seized, eggs collected and
	development ⊠Incidental capture	□Pathogens ⊠Climate change	replaced, hatchlings released, and fishing gears seized. Also, operations in coordination with PROFEPA.
	□Direct use		Certification and verification of turtle excluder devices (TED) appropriate use by the shrimp trawl fishing fleet at the dock as well as at high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
			Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
			Implementation of the Attention for the Yellow Turtle Protection Sub-program which aims to guarantee protection and compliance with the environmental regulation applicable to sea turtles conservation in their feeding grounds at Golfo de Ulloa in South Baja California State.
			Nesting beaches inspection and surveillance during nesting season reporting turtles arriving at shore, turtles and eggs seized, eggs collected and relocated, hatchlings released, and fishing gears seized. Also, SEMAR carries out operations in coordination with PROFEPA.
			Habitat disruption (reefs disruption; beaches erosion due to dunes construction).
			According to the Ecologic Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and to environmental Regulations all constructions in coastal zones require an environmental impact manifest. SEMARNAT establishes mitigation measures for those constructions and development. At El Verde beach, clutches are re-located in incubation chambers made with polyurethane boxes.
			Eggs poaching during holidays on the beaches with more visitors. Inspection and surveillance actions and special operations (PROFEPA-SEMAR) to protect nesting.
			Obstacles in the beach due to human littering in land or at sea. During journeys, these obstacles are removed to allow sea turtle to pass.



Mexico

	Hurricanes (beaches erosion). Clutches management strategies are implemented to avoid losing them.
	Lighting in beaches, vehicles circulation. Traffic in beaches increases, especially in tourist places and high season. Using signs in the beaches, the public is warned of the presence of the turtles. In some places, the way of the vehicles is blocked placing trunks or barriers across the beach. However, in Mexico, there is no law restricting circulation of vehicles throughout the territory.
	Construction and Infrastructure in beaches. Inspection and surveillance aiming to verify that all constructions have an Environmental Impact manifest, and comply with mitigation measures according to the Environmental Balance and Environmental Protection General Law (LGEEPA) and the regulation on the matter.
	<u>Observations</u> : At tourist development places, it is verified that lighting follows the conditions established in the environmental impact manifest, such as lamps orientation, and type of lamps, aiming to avoid disturbances for sea turtles during nesting season.
	Eggs and hatchlings predation by domestic and wild animals. Project in coordination with PROFEPA, SEMAR and CONANP, and in some places with the Health Secretary, to conduct sterilization and sanitizing control of strait dogs.
	Inadequate management of tourism; inspection and surveillance in sea turtles protection centers with a focus on hatchling release avoiding they are kept for several days or are released at inappropriate times.
	<u>Observations</u> : It is necessary to carry out environmental education training among tourist services providers, with the purpose of encouraging awareness and respect, transmitted to visitor aiming to avoid damaging sea turtles.
	Trawl nets, longline, gillnets, etc. Certification and verification of the shrimp trawl fishing fleet on the appropriate use of turtle excluder devices (TED) at the dock as well as in high seas. For shark fisheries, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued considering the regulations to protect nesting beaches and to avoid bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtles protection and conservation actions, increasing their awareness of their importance.
	Observations: It is necessary to increase the inspections



Mexico

r	
	during shrimp fishing activities.
	Catch of sea turtles to use their meat, on the beach as well as at sea. In Mexico, the extractive use of sea turtles, products, and byproducts is not allowed by law. Mexico Navy does surveillance on boats to detect vessels fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors do the same in coordination with the marine secretary.
	Inspection and surveillance actions in nesting beaches during nesting season, and special operations (PROFEPA- SEMAR).
	Inspection and surveillance actions in restaurants and fishing products markets, especially during holidays.
	<u>Observations</u> : During holidays, operations against consumption are conducted to discourage this activity.
	PROFEPA delegations in coastal States have boats, enabling trips in front of nesting beaches aiming to identify boats fishing sea turtles.
	Longline, driftnets, gillnets, trawling nets. Since 1993 in the Gulf of Mexico and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific sea turtle excluder devices are used are mandatory in the shrimp trawl fishing fleets. Although gillnets and longline interact with sea turtles, there are no bycatch studies that allow us to determine the scope of the problem (in time or space).
	Shark fishery is one with a higher number of fishermen. This fishery uses drift nets and longline. The Mexican government has approved the Mexican official norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, including incidental catches and mechanisms to reduce sea turtles bycatch.
	Other fisheries with a smaller fishing effort such as those for swordfishes, could have an impact on sea turtles, however, there is no existing statistics on the impact. In this case, onboard observers programs, are developed to measure the interaction and obtain support information to make appropriate decisions.
	Workshops with coastal fishermen have taken place with the purpose of increasing their awareness and let them know about sea turtles regulations, especially of NOM- 029-PESC-2006, including shark fisheries and incidental catches. The coastal fishing sector is very open to cooperate with sea turtle conservation programs and adopt more selective fishing techniques, and safety equipment to



Mexico

#### **Annual Report 2017**

help recovery sea turtles populations.
All shrimp fishing vessels must comply with the norm of using turtle excluder devices (TEDs), allowing sea turtles to get released from the net when they are incidentally caught.
The Environmental Protection Federal Attorney is the agency in charge of verifying the use and appropriate installation of TED at sea as well as in the docks, as well as of certifying them every year according to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993.
PROFEPA verifies the compliance with the IATTC resolution. Purse seine vessels should make all the efforts to release a turtle that has been trapped.

#### b.\_Research

Describe scientific research that is being carried out in the country relating to sea turtle population assessments including tagging, migration, and genetic studies, as well as those relating to conservation issues including habitat monitoring, fisheries interactions, disease, etc. Provide a list of references for the information used in this report and note how to obtain them when needed.

In addition to the above, please fill out the following table on the types of research being carried out in the country and with what specie(s).

Research	Specie(s)(Lo, Lk, Cm, Ei, Cc, Dc)
Tagging	Lo, Lk, Cm, Ei, Cc, Dc
Migration	Lk, Cm, Ei, Cc, Dc
Genetics	Lo, Lk, Cm, Ei, Cc, Dc
Habitat monitoring	Lo, Lk, Cm, Ei, Cc, Dc
Fisheries interactions	Lo, Cm, Ei, Cc, Dc
Disease	Lo, Lk, Ei, Cc, Cm



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECTS BY CONAPESCA IN 2016:

- "ON BOARD SCIENTIFIC OBSERVERS OF THE SMALL FLEET IN GOLFO DE ULLOA, SOUTH BAJA CALIFORNIA"
- "SEA TURTLE MOVEMENT AND MORTALITY, RELATED TO FISHING GEARS USING SATELLITE TAGS"
- "ASSESSMENT OF COASTAL FISHING OPERATIONS USING VIDEO IN THE NORTH OF GOLFO DE ULLOA, S.B.C. STAGE II"
- "STRENGTHENING ACTIONS AND WORKSHOPS ON SUSTAINABILITY OF COASTAL FISHERIES IN GOLGO DE ULLOA, SOUTH BAJA CALIFORNIA"
- "SECOND STAGE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SEA TURTLE CAPTURE AND RECAPTURE METHOD AND ITS IMPACT ON MORTALITY, AS WELL AS EVALUATION OF TIME SPENT FISHING WITH GILLNETS"

There are several institutions conducting sea turtle research in Mexico. During the 32nd Sea Turtle Symposium in Mexico, in March 2012, 21 talks and 58 posters presented results from several subjects on the biology and conservation of sea turtles in the country. There is some long-term tagging programs such as the Leatherback Project and the Gulf of Mexico and Mexican Caribbean Program for the Conservation of Hawksbills.

The National Program for Sea Turtles Conservation monitors population trends of the species nesting in the country in their index beaches. Also, research priorities according to the PACE are jointly agreed with academic institutions and NGOs.



Mexico

INSTITUCIÓN	PROYECTO	ESPECIE	ÁREA		
AICMMARH A.C. ASOCIACIÓN DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y CONSERVACIÓN DE MAMÍFEROS MARINOS Y SU HÁBITAT	Black turtle foraging sites characterization at <i>Laguna Ojo</i> <i>de Liebre</i>	Chelonia mydas	Baja California		
IPN-CIIDIR	Sea turtle bycatch assessment in shark fisheries at the center- north Sinaloa	Chelonia mydas Lepidochelys olivacea	Sinaloa		
IPN-CIIDIR	Farallon Island diagnosis as sea turtles priority habitat	Chelonia mydas Lepidochelys olivacea	Sinaloa		
IPN-CIIDIR	Sea turtle monitoring at Isla Santa Maria beach and at the lagoon system San Ignacio- Navachiste-Macapule foraging area in Sinaloa.	Chelonia mydas Lepidochelys olivacea	Sinaloa		
PRONATURA PENÍNSULA DE YUCATÁN	Sea Turtle Conservation in Campeche State	Eretmochelys imbricata Chelonia mydas	Campeche		
ACUARIO VERACRUZ	Sea turtle conservation in Veracruz	Chelonia mydas Lepidochelys kempii	Veracruz		
PRONATURA PENÍNSULA DE YUCATÁN	Strengthening the Sea turtle in water monitoring program in Campeche state.	Eretmochelys imbricata Chelonia mydas	Campeche		
RANCHO SAN JOSÉ 1960 A.C.	Sea turtles feeding grounds monitoring in Laguna Madre	Chelonia mydas	Tamaulipas		
UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE TAMAULIPAS	Assessment of the Kemp's ridley status through biologic tags	Lepidochelys kempii	Tamaulipas		
RANCHO SAN JOSÉ 1960 A.C.	Tagging of Kemp's ridley nesting females in Miramar, Altamira and Barra del Tordo, Tamps, beaches	Lepidochelys kempii	Tamaulipas		
TIERRA VERDE A.C.	Sea turtle conservation in Playón de Palmarito	Dermochelys coriacea Lepidochelys olivacea Chelonia mydas	Oaxaca		



Mexico

#### **Annual Report 2017**

VINCULACIÓN INTERDISCIPLINARIA PARA EL DESARROLLO AMBIENTAL Y LO SOCIAL AC	Planning tools for tourist activities in playa de Tierra Colorada Sanctuary and Cahuitán beach	Dermochelys coriacea Lepidochelys olivacea Chelonia mydas	Guerrero and Oaxaca		
AMIGOS ISLA CONTOY A.C.	Hawksbill, loggerhead, and green sea turtle diagnosis in nesting beaches and the marine area of the NT Contoy Island.	Eretmochelys imbricata Caretta caretta Chelonia mydas	Quintana Roo		
ECOSUR	Sea turtle population study at NP Arrecifes de Cozumel	Eretmochelys imbricata Chelonia mydas	Quintana Roo		
FLORA FAUNA Y CULTURA DE MEXICO	Assessment on the presence of fibropapilloma in sea turtles at Quintana Roo	Eretmochelys imbricata Caretta caretta Chelonia mydas	Quintana Roo		
TIERRA VERDE A.C.	Assessment of olive ridley nesting success in massive arrival beaches (playas de arribada).	Lepidochelys olivacea			
PRONATURA PENÍNSULA DE YUCATÁN	Assessment on knowledge transference success for sea turtles recovery PROCER 2010-2014	Dermochelys coriacea Lepidochelys olivacea Chelonia mydas Eretmochelys imbricata Lepidochelys kempii Caretta caretta			
IPN-CIIDIR	Sea turtle monitoring program in feeding grounds of the Mexican Northeast Pacific.	Chelonia mydas Lepidochelys olivacea			

#### c.\_Other activities

Include information on environmental education activities, programs to establish and manage protected areas, and cooperative activities with other Party countries.



Mexico

**Annual Report 2017** 

#### Part IV: Annexes

#### Table 1: Species Present

Place an X in the box when the species listed is present in the oceanographic basins of your country as established in Article III of the text of the Convention. Lo = Lepidochelys olivacea; Lk = Lepidochelys kempii; Dc = Dermochelys coriacea; Ei = Eretmochelys imbricata; Cm = Chelonia mydas; Cc = Caretta caretta.

Species	Pacific Ocean	Atlantic Ocean	Caribbean Sea
Lo	Х		
Lk		Х	Х
Dc	Х	Х	Х
Ei	Х	Х	Х
Cm	Х	Х	Х
Cc	Х	Х	Х

#### Table 2: Index nesting sites or beaches for sea turtle conservation

- a. This table is intended to report information on index nesting sites or beaches for each species. For beaches that have multiple species nesting, enter that beach under the list for the primary nesting species. When entering information on nesting site or beaches, information is to be entered for each species independently. Indicate the names of index nesting sites. On a separate sheet of paper, indicate the selection criteria used for identifying the index beach, for example, because it hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within a region or other defined unit or genetic importance.
- b. Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.
- c. Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.
- d. Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).
- e. Geographic location: Specify latitude and longitude in decimal degrees.
- f. Extension of beach monitored: Provide the total length (in Kilometers) of the nesting beach.
- g. Declared protection area: Indicate (yes or no) if the area is declared as some type of protected area.
- h. Annual nesting abundance: Provide information on the total number of females and/or clutches or nests deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide total number of nests.



Mexico

- i. Information from tagging program: Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs. If possible, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available.
- *j.* Tissue sampling: Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, or as attached references, describe these tissue sampling programs in greater detail. For example, were samples collected for genetic, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies?
- k. Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data.
- 1. When inserting new rows, please copy and paste the drop-down menus when applicable.



Mexico

	Name of Index		eason	son Monitoring period		Survey	Geographic Loca Decimal Degrees	(Lat/Long) in	of beach (km)	Declared Protected	Annual Nesting Abundance			Tagging Program (FT, ST,		Organization		
Spp	Nesting Site or Beach	eor				Frequency					io uc	Area					or entity providing data	
	Double	Start	Finish	Start	Finish		Latitude L	.ongi	tude		Extension of beach monitored (km)	(Yes/No)	Females Exact Count	Clutches Exact Count	Number of Nests	PIT)	(100,110)	
	Playa de Escobilla, Sanctuary Oax.	June	May	June	May	Daily	15.72.638.889	٥	967.627.778	o	15	Yes	nd	nd	570,218	None	No	CONANP
	El Verde, Yesn.	June	Мау	June	Мау	Daily	18.75416.667	٥	106.484.444	۰	20	No	nd	1,562	1,563	FT	No	CONANP
	Platanitos, Nay.	June	May	June	May	Daily	21.34805556		105.239.178		8	No	nd	3,343	3,858	None	No	CONANP
Lo	Nuevo Vallarta, Nay.	June	May	June	May	Daily	20.7022.275		105.299605		10	No	nd	5,111	5,706	None	No	CONANP
	Playa Mismaloya, Jal. Sanctuary	June	Мау	June	Мау	Daily	20.09273722		105.545.816		10	Yes	nd	6,725	7,160	None	No	CONANP
	Chalacatepec, Jal	June	May	June	Мау	Daily	19.72086806		105.289722		16	Yes	nd	4,438	5,735	None	No	CONANP
	El Chupadero, Col	June	May	June	May	Daily	18.79206		103.863169		25	Yes	nd	3,330	3,907	None	No	CONANP
	Playa de Rancho Nuevo Sanctuary, Tamps	March	November	March	November	Daily	23.33277778	o	97.7702.778	o	30	Yes	nd	12,159	13,306	FT and PIT	No	CONANP
Lk	Barra del Tordo, Tamps.	March	November	March	November	Daily	23.02452.778	0	97.8636639	٥	42	No	nd	2,155	2,211	FT and PIT	No	CONANP
	Altamira, Tamps.	March	November	March	November	Daily	22.52050556		97.8593056		18	No	nd	729	733	None	No	CONANP
	Miramar, Tamps.	March	November	March	November	Daily	22.28077778		97.7978583		10	No	nd	622	632	None	No	CONANP



## Mexico Annual Report 2017

	Playa de Mexiquillo Sanctuary, Mich.	October	Мау	October	Мау	Daily	18.17361111	o	102.973611	o	18	Yes	nd	44	76	None	No	CONANP
Dc	Playa Tierra Colorada Sanctuary, Gro	October	Мау	October	Мау	Daily	16.50083333	o	98.7277778	o	12	Yes	22	84	93	FT and PIT	No	CONANP
	Cahuitán, Oax.	October	May	October	May	Daily	16.31166.667		98.5351111		10	No	26	67	76	FT and PIT	No	CONANP
	Barra de la Cruz, Oax.	October	May	October	May	Daily	15.81666667		95.9666667		8.5	No	96	357	367	FT and PIT	No	CONANP
	Chenkan, Camp.	April	October	April	October	Daily	19.225	0	90.8433333	٥	20	No	nd	154	354	FT	No	CONANP
Ei	Isla Águada- Xicalango- Victoria, Camp.	April	October	April	October	Daily	18.78305556	o	91.4972222	o	26	Yes	nd	128	129	FT	No	CONANP
	Sanctuary, beach next to RB Río Lagartos (Las Coloradas). Yuc,	April	October	April	October	Daily	21.61111111		88.1666667		40	Yes	nd	462	488	FT	No	CONANP
Cc	Xcacel. Q. Roo	April	October	April	October	Daily	20.32611111	٥	87.34	0	2.5	Yes	nd	631	713			Flora, Fauna y Cultura de México, A.C.
	Lechuguillas, Ver.	May	December	May	December	Daily	20.01472222	o	96.5852778	0	35	No	nd	1,283	1,832	FT	No	CONANP
Cm	Playa de <mark>M</mark> aruata y Colola, Mich	August	January	August	January	Daily	18.25833333	0	103.35	o	12.5	Yes	nd	nd	nd			UniverYesdad Michoacan de San Nicolás Hidalgo



Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles Mexico Annual Report 2017

#### Table 3: Important foraging sites for sea turtle conservation

**NOTE:** This section of the report has been removed by the decision of the IAC Scientific Committee during its 13th meeting. Instead, the information about foraging sites will become part of a technical document, making the information easier to access for the users. The document will include the following:

a) List of foraging sites per Party, b) People working in the corresponding foraging areas, c) Threats in foraging areas, among others. This document will be updated every 5 years.

Information on Mexico foraging areas for the 2016 – 2017 IAC Annual Report is included in the Spanish version of this report