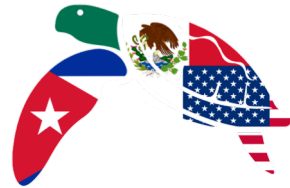




Sea turtles





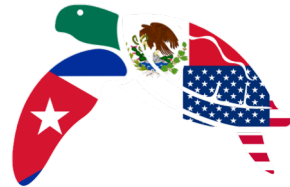
GROUP MEMBERS

- **Félix Moncada Gavilán** – [CIP, Cuba]
- **Julia Azanza Ricando** – [InSTEC-UH, Cuba]
- **Katie Thompson** – [The Ocean Foundation, USA]
- **Kathy Heym** – [Florida Aquarium, USA]
- **Melania López** – [Pronatura Península de Yucatán, Mexico]
- **Fernando Bretos** – [The Ocean Foundation, USA]
- **Beatriz Martínez Daranas** – [CIM-UH, Cuba]
- **Blanca Mónica Zapata Nájera** – [CONANP, Mexico]
- **Eduardo Cuevas Flores** – [UNACAR, Mexico]



THE OCEAN FOUNDATION





Collaborations following the "Tri-national Initiative" workshop

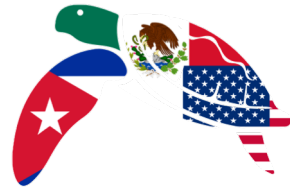
COLLABORATION:



- Marine turtle's conservation festivals
- Exchange workshop about connectivity and marine turtle rehabilitation

RESEARCH:

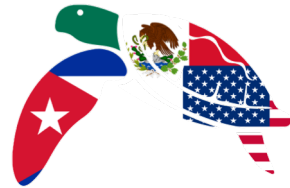
- Strengthening of night monitoring in Guanahacabibes
- Starting incubation temperature monitoring in other areas (Cayo Largo, San Felipe and Jardines de la Reina)



Sea turtle group successes

- 1) Inclusion of Mexican participants
- 2) Exchange workshops (2009, 2013 and 2017)
- 3) Keeping a systematic monitoring in Guanahacabibes peninsula.
- 4) Regional analysis about successful experiences involving fishermen and coastal communities in marine turtle conservation: 1 paper and 1 book.
- 5) Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico connectivity analysis using metallic tags and satellites tracking with TNC





Results from the tri-national initiative 2018

- 1) **Analyze variables taken in each country** and take advantage of international databases (i.e: SWOT, WIDECAST, MTSG) for a regional analysis.
- 2) **Fill knowledge gaps on feeding grounds:** identification and characterization of areas, and connectivity among them (genetics, satellite tracking and stable isotopes) to establish conservation priorities
- 3) Need of **fishermen training for an adequate handling of bycaught sea turtles** for their rehabilitation and release
- 4) To **promote threats monitoring in marine turtles critical habitats** (bycatch, poaching, pollution and climate change impacts)

Short-term results (1-2 years)

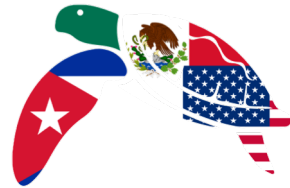


- 1) **Review protocols and identify variables at regional levels** that could be used as indicator for comparative analyses
- 2) **Identify data that could be used for regional connectivity analyses**
 - Review the physical tags databases for regional comparative analyses
 - Define protocols for genetics and stable isotopes samples collection
 - Follow up satellites tracking results
- 3) **Identification of feeding grounds** through surveys with fishermen and analyses of historical fisheries data
- 4) **Design a regional survey** to determine traditional knowledge about marine turtles
- 5) **Capacity building in natural areas for the monitoring of threats** (bycatch, poaching, pollution and climate change impacts such as temperature, beach dynamic and changes in vegetation and effects of extreme weather events)

Long-term results (3-10 years)



- 1) **Connectivity** analyses with genetics and stable isotopes
- 2) Trends in **climate change** indicators
- 3) Modeling of **hatchlings potential movement** to identify oceanic feeding grounds
- 4) Regional analysis of **traditional knowledge** about marine turtles
- 5) **Ecological characterization of critical habitats** for marine turtles at regional level
 - Quality of habitat with ecological indicators
 - Stable isotope characterization of the trophic web
 - Habitat mapping (using GIS and remote sensing imagery)



Challenges and needs

- 1) Achieve effective communication at local and regional levels.
- 2) Identify and encourage participation of possible experts in other fields for habitats characterization, sociological studies and modeling
- 3) Obtain financial support
- 4) Divulcation of the results in different sectors and media

THANK YOU!



Additional information

Special thanks to Maria Elena Moguel from Pronatura Península de Yucatán A.C.
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