

GENERAL FACTS

Class:
reptile
Diet:
mainly herbivorous
Average lifespan:
50-100 years
Size:
up to 1 m
Weight:
up to 150 Kg
East Pacific population segment:
• Smaller
• Darker pigmentation

CONSERVATION STATUS:

(SEA TURTLES IN THE MEXICAN PACIFIC)

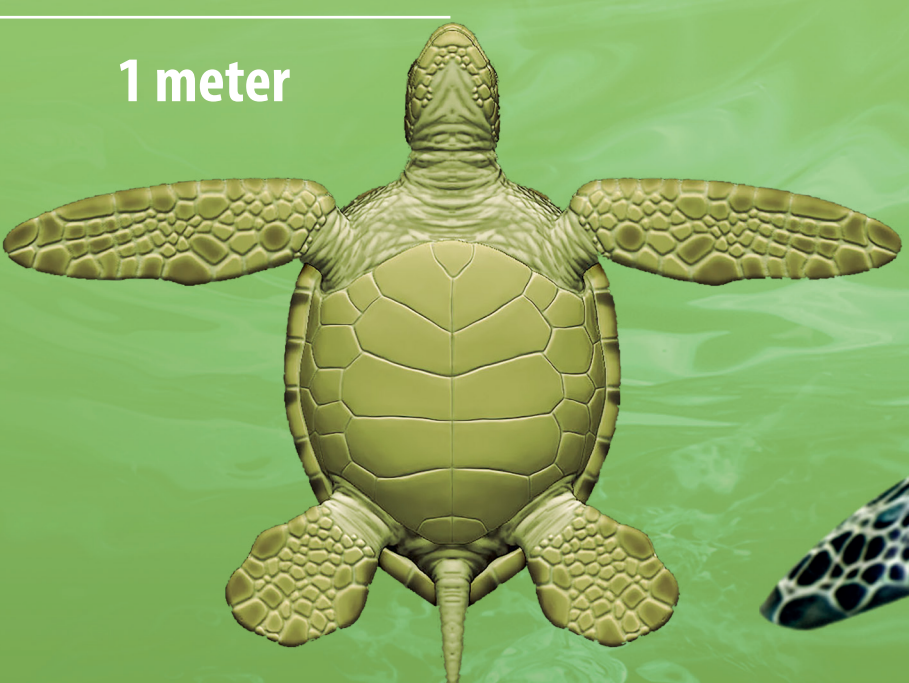
PRESENTS
GREEN SEA TURTLE
(*Chelonia Mydas*)

Throughout its life, this long-lived species occupies various habitats separated by thousands of kilometers. This life history makes research on this species' biology and population dynamics particularly complex. Overfishing took it to the brink of extinction, but thanks to conservation efforts, populations have increased in recent years.



Upper view

MULTICOLORED CARAPACE
The shell can be up to one meter long, and has black, grey, green, brown, and yellow coloration.



Low view

SHELL
The bony parts of the shell make a dome-like shield with thick plates that protect the entire anatomy of the turtle.

FINS
The phalanges of their fins are elongated to give power when swimming, and provide a powerful boost.

IN NUMBERS


1,500 KILOMETERS:
distance covered during migrations


3-5 YEARS:
duration of the migratory cycle


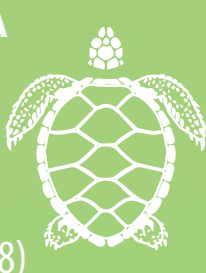

100 EGGS
can be laid by a sea turtle in a single nest. They take six to eight weeks to hatch.

SOURCES:

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- Early-Capistrán, M.-M., Sáenz-Arroyo, A., Cardoso-Mohedano, J.-G., Garibay-Melo, G., Peckham, S.H. and Koch, V. (2018) Reconstructing 290 years of a data-poor fishery through ethnographic and archival research: The East Pacific green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) in Baja California, Mexico. Fish and Fisheries 19, 57-77.
- IUCN (2004) *Chelonia mydas*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2004: e.T4615A11037468.
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- Turtles in the coral triangle, World Wildlife Fund www.panda.org/coraltriangle.org
- Anatomy of Sea Turtles. Wyneken, J. <https://www.ivis.org>
- Information About Sea Turtles: Green Sea Turtle. <https://conserveturtles.org/information-sea-turtles-green-sea-turtle/>



HAWKSBILL
ERETMOCHELYS IMBRICATA

MEXICAN LAW:
ENDANGERED
IUCN (LAST ASSESSMENT):
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (2008)




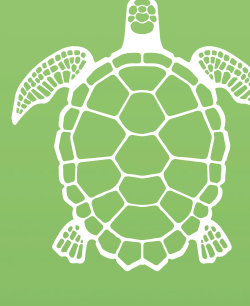
LEATHERBACK
DERMOCHELYS CORIACEA

MEXICAN LAW:
ENDANGERED
IUCN (LAST ASSESSMENT):
VULNERABLE (2013)




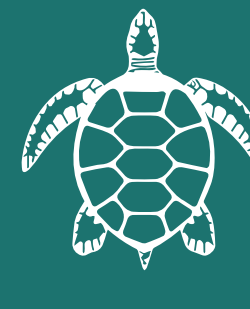
LOGGERHEAD
CARETTA CARETTA

MEXICAN LAW:
ENDANGERED
IUCN (LAST ASSESSMENT):
VULNERABLE (2015)




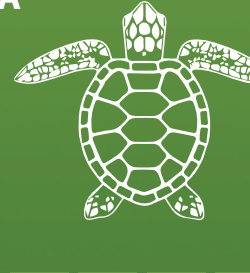
GREEN TURTLE
CHELONIA MYDAS

MEXICAN LAW:
ENDANGERED
IUCN (LAST ASSESSMENT):
ENDANGERED (2004)



OLIVE RIDLEY
LEPIDOCHELYS OLIVACEA

MEXICAN LAW:
THREATENED
IUCN (LAST ASSESSMENT):
VULNERABLE (2008)



Source:
• <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>









LIFE CYCLE
This species is a survivor: its path to the sea is filled with dangers from incubation until adulthood.


Nesting season
Nesting usually occurs in summer. The temperature of the sand determines the hatchlings' sex.

Birth
When a hatchling leaves the egg, it stimulates others with its movements so they will do the same, and leave the nest as a group.

Getting to know the ocean
After leaving the nest, hatchlings instinctively go towards the ocean. Generally, they swim towards open water.

1 OUT OF 1,000-10,000
hatchlings reaches adulthood



 = 10 TURTLES

In each nesting season, a sea turtle can lay **one to eight nests.**

Returning home
Females return to the beach where they were born to lay their eggs. The cycle repeats itself at the same place.

Sexual maturity
Sea turtles can take 10 to 50 years to reach sexual maturity, depending on the species. When this happens, they migrate to tropical and subtropical waters to mate and nest.

The musculature of its back allows it to move with ease and elasticity. The flap of its fins is powerful.

A HARD HELMET
A sea turtle's skull is very strong, and its beak has a higher density which gives it a strong bite. They can't pull their head or flippers into their shells.

Their intestines and stomach are very small due to their diet.