

GREEN TURLE *

Common name: Green turtle

Scientific name: Chelonia mydas

Local name: Vonu dina

Adult weight range: 68 to 230 kg

Diet: Varies at each life stage. Has a omnivorous diet feeding upon invertebrates, fish and marine plants



HAWKSBILL TURTLE*

Common name: Hawksbill turtle

Scientific name: Eretmochelys imbricata

Local name: Vonu taku

Adult weight range: 43 to 91 kg

Diet: Has a specialized diet which mostly consists of sponges



IUCN RED LIST CATEGORY VULNERABLE

IUCN RED LIST CATEGORY

VULNERABLE

* Denotes recent known

nutrient content of

seagrass.

nesting population

LEATHERBACK TURTLE

Common name: Leatherback turtle

Scientific name: Dermochelys coriacea

Local name: Tutuwalu

Adult weight range: 200 to 900 kg

Diet: Feed on jellyfish and other soft-bodied invertebrates like tunicates and sea



Common name: Loggerhead turtle

Scientific name: Caretta caretta

Local name: Tuvonu

Adult weight range: 100 to 180 kg

Diet: Hatchlings are omnivores feeding on both plant and animal material Adults are carnivores, feeding upon invertebrates such as crabs, conchs, and whelks



Hawksbill turtles remove sponges from reefs, When sea turtles allowing coral to graze, they increase colonize and grow. the productivity and

Sea turtles' ability to navigate comes from their sensitivity to the Earth's magnetic fields.

causing them to choke, Sea turtles are a large air breathing marine reptile.

> Globally sea turtles are a threatened species.

Adult male turtles have longer, thicker tails than females.

Know your teles

FIJI IS A HUB FOR 4 UU I U.

SPECIES OF SEA TURTLES IN THE WORLD

Life Cycle

COASTAL SHALLOW WATER

Immature turtles -

OPEN OCEAN FEEDING ZONE

"the lost years"....5 -20 year duration

★ Studies reveal that

juvenile green turtles

from American Samoa French Polynesia,

and New Caledonia travel far to feed

That Hatchlings may take up to 10

to feed as juveniles, and this

is challenging.

Sea turtles often

mistake

plastic as food,

starve or die.

years to return to coastal waters

period is known as the 'lost years'

because tracking their migrations

adult turtles

Thatchlings emerge after the

the ocean.

Environmental temperature

determines the sex of the

sea turtle hatchlings.

Hotter temperatures produces

more females and

cooler temperatures

produces more males.

On average

1 in 1000

sea turtle hatchlings

make it to adulthood.

incubation period between 6-8 weeks and then head to



★ It takes 20-30 years for sea turtles

Adult male return to feeding areas

After mating season, adult males return to feeding grounds, while females move near to nesting beaches.

Adjacent to nesting beach

Image Adopted from "Miller, J. D. (2017). Reproduction in sea turtles. In Lutz. P.L & Musick. J.A. (eds.) The biology of sea turtles

(pp. 51-81). CRC Press."

NESTING BEACH once every two weeks

Adult males and females migrate to

mating areas

Temales use their back flippers to dig their nest in the sand.

Adult females return

to feeding areas

The A nesting female lays an in average of 120 eggs.

The After refilling and covering their nests with sand, they return to the ocean.

★ Nesting females often return to beaches near where they were

Females lay eggs

Temales can nest multiple times in a single season.

The nesting season in Fiji is from October to April.

The Known nesting sites in Fiji include:

Vanua Levu

Mamanuca Group

Lomaiviti Group

Kadavu

Lau Group

How can you Degulations

Sea turtles are protected under the national law, Regulation 5 of the Offshore Fisheries Management Regulations 2014 (OFMR) which imposes a ban on the harvest, sale, possession and transportation of marine turtle, their eggs or any part or product. The provisions of the OFMR apply to "all Fiji Fisheries waters," meaning it applies to all internal, inshore and offshore areas of Fiji.

In Fiji, sea turtles are also protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which is implemented through the Endangered Protected Species (EPS) Act 2002.

Report any illegal activities related to

sea turtles to
Inshore Fisheries Management Division
(IFMD) at Ministry of Fisheries Call: +679 3301611

Dispose rubbish properly

Install red or amber LED lights at home

i turtles are subject to hazards throughout their lifetime, some caused by humans and others that arise naturally.

BY-CATCH AND ENTANGLEMENT

IN FISHING GEAR

DIRECT TAKE OR

ILLEGAL HARVESTS

PLASTIC POLLUTION

ANIMAL PREDATION

OIL SPILL

BOAT STRIKES

CLIMATE CHANGE

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT

Limit coastal developments

Report any stranded or sick turtles

or resorts situated near beaches

Keep the beaches clean

Don't discard fishing nets at sea

Adhere to national and international legislations to protect sea turtles





We would like to thank Filimone Mate and Salanieta Kitolelei. Authors: Katy Miller ¹and Shritika Prakash²

> ¹ Vatuvara Foundation, Suva, Fiji ² Ika Bula Consultants, Suva, Fiji

A special thanks to Dr. Susanna Piovano and Mrs Saras-Goundar for their inputs. This poster has been created for information, education, and non-commercial purposes only. https://www.vatuvara.org

© 2023 Vatuvara Foundation and Irish Aid

Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland