



40th International Sea Turtle Symposium

Workshop Proposal for ISTS40

Title of Proposed Workshop:

Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in the South Pacific Ocean

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Suggested Duration of Workshop: Half Day (4 hours)

Description and Justification of the Workshop:

The Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in the South Pacific Ocean (Loggerhead SSAP) was agreed by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) in 2014. The life cycle of loggerheads in the south Pacific is known to encompass the entire south Pacific Ocean basin with turtles nesting in Australia and New Caledonia, post-hatchlings dispersing across the Pacific to South America and then settling in foraging grounds across the entire region. As such, the recovery of this threatened stock is the responsibility of nations across the south Pacific.

ISTS40 provides an opportunity to bring together range states and other interested parties to revisit the Loggerhead SSAP. The workshop will discuss the implementation of the SSAP, its success, limitations and a way forward. The workshop is intended to reconnect range states, researchers and communities across the region. It will open a dialog about progress implementing the SSAP, share contemporary information about the stock and threats affecting loggerhead turtles in the south Pacific. The workshop will also identify gaps in knowledge or management that would benefit from immediate on ground action.

The purpose of the workshop is to reignite a specific focus on loggerheads in the

south Pacific, assess whether the plan is still fit for purpose and identify priority projects that need to continue in the region or be initiated to support the recovery of this population.

Expected Outcomes of the Workshop:

The main purpose of the workshop is to bring together range states and reignite a focus on the CMS Loggerhead SSAP to enhance recovery of loggerheads in the south Pacific. The workshop will provide an opportunity to identify gaps in current work and projects that require financial support.