

CFDA 15.645

Multinational Species Conservation Fund - Marine Turtles Summary of Projects 2005

Projects: 7

Total FWS Funding: \$89,610

Total Leveraged Funds: \$194,865

“Borgor Point Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Program” promotes the long term survival of the Liberia nesting sea turtle population -- including the sustained recovery of depleted stock -- taking into consideration the integrated well-being and needs of the coastal communities. Under this award the recipient will: Host one community meeting to inform the community about the project; Set up three fishing cooperatives and work with fisherman to increase fishing income as an alternative to hunting sea turtles; and, Recruit and train 10 veteran sea turtle hunters and community members to patrol on nesting beaches. In partnership with Save My Future Foundation. **FWS Funding: \$5,000.00; Leveraged: \$14,300.00.**

“Conservation of Loggerhead and Green Sea Turtles in Oman” enables Omani authorities to conduct accurate population assessments each nesting season and to increase adult survival through the rescue of stranded nesting females during the morning nest surveys. Under this award the recipient will purchase 2 ATVs and trailers for rescuing stranded turtles and conducting nest surveys, and will jointly analyze nesting data with the Ministry of Environment - Oman to contribute to IUCN MTSG Red List assessment. In partnership with Marine Research Foundation. **FWS Funding: \$15,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$15,400.00.**

“Conservation of the Pearl Cays Hawksbill Rookery in Nicaragua” supports the recovery of the Pearl Cays hawksbill rookery. Under this award the recipient will: survey nesting activity on 12 of the Pearl Cays, determine hatching and emergence success, collect reproductive and biometric data on nesting females, promote conservation through media and education, build capacity at the local and regional levels, and provide incentives for local fishers to donate live captured turtles for tag and release rather than consumption. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. **FWS Funding: \$15,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$25,200**

“Sea Turtle Research and Conservation in Gabon; the Largest Leatherback Population in the World” develops a sustainable and effective marine turtle program in Gabon and Congo (Conkouati) with a special focus on leatherback nesting beaches. Under this award the recipient will: organize and hold a meeting of all partners, government authorities and stakeholders to coordinate and develop leatherback nesting beach priorities and activities, and conduct at least eight aerial surveys throughout the 2005-2006 nesting season. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. **FWS Funding: \$30,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$57,250.00.**

“Conservation of Pacific Leatherbacks on Secondary Beaches” supports recovery efforts on secondary beaches for leatherbacks. This project will train local people to protect all-nests at Playa Ventura. Publication of a training manual for marine turtle conservation for local communities will enhance the capacity and quality of survey and nest protection efforts. In partnership with World Wildlife Fund. **FWS Funding: \$15,000.00; Leveraged: \$11,993.00.**

“Tanzania Community-based Marine Turtle Conservation Program” protects turtles and their habitats in Tanzania and enables coastal communities and local government authorities to develop the skills and capacity to participate in improved decision making about the conservation, ownership and management of turtles for the benefit of the marine and coastal environment and local livelihoods. Under this award the recipient will: Fill information gaps on the status, distribution and threats of turtles at key sites in 7 coastal districts in Tanzania; Reduce the threats to turtles from overexploitation for meat and eggs, and habitat loss and degradation at key sites along the coast; Expand public awareness and education about the status and threats to turtles; and, Enhance capacity for monitoring, research and management of turtles and their habitats in 7 coastal districts.. In partnership with World Wildlife Fund. **FWS Funding: \$4,610.00; Leveraged: \$34,937.00.**

“Community Based In-situ Marine Turtle Nest Protection, Research and Community Education Program on Marine Turtles in Rekawa, Southern Sri Lanka” ensures the protection of nesting females and eggs on the important Rekawa nesting rookery. Under this award the recipient will: Protect all “in situ” marine turtle nests located on the 2km stretch of Rekawa beach within the project boundary; Provide an alternative and sustainable income to Rekawa community members previously dependent on marine turtle egg gathering; Increase community education and awareness on marine turtles; and, Provide a field study site where university, government and NGO personnel can receive “in-situ” training on marine turtle research and conservation methodology. In partnership with Turtle Conservation Project. **FWS Funding: \$5,000.00; Leveraged Funds: \$35,785.00.**