



United Nations
Environment Programme



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention



SPA / RAC

*The Mediterranean
Biodiversity
Centre*



Republic of Lebanon
Ministry of Environment

National Training Session on monitoring techniques of marine turtles

Tyre Nature Coast reserve (Lebanon) , 3-7 July 2018

The main threats today affecting Sea Turtles

First aid to turtle in trouble

The role of STRC in reducing Sea Turtles mortality



Dermochelys coriacea

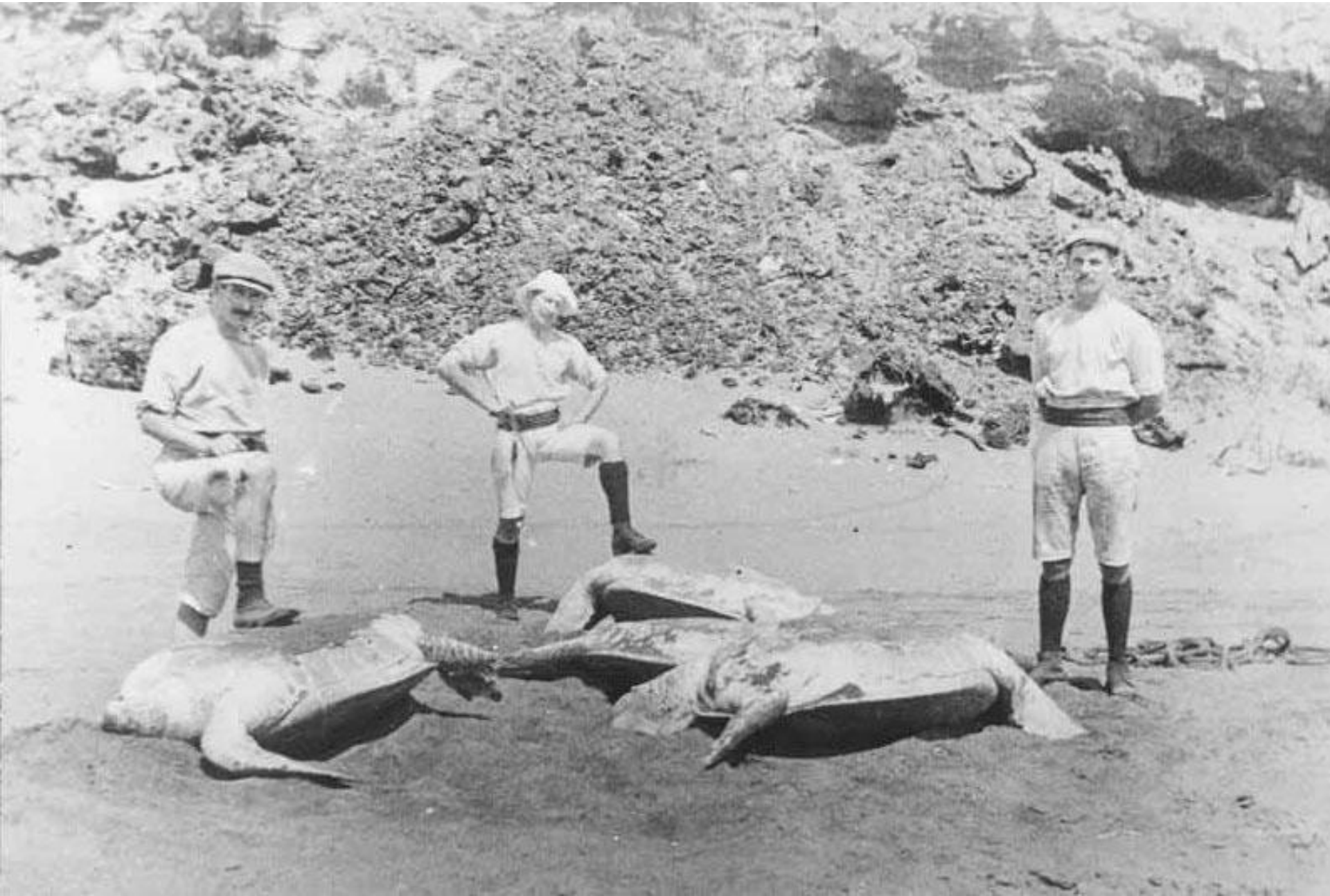
World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation (Bjorndal 1982)

- Intense exploitation, intentional catch
- Degradation of terrestrial and marine habitats
- Accidental catches

Intense exploitation for centuries



Intense exploitation for centuries



Intentional catch



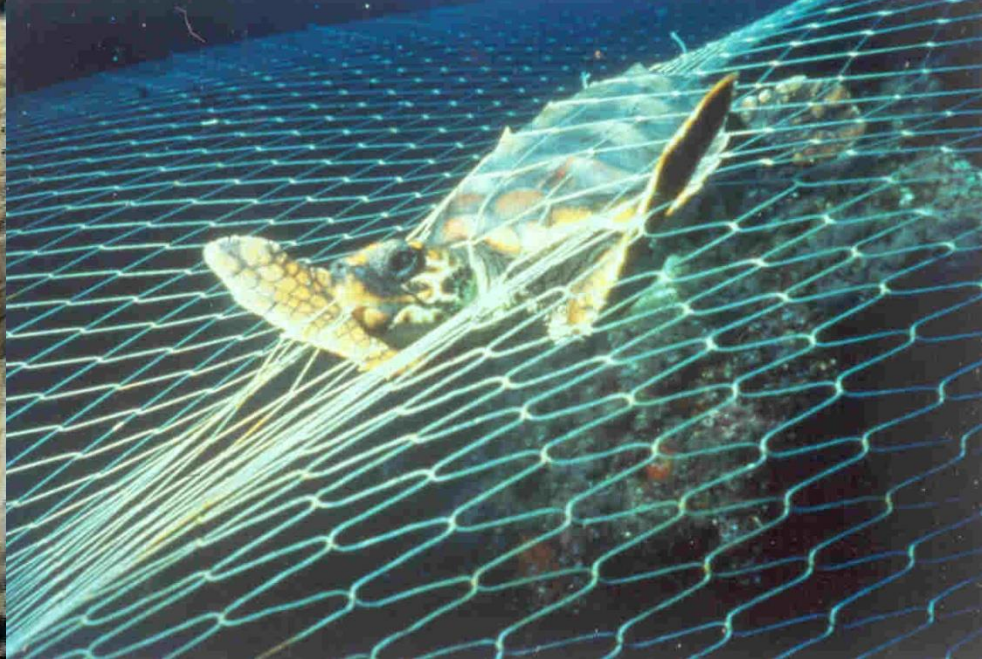
Degradation of terrestrial and marine habitats



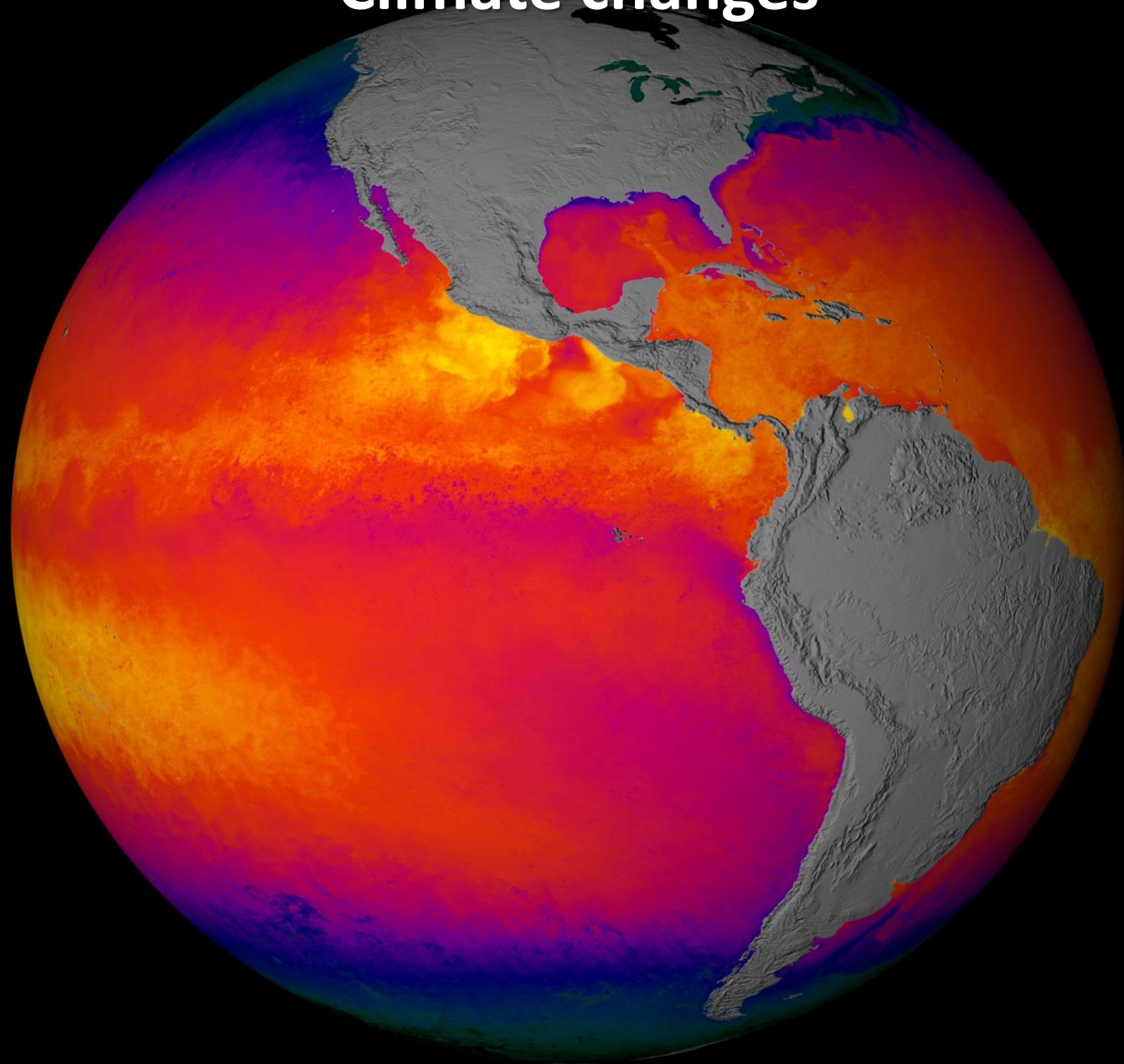
Immagini
Morte nel golfo
Pass Christian, Stati Uniti
2 maggio 2010
Una tartaruga marina morta è spiaggiata dal Mississippi. Si aggiungono i danni all'ambiente causati dall'inquinamento alla piattaforma petrolifera che il 20 aprile è esplosa nel golfo del Messico. Il presidente Barack Obama ha detto che il maggio ha visitato la zona della Louisiana, ha parlato di una "crisi senza precedenti". Foto di Martin (Agf/LaPresse)



Accidental catches



Climate changes



**2,2°C to 4,9°C
in 2100**

PCC – 2007
*Intergovernmental
Panel on Climate
Change*

Climate changes

Effects of temperature increase

Habitat range



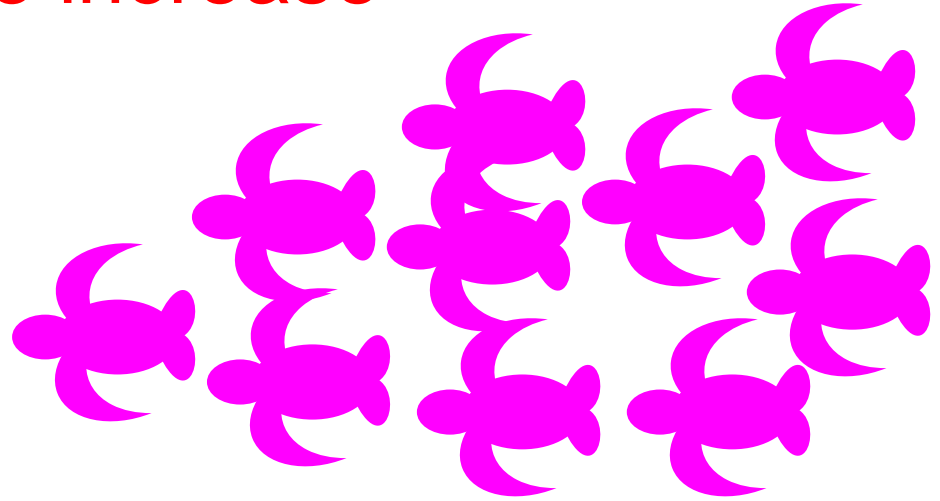
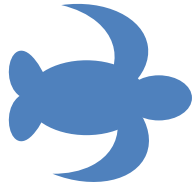
Prey spectrum



Climate Changes

Effects of temperature increase

Sex Ratio



Choice of nesting site



The main threats today affecting sea turtles

- **Traumatic injuries**
- **Ingestion of fishing hooks and lines**
- **Entanglement in fishing line**
- **Gastrointestinal Obstruction**
- **Emaciation**
- **Buoyancy disorders**
- **Petroleum products**

Traumatic injuries

Can occur from watercraft



Traumatic Injuries



Ingestion of fishing hooks

Depending of their position fishing hooks can be removed by hand or by surgical operation.

If the hooks are in the stomach or intestine do not operate!



Ingestion of fishing hooks

Mouth hooks



Mouth gap



Ingestion of fishing hooks

Hook placed in the esophagus removed surgically



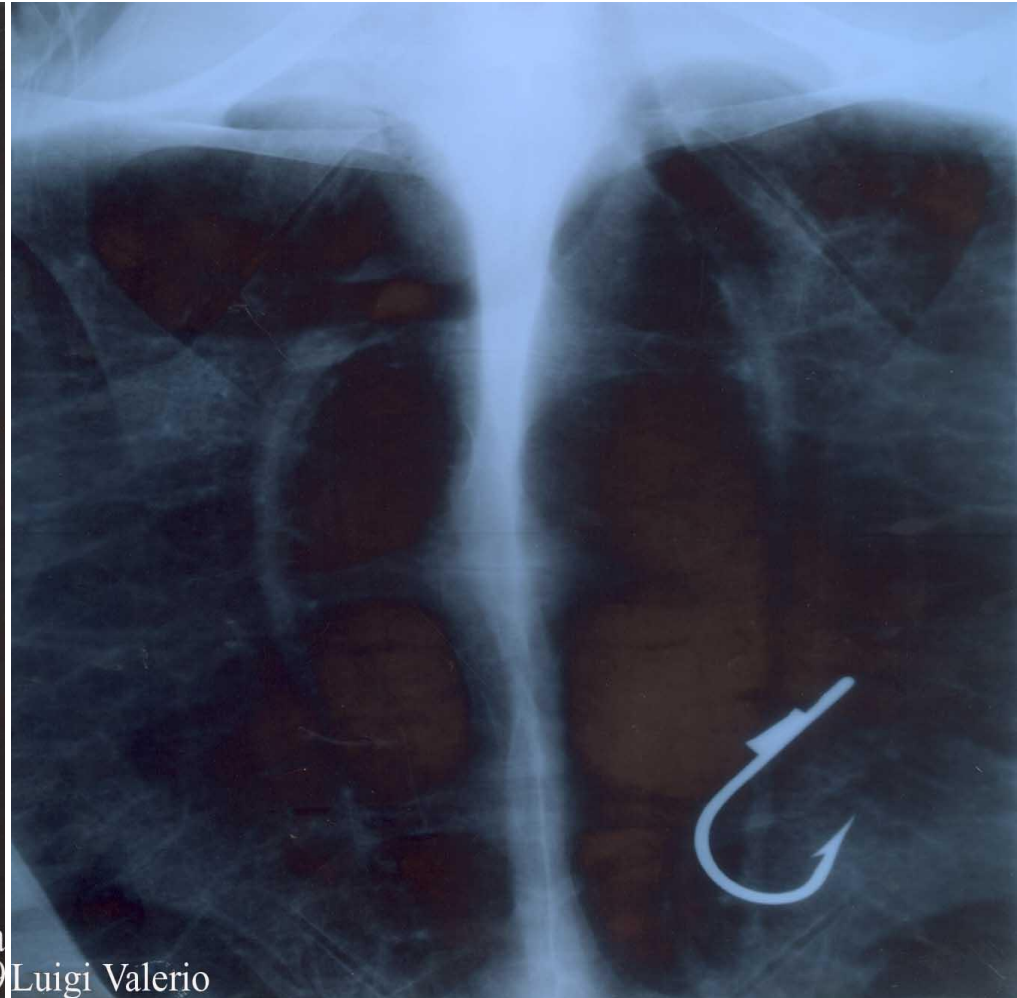
S 24 novembre 02

Ingestion of fishing hooks

We do not operate if the hook is in the stomach or in intestine...



Eolia
19 agosto 99 Luigi Valerio



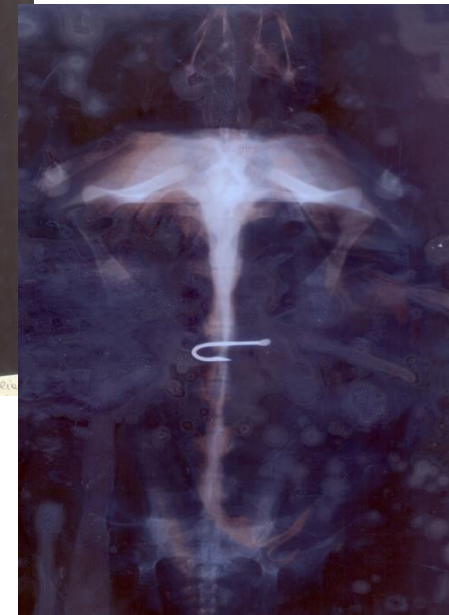
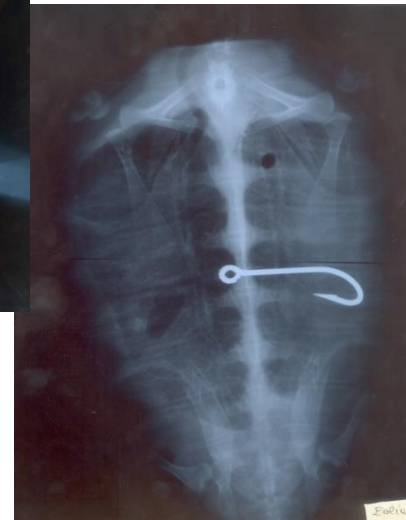
Ingestion of fishing hooks

...but most of the times the hooks founded in the digestive line under the plastron are by the time corroded by gastrich juices and expelled naturally

Corroded hook

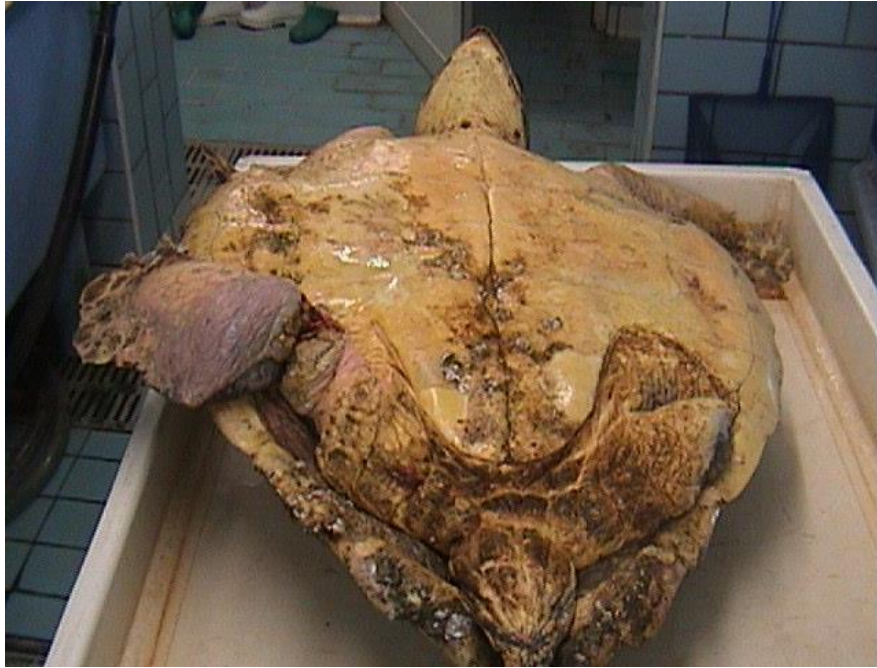


Hook expelled naturally



Fishing line entanglement

Cause injury and death to sea turtles



The entangling material may lacerate tissue or constrict the blood supply, resulting in the loss of a limb, or death. If constriction occurs around the head or neck



Gastrointestinal obstruction



Can result when sea turtles eat non-biodegradable trash

Gastrointestinal obstruction



Non bio-degradable trash such as plastic, glass, and metal that is mistaken for food

Plastic in particular, including bags and packaging material, are widespread in the Ocean and cause considerable trouble to sea turtles and other marine life

Emaciation

Sea Turtles under weight do not have muscle mass or fat under the flippers.



The occipital bone is prominent.
The plastron is soft and ditched



Emaciation

Emaciated Sea Turtles are generally covered with epibionts



Oil contamination

Petroleum products can affect sea turtles at all life stages

The external presence of petroleum or tar is washed away with dish detergent or vegetable oils.

The oral cavity is cleaned using cloths dampened with food oil.



Recovery Procedures

At sea: if the turtle floats and does not dive it must be recovered and brought ashore

**On the ground: it must be protected by the sun with rags
Soaked in sea water**

Be careful not to cover the nostrils



Transport

Lift the turtle to the edge of
Plastron never for the fins

Use plastic containers by
placing a soft pillow on the
bottom

The transport must be without
water



Characteristics of Rescue Center

Operate solely for the well being , respect and protection of the Sea turtles

Hold current permits from the proper authorities and undergo periodic inspections

Be fully supported by public or private funding

Have specific scientific competence

Follow guidelines



GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE THE INVOLVEMENT OF MARINE RESCUE CENTRES FOR MARINE TURTLES

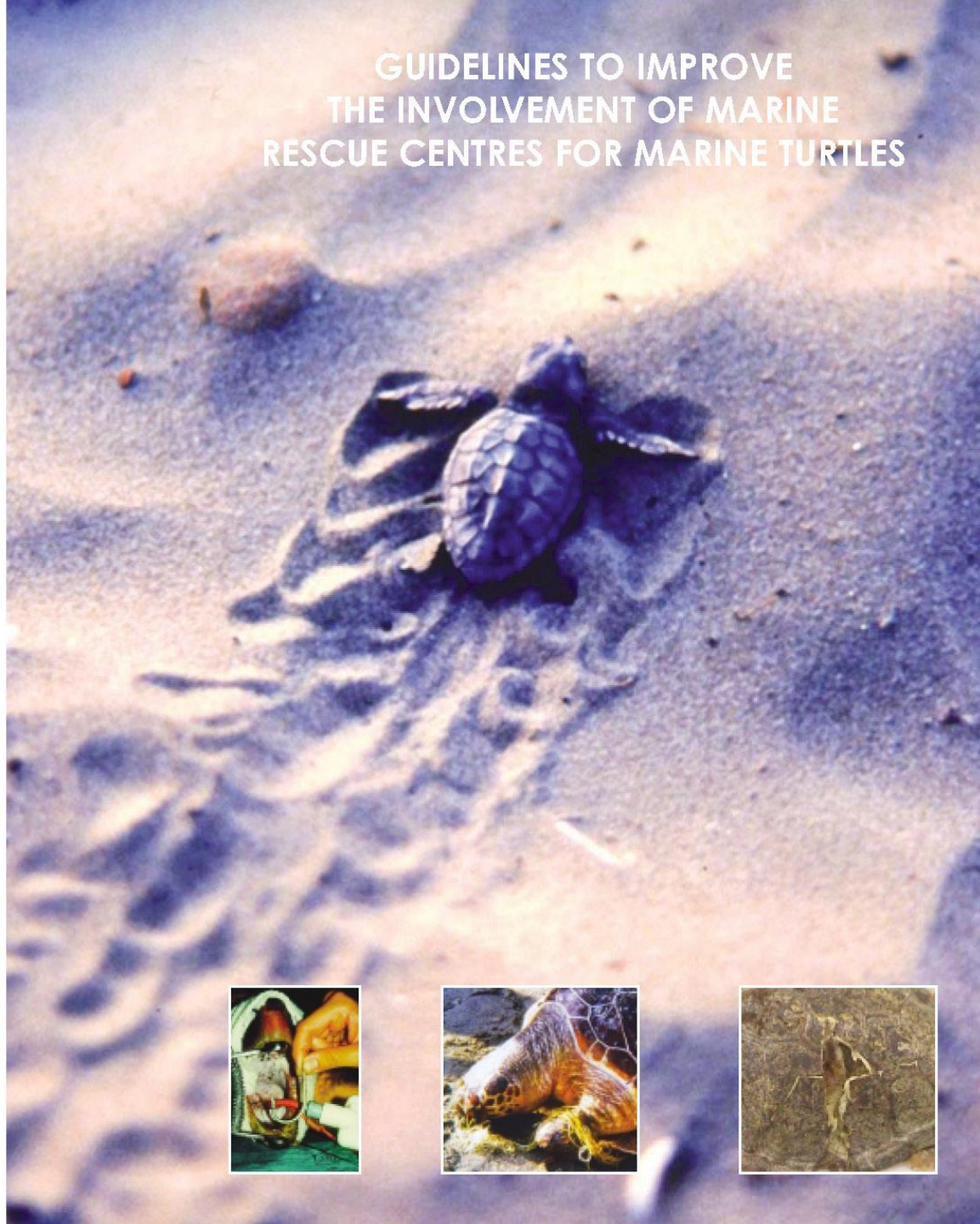
Marine Rescue Centre is
considered as one of the tools to
limit the mortality of sea turtles

*UNEP (DEC) MED
WG.232/13, 2003*



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Boulevard de l'Environnement
B.P.337 - 1080 Tunis CEDEX
Tel: ++(216.71) 795 760
Fax: ++(216.71) 797 349
E.mail: car-asp@rac-spa.org.tn
www.rac-spa.org.tn



Rescue Center



First Aid



Creation of short term care facility



First Aid - Tyre Coast Nature Reserve - Lebanon

The survival of every endangered sea turtle is important in today's world

