

Status of leatherback turtles in Comoros

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1. The legal protection status for leatherback turtles

1.1. Overview

All turtles are protected by law. The following legislation is relevant to wildlife and marine turtles:

- Decree N°92/015. Prohibits the fishing of, capture of, and commercialisation of certain marine species, as well as degradation of the coastline.
 - 1st Article: The fishing of shells and corals, the capture of turtles as well as their commercialization is prohibited within national territories in particular within marine reserves.
- Framework of Environmental Law 1664.
- Decree N°01/31/MPE/CAB. Protects wild species of fauna and flora of Comoros since 14/05/2001

1.2. Management agencies responsible for marine turtle conservation

Operational level	Name and type of agency
National level	National Management for the Environment
State level	General Management for the Environment
Local level	Marine Park of Moheli, & the community associations

2. Nesting populations

2.1. Overview

Historical Evidence

No historical evidence for leatherback nesting in Comoros has been reported.

Current Situation

The fieldwork conducted in Comoros shows the marine park of Moheli is frequented by marine turtles, some of which are marked, tagged, and followed. There have been no records of nesting leatherback turtles reported. All sites within the Comoros that have marine turtle nesting have been surveyed and there have never been any records of leatherback turtle nesting (data contained in the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Turtles of Comoros (14-05-2001)).

3. Foraging populations

3.1. Details on any leatherback turtle foraging area census or tagging studies

There have been no recoveries of leatherback turtles in Comoros of turtles that were tagged in other countries. Nor have any leatherback turtles foraging in Comoros been tagged.

3.2. Seasonality of leatherback turtles in coastal or offshore waters

There is no available data

3.3. Approximate size range of leatherback turtles

There is no available data

3.4. Information on diet of leatherback turtles

There has been no study of diet of leatherback turtles foraging in Comoros.

3.5. Threats to foraging populations, and fisheries bycatch of leatherback turtles

There is no available data

3.6. Other activities being undertaken to improve conservation of leatherback turtles

Not applicable