

Project Update: April 2014

The field season at Poilao Island was a success. From August 1st to November 22nd 2013, all nesting activities were daily monitored and we were able to get new data for this population, in collaboration with the local community. We tagged 200 nesting females and later re-encountered 69 of these individuals. Females showed high fidelity to their nesting beach, beach zone and vegetation type for nesting. Although there was no difference in hatching success between nests from shaded areas and nests exposed to the sun, nests located lower on the beach had higher mortality. It seems that this population has a high number of nests being laid at shaded areas with cool temperatures, which can prevent for impacts of global warming. Some exciting results will be presented by the grantee at the 34th International Symposium for Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation at New Orleans this month!



Left: Green turtle at Poilao (photo by Rita Patricio). Right: Portuguese student and Park warden from IBAP at Poilao, releasing hatchlings found entrapped in intertidal rocks (photo by Rita Patricio)