

## Project Update: July 2015

On the ground work commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 with James present for 2 weeks. During this time three training sessions and several community meetings were held, in addition to formal and casual lessons on turtle biology and ecology, refreshing and advancing the skills and knowledge base of the community. The level of community involvement from Waisurione and its' surrounding villages has increased, with 28 turtle rangers operating at an extremely high standard. Furthermore the increased capacity of the Waihou Foundation is abundantly clear as a result of last year's work.

Improving on last year, leatherbacks are being seen on the beach and one nest has already been successfully relocated and protected with a bamboo grid.

Two neighbouring villages have been identified and expressed an interest in expanding the current monitoring effort to their beaches in the years to come.

Monitoring and protection will continue until September 2015.

