

Project Update: March 2016

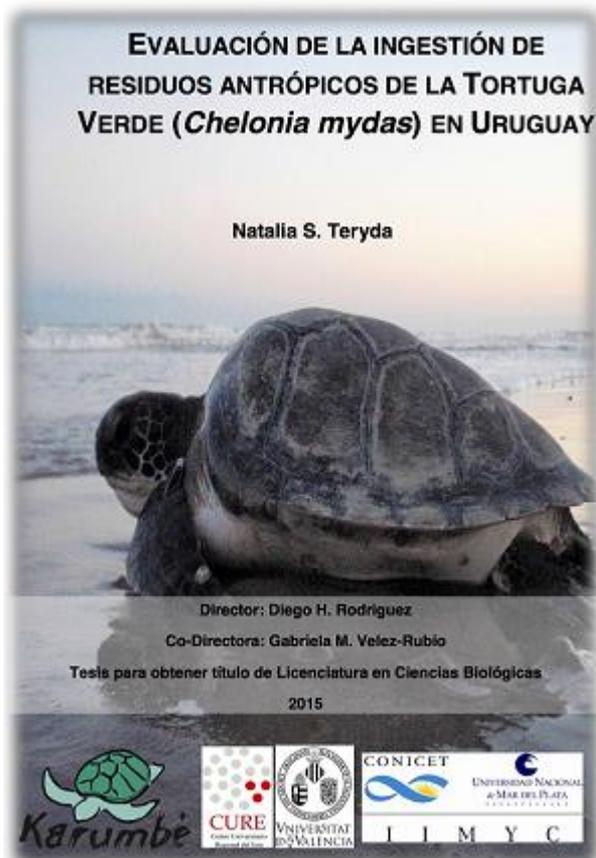
1. Research activities:

A. We characterise the marine debris ingested by green turtles stranded in the coast of Rocha between 2009 and 2013. We analyzed a total of 52 gut contents of juvenile green turtles.



B. Test the floatability of the main categories of marine debris presented in the green turtle guts.

All the result of the section A and B are include in the recent Bachelor Thesis presented by Natalia Teryda: Teryda N (2015) Evaluación de la ingestión de residuos antrópicos de la Tortuga verde (*Chelonia mydas*) en Uruguay. Bachelor Thesis. Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales. Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata, Argentina, pp. 52.



We present two oral presentation about marine debris in Uruguayan coast in the 36^o International Sea Turtle Symposium in Lima, Perú:

- MARINE DEBRIS INGESTION BY GREEN TURTLE, *Chelonia mydas*, IN URUGUAYAN COASTAL WATERS --- Natalia S. Teryda, D i e g o H. Rodriguez, **Gabriela M. Vélez-Rubio**.
- POLLUTION AND SEA TURTLES IN SOUTH WESTERN ATLANTIC --- Natalia Teryda, Liana Rosa, **Gabriela Vélez-Rubio**, Laura Prosdocimi, Suzana M. Guimarães.

C. First coastal and marine surveys to clean the rocky bottoms (Cerro Verde in the Coastal Marine Protected Area of Cerro Verde and Islas de La Coronilla, Cerro del Rivero in Punta del Diablo and El Cabito in La Paloma). We conducted these surveys in coordination with and macroalgae survey in the same areas.



2. Education and outreach

- From 2015 November we continued working on the creation of management plans for the MPA of Cerro Verde, giving technical advice for the stakeholders and workers of the MPAs.
- First's two meetings with the local fishermen in order to create the educational material for the campaign "Bring back your lines, hooks and ghost nets". The fishermen also collaborate in the creation of the logo for the campaign.
- We had the first meeting with the headmaster of the Montesori school in Punta del Diablo ("Caballito de Mar") and the headmaster of La Coronilla secondary school in order to schedule the activities about marine debris in the next months

