

Project Update: June 2018

During the first quarter of the project we organised our first project planning meeting with all team members. This meeting was instrumental in the scheduling of the activities for the first two quarters of the project. We also ran five training sessions, one in Hurghada, one in Quseir and three in the Marsa Alam area. In total 12 dive centres participated and more than 130 dive masters, dive instructors and snorkeling guides were trained.

We also developed training and promotional material that has been distributed to the dive centre managers and all participants to the workshops. We also have started the regular monitoring of five turtle feeding grounds, and during the first quarter of the project we conducted 97 surveys and recorded 187 turtles. 500 more turtles were reported by over 50 citizen scientists in only 3 months, thanks mainly to the training events and the advertising of the project. In such a short time, we were able to add 130 new turtles to our catalogue.

Finally, divers reported an injured turtle in one of our monitoring areas. The injury seemed to be caused by a speedboat or a propeller. Since the accident, we have been collecting pictures of the turtle regularly and we are currently monitoring the situation with the help of a turtle veterinary. "Altea", the injured turtle, seems to be recovering fast. This is the first example of marine turtle recovery monitoring in the wild carried out by citizen scientists and has attracted a lot of interest.

For the next quarter, we will be continuing with our regular surveys and compiling data received by citizen scientists. We will also be organising a few events with local schools during the summer break.



Left: TurtleWatch Egypt training in Marsa Abu Dabbab. ©Abdallah R. Taher. Right: TurtleWatch team and several dive centre team member representatives attending TurtleWatch training in Marsa Nakari.



Photograph aimed at the identification of the individual using its facial pattern: this is "Urte", adult male green turtle residing in Marsa Abu Dabbab. ©Micol Montagna



Injured green turtle the first week after the accident (4) and approx. 40 days after (5). ©Abdallah R. Taher

Material:

TURTLEWATCH - EGYPT 2.0

How to : Sharing your sightings with us

Step 1: Send us your photos or videos with facials profiles of your turtle sightings



Step 2: Add some data > in **RED** the mandatory data, > in **GREEN** the optional info

Minimum required info:

Dive center: with which dive center did you go for a dive?
Photos by: who is the photographer?
Date: when was the turtle spotted?
Location: where were you when you see a turtle?
Permission to share your pictures: can we use your pictures for our educational material?

Optional info:

Depth: at which depth were you when you see a turtle?
Water temperature: what was the temperature of the water?
Species: can you say what species of turtle it was?
Activity at first sight: what was the turtle doing when you first spotted it?
Approx. Size: compared to the size of your fins or you buddy, how long was the turtle's carapace?
Sex: did you see a very long tail (longer than the rear flippers) or a short tail?
Other info: here you can put anything you would like to share!

Step 3: Share your sightings with us!



You can use our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/turtlewatchegypt/

or you can send us a private message!

or you can e-mail us: turtlewatch@hepca.org

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TURTLE WATCH EGYPT 2.0



TURTLEWATCHERS NEEDED!
Help us save marine turtles in the Red Sea

About TurtleWatch Egypt

TurtleWatch Egypt is a citizen science project aimed at collecting data on marine turtles in the Egyptian Red Sea.

Photo-identification

Using turtles facial patterns we are able to identify individual turtles!

This is Gerry!
You can often see him in Marsa Abu Dabbab!



How can you help?



Take pictures of marine turtles during your dives



Write down the date and size where you spotted a turtle



Share your sighting on our Facebook page



Join a global movement to save sea turtles!

Follow us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/turtlewatchegypt/

Contact us!

For more information, email us at:
turtlewatchegypt@gmail.com

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TurtleWatch Egypt flyers (guidelines to follow during nesting season; simplified indications on how to share data with us; informative flyer)

PROUD MEMBER OF
TURTLEWATCH - EGYPT 2.0



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SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

TurtleWatch Egypt poster for members