

Project Update: April 2023

After meeting with local fishers in January 2023, ocean conditions improved, as well as fishers' participation and enthusiasm, and from February-April eight turtles have been captured, seven of which are new individuals, and one a recapture. This recapture has been one of the most important during the whole study, a hawksbill turtle named Yang (MYT 071), originally captured in July 2019, with subsequent recaptures in 2020 and 2021, this time, after about 18 months of not being captured, we observed a growth of 27 cm in length and 20 kg in weight, compared to the first capture. We could also determine Yang is a female, and one of the turtles that has been observed in Tehuamixtle Bay for the longest time (Fig. 1)



Figure 1.- Turtle MYT 071, Yang, a hawksbill female, longtime resident of Tehuamixtle Bay



Figure 2. Left) Facilities of turtle attention center, here we keep and register turtles before being released back into the ocean, Right) the facilities also work as a classroom for tourists, students and volunteers, when measuring and tagging turtles.

During April 2023, we also purchased the project's official vehicle; with this, we will be able to transport turtles, equipment, and team members more effectively (Fig. 4). Vehicle will be labeled with project's logo.



Figure 4.- Project's official vehicle, which will help with turtle, equipment and team transportation.

Finally, campamento tortuguero Mayto's (Eco Mayto A.C) 2022-2023 season ended, a special report was elaborated to disseminate results on nesting, hatching, and individuals marked and captured, of the four species protected in the area (olive ridley, green, leatherback and hawksbill turtles), the report also mentions the number of students, volunteers and tourists who visited our camp, as well as other activities. The report can be downloaded using the following link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/18mcSq2JBr49tBwrR-zds42ky6TDzc6m7/view>

