

Project Update: May 2008

The monitoring began on March 2nd, with the active participation of CORIACEA group coordinators, GILA members and volunteers. From this date we have patrolled three kilometres from the beach to locate females and nests. Measures shell, zone of the beach, nest distance to water and vegetation, and clutch size are recorded when a patrol finds a turtle. We have not been able to tag females because of the lacking of tagging equipment. 52 turtles nested, the biggest one was 1.66 m curved carapace length and laid the biggest clutch with 115 fertile and 16 infertile eggs. Nests at risk of flooding, animal predation or harvest have been relocated to hatcheries. Additionally, we developed other activities: beach sign-posting, hatcheries repair, three census of trackways from kilometre 3 until the kilometre 14 (finding a total of 13 turtle's trackways) and environmental workshops - principally about turtle's biology -with children from Caleta School.

