

**Marine Turtle Conservation Fund
Summary of Projects
FY 2009**

35 Projects **Total FWS Funding: \$1,460,113** **Total Leveraged Funds: \$2,270,376**

Bangladesh

MT 09-084 *Community Based Sea Turtle Conservation Project in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.* In partnership with Marine Alliance. This grant supports community based a marine turtle conservation project along 120 kms of Bangladesh coastline as well as supporting capacity building and awareness campaigns within coastal communities within the project area.
FWS: \$16,000. Leveraged Funds: \$21,990

Barbados

MT 09-008 *Monitoring and Conservation Programs for Hawksbill Turtles in Barbados.* In partnership with the University of West Indies. This grant will continue long term monitoring and conservation programs at key hawksbill nesting beaches in the Barbados as well expand surveys to locate and map inter nesting habitats near hawksbills index nesting beaches.
FWS: \$31,750 Leveraged Funds: \$67,800

Cape Verde

MT 09-028 *A coalition Task-Force to stop the killing of loggerheads on Cape Verdian nesting beaches.* In partnership with the Turtle Foundation, Natura 2000, SOS Tartarugas, and University of Algarve. This grant will support a pre-nesting season meeting to better coordinate efforts of NGO and government institutions to protect nesting loggerhead females from rampant illegal slaughter on the nesting beaches. It will also support an increased number of beach monitors for patrol and protection as well as a public awareness campaign regarding protected status and conservation needs of sea turtles in Cape Verde.
FWS: \$45,000 Leveraged Funds: \$150,300

Colombia

MT 09-072 *Development of a Conservation Program for Pacific Hawksbill Population in Colombia with Special Focus on Establishing Index Sites.* In partnership with Fundacion CIMAD. This grant supports development of index monitoring sites for the East Pacific Hawksbill in Colombia, capacity building of Park rangers and local communities, as well as a public educational campaign on the plight of the hawksbill Pacific Colombia.
FWS: \$29,000. Leveraged Funds: \$35,000

Congo

MT 09-064 *Leatherback Conservation Program in Republic of Congo, 2009-2010.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant supports a leatherback conservation program along 30 km of high density leatherback nesting beach within Conkouati-Douli National Park which is contiguous with the major leatherback nesting population in Mayumba National Park, Gabon. FWS: \$40,000. Leveraged Funds: \$24,357.

Costa Rica

MT 09-046 *Sea Turtle Research, Conservation and Capacity Building at Tortuguero, Costa Rica.* In partnership with Caribbean Conservation Corporation. This grant supports capacity building throughout Latin America and the Caribbean through CCCs Tortuguero training program in marine turtle research and management techniques, community involvement, and ecotourism for regional biologists, natural resource managers and community leaders.
FWS: \$40,000. Leveraged Funds: \$347,661

MT 09-078 *Leatherback and Black Sea Turtle Project.* In partnership with FUNDECODES. This grant supports nesting beach conservation programs for Playa Langosta, one of the two key East Pacific leatherback nesting beaches in Costa Rica, and Playas Nombre de Jesus and Zapotillal, two key black turtle nesting beaches in Costa Rica.
FWS: \$40,220. Leveraged Funds: \$5,900.

Equatorial Guinea

MT 09-060 *2009-2010 Equatorial Guinea, Research and Conservation of Major Sea Turtle Nesting Populations in West Africa.* In partnership with National Institute for Forestry Development and Management of Protected Areas of Equatorial Guinea. This grant supports a community based conservation project at Bioko Island which hosts the most important leatherback nesting population in West Africa as well as supporting development of new marine turtle conservation programs on important mainland nesting beaches at Rio Campo and a national outreach campaign.
FWS: \$35,000. Leveraged Funds: \$26,000

Gabon

MT 09-065 *The Gabon Sea Turtle Partnership for leatherback conservation, 2009-2010.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund, Adventures San Frontieres, H2O, and Ibonga.. This grant will support nesting beach conservation programs for one of the two largest leatherback nesting populations in the world through an alliance of National Park, NGO and local community participants that was established as a result previous MTCA funding.
FWS: \$157,550. Leveraged Funds: \$57,500

Global

MT 09-010 *SEE Turtles: Promoting Economic Alternatives for Sea Turtle Conservation.* In partnership with The Ocean Foundation. This grant will provide funds to support an informational website, partner capacity building and outreach, development of a turtle tourism manual, media coverage for the effort that also features turtle tourism sites which operate with best practices. Project objectives are to assist in the development of alternatives to consumptive unsustainable use of sea turtles and will develop partnerships with local tour operators, promote partner sites to key tourist audiences, organize initial tours to partner sites, support efforts to build local capacity, and expand to new partner sites. Partner sites currently are operating in Costa Rica, Mexico, and Trinidad & Tobago and plans to expand such sites include Asia, Africa as well as the Caribbean and Latin America.
FWS: \$25,000. Leveraged Funds: \$125,000.

MT 09-009 *Global assessment of arribada olive ridley sea turtles.* In partnership with the Southeastern Louisiana University. This grant will support a simultaneous global estimate of the olive ridley arribada nesting populations and hatching rates in Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and India using standardized survey methodology.
FWS: \$48,407 Leveraged Funds: \$33,618

MT 09-014 *Capacity building- marine turtle conservation programs in developing counties, 29th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation.* In partnership with the International Sea Turtle Society. This grant will provide travel grants for sea turtle biologists and conservationists from developing countries who would otherwise be unable to attend the 29th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation and benefits all seven species of sea turtles. This annual gathering brings together between 600-1000 marine turtle conservations from over 80 countries and provides an excellent venue for regional meetings and coordination, training workshops and information exchange of marine turtle conservation projects throughout the world. It also provides for the international team building and networking of the global marine turtle community which is scattered and isolated in many remote areas of the world throughout most of the year.
FWS: \$25,000 Leveraged Funds: \$65,000

MT 09-051 *30th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation.* In partnership with the International Sea Turtle Society. This grant supports travel grants for participants from developing countries, students, and institutions that would not otherwise be able to attend this meeting of about 800 marine turtle researchers, managers, and conservationists. It also supports the Marine Turtle Newsletter and Seaturtle.org which facilitate the dissemination of the latest findings and important conservation news to the global network of sea turtle conservationists. G126
FWS \$60,000. Leveraged Funds: \$170,000

Grenada

MT 09-011 *Hawksbill and leatherback index site monitoring in Grenada, Eastern Caribbean.* In partnership with Ocean Spirits Inc. This grant will support a long term monitoring and conservation program at the key leatherback nesting beach at Levera which is vulnerable to development. It will also expand hawksbill monitoring in Grenada to include the two important offshore island nesting sites at Caille and Rhonde which are subject to heavy poaching. A project priority is to as develop local capacity through direct employment, internships, and voluntary work.
FWS: \$17,342. Leveraged Funds: \$20,517.

India

MT 09-057 *Building a Network for Conservation of Marine Turtles in India.* In partnership with Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment. This grant supports a national workshop to bring together network members to develop specific action plans and assign responsibilities for implementation as well as to develop standardized monitoring protocols at index beaches and to develop a cost effective outreach programme.
FWS: \$30,500. Leveraged Funds: \$31,500

Indonesia

MT 09-022 *Monitoring and Evaluation of Hatching Success of Leatherback Nests at Jamursba Medi and Wermon Beaches – Papua, Indonesia.* In partnership with the State University of Papua, Indonesia. This grant will support research to monitor the leatherback nesting population status, hatchling production, threats and a threat mitigation protocol as well as ensure the effective involvement of local communities in the recovery program for West Pacific leatherback nesting populations.

FWS: \$54,705 Leveraged Funds: \$68,200

Japan/Mexico

MT 09-013 *Implementation of an integrated conservation strategy for the Japanese nesting population of loggerhead turtle.* In partnership with ProPeninsula and Sea Turtle Association of Japan. This grant supports efforts to protect and manage nesting populations on key nesting beaches in Japan and strengthen capacity for conservation of loggerheads on nesting beaches in Japan and foraging populations in Mexico and Japan.

FWS: \$79,000 Leveraged Funds: \$128,298

Liberia

MT 09-034 *Continuation of Community Based Sea Turtle Conservation Project at Borgor Point, Liberia.* In partnership with Save My Future Foundation (SAMFU). This grant will support community based conservation programs to monitor and protect leatherback, hawksbill and olive ridley sea turtles along 14 km of nesting beaches in southwest Liberia and technical training for the turtle project officer.

FWS: \$37,485 Leveraged Funds: \$3,075

Mauritania

MT 09-047 *Conservation of loggerheads and green turtles on the coasts of Mauritania.* In partnership with Chelonee. This grant supports surveys of the 750 km Mauritanian coast to verify reports of nesting loggerheads and green turtles, awareness campaigns in coastal villages and involvement of local communities in development of subsequent community based conservation programs in accordance with survey findings.

FWS: \$15,265.80. Leveraged Funds: \$55,383.

Mexico

MT 09-070 *Conservation of the leatherback turtle in the Mexican Pacific 2009-2010.* In partnership with Kutzari, Asociacion para el Studio y Conservation de las Tortugas Marinas, AC. This grant will support nesting beach conservation on the most important nesting beaches in Mexico for the East Pacific leatherback, formerly the world's largest leatherback nesting population as recently as the early 1980's which is now reduced to less than one percent of its historic size.

FWS: \$67,628. Leveraged Funds: \$218,580

MT 09-035 *Sea Turtle Conservation Program, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.* In partnership with Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan, A.C. This grant will support monitoring and nesting beach conservation programs for three major hawksbill nesting beaches in the Yucatan Peninsula, MX.

FWS: \$25,000 Leveraged Funds: \$31,615

MT 09-037 *Population Recovery of the Black Sea Turtle of Michoacan, Mexico.* In partnership with the University of Michoacan. This grant will support a community based nesting beach conservation program for the black turtle at Colola and Maruata Beaches, the two most important nesting beaches for this species in the East Pacific.
FWS: \$25,000. Leveraged Funds: \$20,000

Mexico/Ecuador

MT 09-031 *Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Conservation Initiative Phase Two.* In partnership with ProPeninsula. This grant will support a field assessment of the historical and current status of nesting and foraging hawksbill turtles in Islas Tres Marias, Pacific Mexico and explore potential hawksbill nesting in NW Nicaragua.
FWS: \$15,000 Leveraged Funds: \$56,015

Nicaragua

MT 09-073 *Leatherback Conservation on the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua.* In Partnership with Fauna and Flora International, Inc. This grant supports conservation efforts at the three key leatherback nesting beaches in Nicaragua for the critically endangered East Pacific Leatherback nesting population.
FWS: \$41,109. Leveraged Funds: \$84,005.

MT 09-017 *Conservation of Hawksbill Turtles in the Pearl Cays, Nicaragua.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant will support the monitoring and protection of hawksbill nesting populations on 12 of the Pearl Keys as well as assist local communities to develop and expand conservation of hawksbill turtles through ecotourism based turtle watching.
FWS: \$61,423 Leveraged Funds: \$52,423

Panama

MT 09-001 *Leatherback and hawksbill turtle research and population recovery project in Panama.* In partnership with Caribbean Conservation Corporation. This grant supports efforts to restore the the Chiriqui Beach nesting population of hawksbill nesting turtles, once the largest in the Wider Caribbean, in partnership with the local Nogbe Indian communities. The project also supports monitoring and protection of one of the largest leatherback nesting populations in the Western Caribbean.
FWS: \$58,697 Leveraged Funds: \$64,728

Papua New Guinea

MT 09-052 *Capacity Building to Conserve Leatherback Sea Turtles in Papua New Guinea.* In partnership with Registered Trustees of the Marine Research Foundation. This grant supports community based nesting beach conservation of the most important leatherback nesting populations in Papua New Guinea and the second most important in the West Pacific.
FWS: \$ 14,860. Leveraged Funds: \$110,048

Regional – Asia/Indian Ocean.

MT 09-049 *IOSEA Technical Support and Capacity Building Programme.* In partnership with the Secretariat, Indian Ocean Southeast Asian Marine Turtle Agreement. This grant supports

capacity building in the IOSEA region by supporting members of the IOSEA Scientific Advisory Committee to conduct short IOSEA sponsored missions for training workshops and on the ground technical support for Parties and projects of member countries based on critical needs and regional priorities.

FWS: \$40,000. Leveraged Funds: \$30,000

Regional - West Africa

MT 09-030/59 *Technical support for capacity building in West Africa- special focus on Sierra Leone, Liberia, Angola, and Cape Verde.* In partnership with Dr. Manjula Tiwari, Sea Turtle Scientist. This grant will provide critical technical and scientific support for community based marine turtle conservation projects in Liberia and Sierra Leone being implemented by National NGOs as well as provide support to develop and coordinate an aerial survey plan for leatherback and other sea turtle nesting with Angola government on the extensive and unchartered beaches in Angola.

FWS: \$65,102 Leveraged Funds: \$19,440

MT 09-047 *Sea Turtle Technical assistance for sea turtle research and conservation in the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa.* In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. This grant will support a critical need for training and technical support for marine turtle conservation projects in several West African countries with major leatherback and green nesting populations in Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Congo, Sao Tome and Principe.

FWS: \$37,668 Leveraged Funds: \$23,873

Sierra Leone

MT 09-044 *Continued Development of a Marine Turtle Conservation Program for Sierra Leone, and Leatherback Conservation Initiative at the Turtle and Sherbro Islands.* In partnership with the Conservation Society of Sierra Leone. This grant supports community based conservation programs for marine turtle conservation at key leatherback nesting beaches in Sierra Leone with a special emphasis on community involvement and capacity building.

FWS: \$49,000. Leveraged Funds: \$ 12,500.

Solomon Islands

MT 09-082 *Sasakolo and Lithogagira Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Project.* In partnership with The Nature Conservancy. This grant will support community based nesting beach conservation programs for the two most important leatherback nesting beaches in the Solomon Islands which are part of the critically endangered West Pacific leatherback nesting population.

FWS: \$12,750. Leveraged Funds: \$10,000

Sultanate of Oman

MT 09-003 *Strategic Development of Initiatives for Marine Turtle Conservation in Oman 2009-2010.* In partnership with the Environmental Society of Oman. This grant will provide material and logistical support for the Ministry of Environment rangers to conduct standardized and more comprehensive loggerhead nesting surveys at Masirah Island and hawksbill nesting surveys at Damaniyat Islands, training support for Ministry rangers, and overall public outreach for marine turtle conservation issues in Oman.

FWS: \$68,831 Leveraged Funds: \$73,820

Vietnam

MT 09-024 *Community based marine turtle nesting beach conservation in Vietnam; Pilot conservation sites for hawksbill turtles in Bai Tu Long National Park and leatherbacks in Quang Tri Province.* In partnership with The World Conservation Union (IUCN). This grant will support community based sea turtle conservation program targeted at restoration of a once significant but now depleted leatherback nesting population and initiation of a new community based hawksbill conservation project for a depleted nesting and foraging population in Bai Tu Long National Park. FWS: \$50,281 Leveraged Funds: \$26,230