U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of International Conservation Marine Turtle Conservation Fund FY2014

In 2014, the USFWS awarded 47 projects from the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund totaling \$1,657,007 which was matched by \$2,697,413 in additional leveraged funds. Field projects in 29 countries (in alphabetical order below) will be supported, as well as two projects in multiple countries.

BANGLADESH

MT1417

Grant # F14AP00325

Community-based sea turtle conservation and restoration project in Bangladesh. In partnership with the Marine Alliance, this project serves as a model marine turtle conservation program in Bangladesh. It will support community-based monitoring of nesting sea turtles along Cox's Bazar and Chittagong district covering Teknaf Peninsula (90 km sandy beach), Sonadia Island (12 km sandy beach) and St. Martin Island (18 km); conduct foraging habitat and bycatch surveys; train and educate community members to conduct nesting beach surveys and nest protection; assess and determine important nesting sites for the Nature Reserve; and prepare educational and outreach materials and conduct awareness-raising programs with local communities.

FWS: \$21,000 Leveraged Funds: \$74,450

BARBADOS

MT1418

Grant # F14AP00363

Conservation and monitoring of one of the largest nesting populations of hawksbill turtles in the Wider Caribbean. In partnership with the University of the West Indies, this project will conduct all-night patrols on national index nesting beaches for hawksbills in Barbados, and once nightly patrols on all other high density hawksbill nesting beaches, to collect nesting data and protect nesting females and nests. It will also carry out education and outreach activities in local hotels and communities.

FWS: \$32,000 Leveraged Funds: \$85,200

CAPE VERDE

MT1408

Grant # F14AP00318

Strengthening marine turtle conservation strategies in the Tartaruga Natural Reserve, Boa Vista, Cape Verde. In partnership with BIOS.CV, this project will set up a field camp at Joao Barrosa Beach on the Island of Boa Vista, conduct daily patrols to protect nests and nesting females throughout the loggerhead nesting season, and provide education outreach activities for local

residents. Boa Vista hosts approximately 80% of all loggerhead nesting in Cape Verde, and Joao Barrosa Beach is one of the key nesting beaches on Boa Vista.

FWS: \$18,000 Leveraged Funds: \$80,778

MT1419

Grant # F14AC00234

Protection of nesting loggerhead turtles in Cabo Verde. In partnership with ADTMA SOS Tartarugas, this project will conduct patrols to protect loggerhead nesting females and nests at key loggerhead nesting beaches on the Island of Sal throughout the nesting season; implement an outreach program to diminish light pollution impacts on nesting beaches of Sal; and conduct conservation-related education and outreach activities with local schools, youth and other groups.

FWS: \$48,000 Leveraged Funds: \$108,000

MT1420

Grant # F14AC00185

Strengthening the community-based conservation project in the Island of Maio. In partnership with the Maio Biodiversity Foundation, this project will conduct night patrols to protect loggerhead nesting females and nests on all major loggerhead nesting beaches on the Island of Maio, and will carrry out an educational and awareness-raising program with local communities on Maio. Maio hosts about 10% of loggerhead nesting within Cape Verde.

FWS: \$50,000 Leveraged Funds: \$80,805

MT1427

Grant # F14AC00213

Conservation and protection of Cape Verde loggerhead colony: Management of the most important nesting area through local, national and international involvement. In partnership with Cabo Verde Natura 2000, this project will set up field camps at Ervatao and Porto Ferreira beaches to conduct night patrols to protect loggerhead nests and nesting females. These beaches represent about 40% of nesting on the island of Boa Vista, which hosts approximately 80% of loggerhead nesting in Cape Verde.

FWS: \$43,000 Leveraged Funds: \$81,565

MT1434

Grant # F14AC00216

Turtles, beaches, and villages on Boavista: Protecting sea turtles and nesting beaches and getting local people involved. In partnership with the Turtle Foundation Inc., this project will support night patrols to protect nesting loggerhead females from rampant poaching on important nesting beaches on the Cape Verde Island of Boa Vista, which hosts about 80% of the Cape Verde nesting population. This project will set up two field camps and one field station for patrols and monitoring of Norte, Canto, Boa Esperanca, Aqua Doce, Cural Velho, and Santa Monica beaches, complementing the coverage of two other non-government organizations on Boa Vista. It will also conduct education outreach in local schools, summer camps for youth, beach cleanups, and a training workshop for production of handcrafts from plastic waste.

FWS: \$49,000 Leveraged Funds: \$217,942

CHILE

MT1410

Grant # F14AP00395

Characterization of fishing gear that has an impact on the capture of leatherback turtles in artisinal fisheries in Chile. In partnership with the Inter-American Convention for the Conservation and Protetion of Sea Turtles (IAC), this project will prepare a description of fishing gear used in artisanal fisheries in Chile and its operations; identify areas of greater interaction between these fisheries and leatherbacks; and train aritisanal fishers to identify sea turtle species, to use safe handling and release techniques, and to improve data collection on sea turtle bycatch in gillnet operations.

FWS: \$35,200 Leveraged Funds: \$13,698

COSTA RICA

MT1467

Grant # F14AP00670

Conservation and research project of leatherback sea turtle nesting at the North Pacific of Costa Rica: Langosta, Nombre de Jesus, Zapoltillal, Onda and Real Beaches. In partnership with Fundecodes, this project supports leatherback surveys and nest protection in Las Baulas National Park and on nearby secondary beaches. The East Pacific leatherback is the most critically endangered leatherback population in the world, and Las Baulas National Park hosts the most important remaining nesting populations in Costa Rica. In addition to Playa Langosta in Las Baulas National Park, this project extends nesting surveys and nest protection activities for leatherbacks to the secondary nesting sites of Playa Nombre de Jesus, Zapotilla, Onda and Real. Specific project activities include: training of local and international research assistants and volunteers to help conduct nesting surveys and nest protection activities; improving camp infrastructure; hatchery construction and operation; data collection and analysis; and environmental education and outreach, including local school field trips and a turtle festival. FWS: \$25,945

Leveraged Funds: \$2,624

COTE D'IVOIRE/IVORY COAST

MT1445

Grant # F14AP00672

Conservation of sea turtles of Ivory Coast. In partnership with SOS Forêt, this award supports nightly patrols with community ecoguards along the 14 km Mani Beach to protect nesting leatherback and olive ridley sea turtles, a turtle release program with fisherman at Grand Bereby, and education and awareness campaigns in three local villages adjacent to Mani Beach.

FWS: \$24,977 Leveraged Funds: \$28,800

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

MT1450

Grant # F14AP00706

Nest monitoring and nest translocation on the Muanda shoreline. In partnership with ACODES, this project will support community-based sea turtle conservation within Muanda Marine Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Activities include community-led patrols on four nesting

beaches to protect nesting olive ridley turtles, and leatherback habitats; coordination with local fishers to release turtles captured in fishing nets; and the implementation of education and awareness campaigns in local schools and communities.

FWS: \$18,000 Leveraged Funds: \$26,496

ECUADOR

MT1452

Grant # F14AP00707

Conserving East Pacific green turtles nesting in the Galapagos Archpelago. In partnership with the Charles Darwin Foundation, this project will support efforts to establish an integrated long-term conservation program for East Pacific green turtles at Galapagos National Park. The project will monitor population trends at primary nesting beaches and assess key threats to determine the appropriate management response from the National Park. In addition, this project will implement a community outreach program and field education programs with local school children, and work closely with Galapagos National Park to develop the capacity of the Park to assume greater responsibility for and expansion of the Park's sea turtle conservation program.

FWS: \$25,344 Leveraged Funds: \$77,280

EL SALVADOR

MT1416

Grant # F14AP00320

Hawksbill conservation and local empowerment in El Salvador. In partnership with The Ocean Foundation, this project will work with local communities and build teams to patrol 40 km of key hawkbsill nesting beaches in El Salvador and protect nests through relocation to hatcheries using best management practices; conduct education outreach activities with local communities including an annual Hawksbill Festival, "Day of the Hawksbill," with activities in local schools; and work with local communities to develop ecotourism activities.

FWS: \$55,000 Leveraged Funds: \$74,600

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

MT1461

Grant # F14AP00667

Equatorial Guinea 2014-201: Sea turtle conservation in a rapidly changing country. In partnership with National Institute for Forestry Development and Protected Area Management (INDEFOR-AP), this project supports community-based conservation efforts at Bioko Island, which hosts one of the most important leatherback nesting populations in West Africa. The grant also supports the development of a marine turtle conservation program on important mainland nesting beaches at Punta Ilende Natural Reserve, Rio Campo Natural Reserve and Nendyi Scientific Reserve; and the implementation of nationwide environmental education outreach activities.

FWS: \$34,000 Leveraged Funds: \$29,570

GABON

MT1472

Grant # F14AC00254

Conserving Gabon's leatherbacks: New challenges and opportunities, 2014-2015. In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society, this project will coordinate and support activities of the Gabon Sea Turtle Partnership, including coordinating nesting beach and aerial surveys to assess leatherback nesting trends; protect nests and nesting females on major nesting beaches within Gabon's National Parks Agency (ANPN) Protected Areas; continue to assess and implement log removal programs on nesting beaches; expand fisheries bycatch measures and turtle excluder device (TED) requirements on fishing trawls; develop on-board observer programs for longline vessels; initiate a Corisco Bay fisheries bycatch assessment of artisanal fishers; and conduct education and awareness programs locally and nationally. Gabon is the epicenter for the largest leatherback nesting population in the world, and conservation of this nesting population is the focus of this project.

FWS: \$117,000 Leveraged Funds: \$77,010

GHANA

MT1478

Grant # F14AP00676

Expanding the local capacity to integrate research, education, and ecotourism into meaningful sea turtle management strategies in Ghana. In partnership with Florida Gulf Coast University, this project will conduct daily night patrols on 10 km of nesting beach within the Muni-Pomadze Ramsar site between November and February to protect leatherback and olive ridely nests and nesting females; conduct 20 sea turtle conservation education programs in local communities and weekly radio programs about wildlife conservation; and train ten community members to conduct sea turtle surveys and ecotourism turtle walks.

FWS: \$11,000 Leveraged Funds: \$25,801

GUATEMALA

MT1423

Grant # F14AP00366

Strengthening the conservation of sea turtles in Guatemala and assisting CONANP in meeting its commitments under the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention. In partnership with the non-government organization, Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre, this project will conduct sea turtle nest monitoring surveys at eight index beaches, strengthen hatchery management through capacity building workshops, organize a binational stranding workshop with El Salvador, and work with the Mexican National Commission for Protected Areas (CONANP) and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC) to develop a sustainable management plan for olive ridley egg harvest to meet IAC exceptions requirements.

FWS: \$23,000 Leveraged Funds: \$21,843

GUINEA

MT1406

Grant # F14AP00316

Conservation of hawksbills on the islands in the Guineas Phase II: Tristao Islands, Guinea. In partnership with Chelonee, this project will conduct nesting surveys to determine the status of hawksbills in the Tristao Islands and implement a nest protection program on key beaches.

FWS: \$12,200 Leveraged Funds: \$21,136

MT1433

Grant # F14AC00215

Sea turtle technical assistance in the Gulf of Guinea, West Africa 2014-2015. In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society, this award supports an experienced sea turtle scientist to provide technical support, training, and guidance to Marine Turtle Conservation Act (MTCA)-funded projects in Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, and Sao Tome and Principe. In addition, it supports the implementation of conservation programs and research in Corisco Bay, Gabon and genetics research on hawksbill and olive ridely populations in the Gulf of Guinea.

FWS: \$46,002 Leveraged Funds: \$13,560

GUINEA-BISSAU

MT1447

Grant # F14AP00680

Strengthening conservation of sea turtle populations through community participation in the Bijagos Archipelago, Guinea-Bissau. In partnership with the Instituto da Biodiversidade e das Areas Protegidas, this project will implement community-based patrols on Unhocomo and Unhocomozinho Island nesting beaches within the Bolama-Bijagos Biosphere Reserve to conduct standardized surveys and protect nests and nesting females, characterize local aritisanal fisheries and conduct field studies and surveys to assess sea turtle bycatch by artisanal fishers, and conduct education and outreach programs in local communities and schools.

FWS: \$18,995 Leveraged Funds: \$12,660

INDIA

MT1421

Grant # F14AP00364

Involving communities in extended areas and strengthening existing integrated sea turtle conservation program - Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, India. In partnership with the TREE Foundation, this project will continue a community-based sea turtle nest protection program with 36 villages along 72 km of beach in Nellore and Visakhapatnam and conduct outreach programs with fishers in 42 villages including use of the turtle excluder device (TED).

FWS: \$20,600 Leveraged Funds: \$146,500

MT1462

Grant # F14AP00708

Promoting conservation of sea turtles in India at a national scale through a network of partners and index sites, and increased coordination of monitoring and coastal management efforts. In partnership with the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust Post, this project will continue to strengthen the long-term monitoring program for the olive ridely arribada population at Rushikulya, olive ridleys generally in Orissa, and leatherbacks in Andaman Islands; initate a conservation program for green turtles in the Lakshadweep Islands; and continue to facilitate and strengthen the work of a broad network of partners to conserve marine turtles throughout the Indian mainland and islands.

FWS: \$46,500 Leveraged Funds: \$45,000

INDONESIA

MT1425

Grant # F14AP00451

Conservation of the endangered western Pacific leatherbacks at Jamursba Medi and Wermon nesting beaches of Abun coastal National Park in Tambrauw, Papua Barat - Indonesia. In partnership with The State University of Papua, this project will conduct community-based monitoring of the West Pacific leatherback nesting population at Jamursba Medi and Wermon Beaches, assess hatching success, maximize hatchling production through effective predator control measures, and develop a conservation program in collaboration with local community members.

FWS: \$50,000 Leveraged Funds: \$101,500

MT1477

Grant # F14AP00674

Hawksbill turtles in the Indonesian Derawan Archipelago; research and impact mitigation program 2014. In partnership with the Turtle Foundation, this project will assess hawksbill population size and distribution in the Derawan Archipelago through interviews and field studies, conduct an awareness campaign focused on domestic tourists, and work with souvenir shops to stop the sale of turtle shell products.

FWS: \$4,900 Leveraged Funds: \$7,000

LIBERIA

MT1457

Grant # F14AP00677

Continuation of marine turtle conservation project in Bassa Point, Little Bassa and Edina. In partnership with Sea Turtle Watch (Liberia), this project will organize and train community members in the communities of Bassa Point, Little Bassa and Edina to conduct daily patrols to count and protect nesting leatherbacks, hawksbills and olivey ridelys and their nests throughout the nesting season; develop educational conservation-oriented materials; and conduct community education and outreach programs.

FWS: \$12,500 Leveraged Funds: \$16,055

MT1458

Grant # F14AP00678

Community-based marine turtle conservation and education initiatives in River Cess County, Liberia. In partnership with Save My Future Foundation, this project will train community members to conduct daily patrols along 14 km of nesting beach in River Cess County to count and protect leatherback, olive ridley and hawksbill nests and nesting females; conduct environmental education programs at local schools; and assist communities to develop alternative livelihood sources as a replacement from traditional consumption of turtles and turtle eggs.

FWS: \$32,000 Leveraged Funds: \$3,520

MAURITANIA

MT13-006

Grant # F14AP00092

Knowledge and conservation of loggerheads and green turtles nesting on the coasts of Mauritania. In partnership with Chelonee, this project will continue to survey the Mauritania coastline to assess sea turtle nesting with a special focus on loggerheads, and will distribute sea turtle conservation outreach materials for awareness campaigns with local communities.

FWS: \$16,000 Leveraged Funds: \$39,600

MEXICO

MT13-058

Grant # F14AP00091

Population recovery of black turtle of Michoacan, Mexico. In partnership with the Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas de Hidalgo, this project will support work with Colola and Maruata communities to conduct conservation programs on the two most important nesting beaches in Mexico for the recovery of the East Pacific green turtle nesting population during the 2013-14 nesting season.

FWS: \$23,000 Leveraged Funds: \$25,000

MT1422

Grant # F14AP00365

Conservation and monitoring program of index sea turtle nesting beaches in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico. In partnership with Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan, A.C., this project will conduct night patrols to survey and protect nesting hawksbill turtles along 81 km of nesting beaches at Celestun, El Cuyo and Holbox, which represent about 40% of hawksbill nesting in the Yucatan Peninsula. It will also conduct outreach and education programs with communities adjacent to these nesting beaches.

FWS: \$22,000 Leveraged Funds: \$36,250

MT1430

Grant # F14AP00747

Conservation of the Japanese nesting loggerhead turtle: mortality assessment and outreach at the Baja California Sur (BCS) Mexico juvenile foraging area. In partnership with The Ocean Foundation, this project supports daily sea turtle stranding surveys along 43 km of Playa San

Lazaro, Baja California Sur throughout May to September and twice weekly during October-April. These baseline surveys in place since 2003 provide a critical element to monitor and assess loggerhead bycatch from fisheries operating within a key foraging ground for the North Pacific loggerhead population. They have been instrumental in alerting the conservation community and government authorities to mass loggerhead mortality events in 2012 and 2013, and bring focus and attention to resolving the serious bycatch problem.

FWS: \$23,000 Leveraged Funds: \$45,540

MT1439

Grant # F14AP00342

Transition from egg corrals back to the nesting beach: Evaluation of sex ratios, survival, and predation of hatchling Kemp's ridley sea turtles from arribadas at Rancho Nuevo, Mexico. In partnership with the University of Alabama at Birmingham, this project is designed to assess nest management strategies at the main Kemp's ridley nesting beach of Rancho Nuevo. This project will monitor and evaluate beach and nest temperatures in hatcheries and on the nesting beach; evaluate and compare hatchling sex ratios in hatcheries and in situ nests; evaluate predation of hatchlings from arribada nesting and solitary nesting; research the type and abundance of predators at Rancho Nuevo nesting beach; determine the emergence rate and survival rate to sea of hatchlings from arribada nests and solitary nests; and evaluate hatchling emergence times in hatcheries and in situ.

FWS: \$18,989 Leveraged Funds: \$22,300

MT1443

Grant # F14AP00301

Population restoration project for the Kemp's ridley sea turtle, on the coasts of Tamaulipas, Mexico. In partnership with the Gladys Porter Zoo, this award supports the Mexico-U.S. binational Kemp's ridley project by providing three All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) and parts for patroling and nest protection at key Kemp's ridley nesting beaches in the State of Tamualipas, Mexico.

FWS: \$21,800 Leveraged Funds: \$21,800

MT1456

Grant # F14AP00669

Conservation of the leatherback turtle in the Mexican Pacific 2014-2015. In partnership with Kutzari Asociación para el Estudio y Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas, this project operates turtle camps on the four primary leatherback nesting beaches in Mexico to provide nightly patroling and protection of nesting females and nests, works with local communities to develop support for sea turtle conservation programs, and provides technical and logistical support for secondary leatherback nesting beaches. The East Pacific leatherback is the most critically endangered leatherback population in the world.

FWS: \$73,305 Leveraged Funds: \$224,806

MT1464

Grant # F14AP00716

Population recovery of black turtle of Michoacan, Mexico. In partnership with the Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas de Hidalgo, this project will support work with Colola and Maruata

communities to conduct conservation programs on the two most important nesting beaches in Mexico for recovery of the East Pacific green turtle nesting population during the 2014-15 nesting season.

FWS: \$22,000 Leveraged Funds: \$20,000

NICARAGUA

MT1441

Grant # F14AP00362

Strenthening conservation of critically endangered leatherback and hawksbill marine turtles on Nicaragua's Pacific Coast. In partnership with Flora and Fauna International, this project will work with local community members to support nesting beach conservation programs for the three most important East Pacific leatherback populations in Nicaragua. The East Pacific leatherback population is the most endangered leatherback population in the world. The project will also support a hawksbill conservation program at the recently discovered nesting site at Estero Padre Ramos, which accounts for 40-50% of all East Pacific hawksbill nesting. This project will strengthen coastal management and protection of nesting sites at Salamina and Estero Padre Ramos by raising awareness among policy makers and local stakeholders through a national sea turtle campaign at the nesting beaches, and will develop a conservation tourism program at Estero Padre Ramos.

FWS: \$57,000 Leveraged Funds: \$45,625

PANAMA

MT1431

Grant # F14AP00361

Hawksbill and leatherback turtle research and population recovery in Panama. In partnership with the Sea Turtle Conservancy, this project will support conservation efforts to restore the Chiriqui Beach nesting population of hawksbill turtles, which was historically the largest in the Caribbean. Monitoring activities will also be conducted to improve protection of the largest leatherback nesting population in the Western Caribbean. These efforts will include intensive monitoring and protection of hawksbill and leatherback nesting beaches with community monitors at six sites in Bocas del Toro Province using standardized protocols. In addition, this project will conduct environmental outreach activities and post informational signs about dog nest depredation in local communities.

FWS: \$52,600 Leveraged Funds: \$203,375

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

MT1446

Grant # F14AP00709

Marine turtle monitoring and protection in the Republic of Congo. In partnership with Renatura Congo, this project will support community-based efforts to protect nesting leatherback and olive ridley sea turtles along three 10 km long nesting beaches adjacent and south of Conkouati-Douli National Park, as well as the continuation of a turtle bycatch release program with local fishers that releases approximately 1,500 turtles annually. An environmental outreach program with local communities is an integral component of the project.

FWS: \$25,000 Leveraged Funds: \$43,858

MT1471

Grant # F14AP00710

Marine turtle monitoring in Conkouati-Douli National Park, Republic of Congo - 2014-2015 Season. In partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society, this project will conduct training for community members to support a leatherback conservation program along 57 km of nesting beach within Conkouati-Douli National Park, which is contiguous with the major leatherback nesting population in Mayumba National Park, Gabon. This grant will also support marine enforcement patrols by the Park to deter illegal foreign industrial fishing vessels, which are the cause of much of the sea turtle bycatch mortality within the Park. In addition, this project will conduct daily nest surveys and protection activities within the Park, work with local communities and fishers to minimize sea turtle bycatch from coastal gill net fisheries, and conduct marine patrols with a Park vessel to deter illegal industrial fishing within Park waters.

FWS: \$53,304 Leveraged Funds: \$62,874

SIERRA LEONE

MT1451

Grant # F14AP00675

Continued development of a community-based marine turtle conservation program initiative at Turtle, Bonthe/Sherbro Islands and the Southern Shoreline. In partnership with the Reptile and Amphibian Program - Sierre Leone, this project will conduct community-based nesting beach conservation programs in the Turtle Islands, Sherbro Island and Turner's Peninsula during November-April, work with artisanal fishers to monitor bycatch and provide training for safe turtle release, and conduct outreach and education programs in coastal communities.

FWS: \$65,000 Leveraged Funds: \$9,905

SOLOMON ISLANDS

MT1474

Grant # F14AP00679

Strengthening conservation of endangered leatherback and hawksbill turtles across community conservation networks in the Solomon Islands. In partnership with the Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership, this project will conduct training workshops for local community members and implement community-based patrols on leatherback nesting beaches on the islands of Tetepare, Rendova and Vangunu to protect nests and nesting females. These

beaches are the most important nesting beaches in the Solomon Islands for the critically endangered West Pacific leatherback nesting population.

FWS: \$15,000 Leveraged Funds: \$15,000

SPAIN

MT1470

Grant # F14AP00673

Involving the Spanish long-distance fisheries in the conservation of the Northwest Atlantic nesting loggerhead population. In partnership with KAI Marine Services, this project supports workshops for captains and crews of Spanish longline fishery vessels, which are the most impactful fleet in the North Atlantic and Mediterranean for loggerhead bycatch. Captains and crews will be taught bycatch mitigation measures, safe handling, and release techniques for turtles. A website will be maintained to enable the rapid dissemination of information to scientists, fisherman and government policymakers in the Mediterranean region on bycatch issues and reduction measures.

FWS: \$40,000 Leveraged Funds: \$124,000

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MT1400

Grant # F14AP00203

34th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation. In partnership with the International Sea Turtle Society, this grant provides support for the 34th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation in New Orleans, including provision of travel funds enabling approximately 22 international participants to attend, and rental of audio visual equipment.

FWS: \$25,000 Leveraged Funds: \$109,000

MT1411

Grant # F14AC00197

Implementation of the Inter-American Convention for the Conservation and Protetion of Sea Turtles (IAC) through greater participation in Consultative Committee of Experts (CCE) meetings and technical capacity building of IAC member countries. In partnership with the Inter-American Convention for the Conservation and Protetion of Sea Turtles (IAC), this project supports the IAC Secretariat to organize meetings of the IAC subsidiary bodies as necessary, as well as facilitate technical assistance for Parties of the IAC. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will work with the IAC Secretariat to facilitate greater engagement of Party Members to address by catch issues in the East Pacific.

FWS: \$57,500 Leveraged Funds: \$10,000

VIETNAM

MT1407

Grant # F14AP00286

Support for community-based marine turtle nesting beach conservation and bycatch reduction in *Vietnam*. In partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature – Vietnam, this

project will implement community-based nesting beach conservation programs and bycatch monitoring in six provinces, as well as education and outreach activities in six coastal communities involving approximately 300 fishers and 500 school children.

FWS: \$51,935 Leveraged Funds: \$46,128

YEMEN

MT1428

Grant # F14AP00260

Assessing threats and status of key sea turtle nesting populations, developing community supported conservation programs and building conservation capacity in Yemen. In partnership with the Yemeni Biological Society, this project will develop community-based conservation programs to protect nesting females and nests and implement standardized nesting surveys on key nesting beaches in Yemen for the conservation of loggerheads, green turtles, and hawksbills. FWS: \$42,042 Leveraged Funds: \$9,450

MULTIPLE COUNTRIES

GUINEA-BISSAU, CAPE VERDE AND SOLOMON'S ISLAND

MT1415

Grant # F14AC00192

Scientific and technical support to Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, and the Solomon Islands. In partnership with the Ocean Ecology Network, Inc., this award supports a sea turtle scientist to make site visits to Marine Turtle Conservation Act (MTCA)-funded projects in Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, and Solomon Islands to provide technical and scientific support, as well as to complete written assessments of projects based on field site visits.

FWS: \$30,369 Leveraged Funds: \$12,800

EL SALVADOR, NICARAGUA AND ECUADOR

MT1402

Grant # F14AP00356

Phase IV of ICAPO's regional activities: Protecting top tier hawksbill nesting beaches in the eastern Pacific Ocean. In partnership with The Ocean Foundation, this project supports nesting beach conservation efforts for the most important remaining East Pacific hawksbill nesting populations in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Ecuador. Working with local non-government organizations, it will renew the hawksbill nest conservation program at Los Cobanos, El Salvador, carry out a hawksbill nest protection program at Machalilla, Ecuador, and intiate a hawksbill nesting protection program at Aserradores, Nicaragua.

FWS: \$48,000 Leveraged Funds: \$96,709