8th MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON MARINE TURTLES
MARATHON | GREECE 2026

8th Mediterranean Conference
on Marine Turtles

Program

9-13 November 2026
Marathon, Attica, Greece



WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear friends and colleagues,

It's an incredible privilege to welcome you to the 8th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles, held here in Marathon where the past, the present and nature meet. We are in a historic site, with unique nature reserves and protected areas in close proximity, such as the Schinias forest and the Vravrona wetland and archaeological site. We are at the birthplace of the classic Marathon race that started during the first modern Olympic Games. We are at the place where major construction works like the Marathon dam and reservoir stand as a testament to a Greece reborn after turbulent times at the start of the 20th century.

It should be no surprise then that our big gathering, the 8th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles, is held here. ARCHELON, together with the organizing team and with the valuable support of its Board of Directors, set out to create a conference that honors not only the science of sea turtle biology and conservation, but also our entire sea turtle community. In my view, sea turtles are true ***Guardians of our Ancient Sea***, a Sea that has been the birthplace of several civilizations and great empires but now faces increasing pressures from overfishing, hypertourism, and climate change. Turtles have been swimming in these waters for thousands upon thousands of years, have shown incredible resilience in view of environmental and geopolitical challenges and are here to teach us a lesson of survival and endurance.

As a community, we also find ourselves at a pivotal moment. After decades defined by collective actions to protect this ancient species, Mediterranean turtle populations are showing real signs of recovery and range expansion. Now we need to think about the next steps, embrace new approaches, acknowledge shifting baselines, and remain open to diverse perspectives. This is a time to reflect on how we can move forward with humility, curiosity, and respect for each other and the many ways people relate to turtles and the sea.

So, as you join the different conference events that include workshops, plenaries, poster sessions, documentary screenings, socials, and spontaneous conversations by the sea, I hope you'll take a moment to reflect and be inspired. Think about what brought you into sea turtle conservation, what keeps you in it and what we need to do as a community to look after our Guardians. We are here to talk about sea turtles, to reaffirm our bonds, and continue to build new synergies and collaborations.

I really look forward to a great time with you all,

Aliki Panagopoulou, PhD
President, 8th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles

CONTENTS

WELCOME TO MARATHON 3

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION 4

CONFERENCE EVENTS 7

ORAL AND POSTER SESSION DESCRIPTIONS 10

WORKSHOPS, MEETINGS & ROUNDTABLES 12

SCHEDULE 14

POSTER TITLES & AUTHORS 26

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING TEAM 36

WELCOME TO MARATHON

Marathon is one of Greece's most historically significant places, a name recognised around the world. Between the mountains of Attica and the Aegean coast, its landscape brings together ancient history, wetlands, pine forests and the sea.

A PLACE THAT MADE HISTORY

In 490 BC, the plain of Marathon became the setting for the **Battle of Marathon**, a major event of the Greco-Persian Wars. At Marathon, Athenian and Plataean forces faced the army of the Achaemenid Persian Empire after it landed. The battle ended in an Athenian and Plataean victory and became one of the best-known events of the ancient Mediterranean world.

FROM MARATHON TO ''THE MARATHON''

According to tradition, Pheidippides, an Athenian messenger, ran from Marathon to Athens following the battle to announce the Greek victory, only to die after just uttering the words "We won". His legendary run became a story of determination and endurance. Centuries later, the story inspired the creation of the modern **Marathon race**, introduced at the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896. Today, the historic route begins here and finishes at the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens.

WHY MARATHON?

It is fitting that the 8th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles brings us together in Marathon, a place where history, nature and the sea meet. Like the story of Marathon itself, marine turtle conservation requires endurance, long-term commitment and collaboration beyond borders.

EXPLORE THE AREA

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Registration

The registration desk will be in the Lobby Area of the Golden Coast Hotel. Operating hours:

Sunday, November 8:	13:00 – 20:00
Monday, November 9:	08:00 – 18:00
Tuesday, November 10:	08:00 – 18:00
Wednesday, November 11:	11:00 – 18:00 (Secretarial Support only)
Thursday, November 12:	11:00 – 18:00 (Certificates and Auction Item pick-ups only)

Attendee Name Badges

Participants must wear their name badge to access all conference sessions and events. Meeting rooms and official functions will be limited to registered attendees with badges.

Oral Presentation Guidelines

All oral presentations must be prepared and presented in English. Oral presentations will be limited to **12 minutes**: 10 minutes for presentation and 2 minutes for questions. Presentations will be grouped by session as assigned by the Steering Committee. All presentations must be uploaded to the on-site computer in the respective presentation room (Marathon or Alpha) the day before. Please look out for the announcements stating exact upload times.

The conference center at the Golden Coast Hotel is equipped with a computer and digital projector supporting both **4:3 and 16:9** aspect ratios with high-resolution output. Streaming from USB or Cloud will not be possible.

Supported Software: Microsoft PowerPoint.

Apple Users: Keynote software is not supported. Presentations created on Mac computers must be converted to PowerPoint before the conference. Please contact the organizers for technical assistance.

Multimedia: Use PowerPoint integration tools for videos and images. Keep all media files in the same folder as your presentation.

Video Formats: Recommended formats include .MP4, .MOV, or .AVI with resolution of 720p or 1080p.

Poster Presentation Guidelines

Posters will be set up at the "MAIN BAR" Area that will be outfitted accordingly with poster boards. Poster Setup for all delegates will be on Monday, 9 November, 16:00-18:00. All posters must be in English and the maximum size for each poster must be 85 cm width x 120 cm height – portrait orientation. Posters exceeding these dimensions will be folded or trimmed to fit the available space. Posters will remain for viewing throughout the Conference.

Two Poster Sessions allowing Q&A time and interaction with presenting authors:

Session I: Tuesday, 10 November, 16:30 – 18:00 (Poster Presenter's first name beginning A – H)

Session II: Wednesday, 11 November, 16:30 – 18:00 (Poster Presenter's first name beginning I – Z)

Presenting authors must be next to their posters throughout their assigned session. Students considered for a Student Award should be available to respond to questions by the judges.

Poster Takedown will be on Thursday, 12 November, 15:30 – 18:30.

Student Awards

The Student Awards Committee will evaluate all nominated oral and poster presentations and will give awards for the best presentations. To be eligible for a student award, applicants must currently be a student or have graduated within the 12 months prior to the conference. Oral and poster presentations must be based on primary research conducted in the context of their degree, master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation. Winners will be announced at the Gala Dinner.

Breaks, Coffee & Food

Morning Break:	Daily, 11:00 – 11:30
Lunch Break:	Daily, 13:00 – 14:30
Afternoon Break:	Daily, 16:00 – 16:30

Breakfast:	Served daily, 06:30 – 10:00 at OLYMPIA restaurant
Coffee:	Served daily, 11:00 – 16:00 at Main Bar Area
Lunch:	Served daily, 13:00 – 15:00 at OLYMPIA restaurant
Dinner:	Served daily, 19:00 – 21:30, at OLYMPIA restaurant

Breakfast and Lunch are served at OLYMPIA restaurant in a buffet style, drinks included. If not staying at the hotel, participants will be responsible for their own meals. They can participate in the hotel's buffet lunch for 25€ per person including drinks. Other nearby options may be selected, however, please keep in mind that travel time to and from the venue during lunch breaks can be tight, so you are strongly encouraged to plan accordingly to avoid being late to afternoon sessions.

Dinner at OLYMPIA Restaurant is available with the following options:

(a) Buffet + drinks at 18€ per person. This option includes drinks and caters for all dietary requirements.
(b) Single platter, no drinks included at 10 – 12€ per person, depending on the dish that will be on offer.

If not wishing to dine at the hotel, participants may select other nearby options. Nea Makri is the closest commercial area to the hotel and offers a multitude of food options, including casual dining, grocery stores, and pharmacies.

Special Meals

- ARCHELON and the Conference offer a **Welcome Dinner** to all registered participants on Monday, 9 November, 19:30 – 21:00 (see details p. 8).
- Registered participants can join the **Gala Dinner** (reservation only) on Thursday, 12 November, 20:30 – 22:00 (see details p. 8).

CONFERENCE EVENTS

Silent Auction	Location: YPSILON Day and Time: All week

The Silent Auction is a fundraiser to support student travel. Donate items, see what others have brought and make the best bid to get unique turtle themed souvenirs, artifacts or things bearing a special story.
Item Drop-off: Monday, 9 November, 14:30 – 18:00.
Bidding: Tuesday, 10 November, 09:00 – Wednesday, 11 November at 13:00.
Item pick up & Payment: Thursday, 12 November, 11:00 – 18:00 (at Registration Desk).
Items not picked up by that time will be given to the next highest bidder.
Payments: Cash (euro) & most major credit cards.

Documentary Screening 1: Life MareNatura: Protecting Marine Life in a Changing World	Location: MARATHON Date: Tuesday, 10 November Time: 20:00 – 21:00

Screening presented by MEDASSET. Q&A and Discussion Session to follow after the screening.

This visually rich documentary takes viewers behind the scenes of marine conservation, following scientists and conservationists across Greece and Italy as they investigate Mediterranean biodiversity and the challenges facing marine ecosystems. Through field missions, scientific research and the stories of those working to protect the sea, the film explores how science can contribute to effective marine conservation.

Documentary Screening 2: Mediterranean: Life Under Siege	Location: MARATHON Days: Wednesday, 11 November Time: 20:00 – 21:00

Screening presented by Anemone Productions & CineDoc.

A journey through the natural wonders of the Mediterranean, following remarkable species including loggerhead sea turtles, monk seals, dolphins and bluefin tuna, while highlighting the challenges facing this endangered ecosystem. Filmed over two years across 12 countries, the documentary brings together the stories of Mediterranean wildlife and the scientists working to understand and protect it.

Photobooth & Social Media	Location: HOTEL LOBBY Day: Monday, 9 November & Thursday, 12 November Time: 18:00 – 19:00

A photobooth will be available in the hotel lobby throughout the conference. Conference participants can take photos and record short videos at any time. On Monday, 9 and Thursday, 12 November between 18:00 and 19:00 the Communication Team will be there to record short interviews, statements and collect video messages from all delegates for our social media platforms!

Follow and tag us on social media:
Instagram: @medturtleconf
Facebook: 8th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles

Welcome dinner	Location: OLYMPIA RESTAURANT & BYZANTINO Day: Monday, 9 November Time: 19:30 – 21:00 (dinner) 21:00 – 23:00 (party)

The Conference offers a Welcome Dinner to all registered delegates. The Welcome Dinner will take place at the Hotel Restaurant “Olympia” on Monday, 9 November at 19:30 and the festivities will later continue into the “Byzantino” hall (adjacent to the restaurant) until 23:00 with live music and dancing. All drinks are included until 22:00. Drinks during 22:00 – 23:00 are available for 7€/drink.

Gala Dinner	Location: BYZANTINO HALL Day: Thursday, 12 November Time: 20:30 – 22:00 (dinner) 22:00 – 01:00 (party)

A special evening celebrating the wrap up of the Conference, the people and achievements that have contributed to sea turtle conservation across the Mediterranean. The Gala Dinner will include the presentation of the Student Awards and Lifetime Achievement Awards, followed by a festive party with music. The dinner will be served in Byzantino Hall and participation is available upon reservation only. An open bar will be available from 22:00 to 01:00 for 15€/person.

Field Trip	Pick up point: HOTEL ENTRANCE Day: Friday, 13 November Time: 09:00 – 19:00

The field trip requires paid participation and registration beforehand. Please note that places are limited, and availability cannot be guaranteed if you register for the field trip upon arrival at the Conference, as all spots may already have been filled.

09:00 Departure by bus from **Golden Coast Hotel**, Marathon

10:00 Arrival in **Vravrona**, a coastal area of Attica known for its important wetland and rich natural and cultural heritage.
10:15 Guided environmental tour of the **Vravrona Wetland** by the **Hellenic Ornithological Society** (HOS), introducing participants to the wetland's biodiversity, ecological importance and conservation value.
11:30 Release of a sea turtle that received care at **ARCHELON's Sea Turtle Rescue Centre**, celebrating the successful rehabilitation of an animal and its return to the natural environment. We will be able to track the turtle after its release thanks to a satellite tag deployed, part of ARCHELON's collaboration with The Sea Turtle Conservancy.
12:15 Departure from Vravrona by bus and transfer to the center of Athens.
13:45 Arrival to the city center and free time to explore **Plaka**, one of Athens' oldest and most picturesque neighbourhoods, with its narrow streets, neoclassical buildings, traditional shops and cafés, nestled directly on the northern and eastern slopes at the base of Acropolis. Locate and walk along Tripodon street, the most ancient street still in use in all of Europe, dating back 2,500 years.
15:30 Visit the **Acropolis Museum,** that has received numerous international awards for its architecture, lighting, sustainability, conservation work, and global visitor rankings. The museum houses important archaeological finds from the Acropolis, offering a unique insight into ancient Athenian history, art and culture.
17:30 Departure by bus from the Acropolis Museum
19:00 Arrival at Golden Coast Hotel, Marathon

The field trip fee includes transportation, admission to the Acropolis Museum, and a light packed meal for participants.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM - AT A GLANCE

ORAL AND POSTER SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

NESTING BIOLOGY

This session focuses on nesting beaches, nesting females, nests, hatchlings, eggs, and other related topics. Relevant subjects include assessments of nesting population size, modelling of population parameters, long-term monitoring of nesting trends, forecasting population change, behavior of turtles on nesting beaches, hatching/emergence success and hatchling production, sea-finding behaviour, environmental impacts on egg viability or nesting, and related topics. The session may also include topics such as population demography (i.e., survival probabilities, and reproductive rates); abundance and trends; population structure and population connectivity; population genetics.

IN-WATER BIOLOGY

This session broadly encompasses the biology of sea turtles at sea, including research on turtles of all life-history stages, aiming to better understand the biology and ecology of turtles in their underwater habitats. Suitable topics include behavioral or observational studies related to migration, diving, foraging, or navigation, growth rates as well as sightings, surveys and monitoring of turtles at sea (e.g., in developmental habitats or foraging areas), conservation status evaluations, and the structure and dynamics of populations, subpopulations, and metapopulations. Other topics include telemetry and movements, patterns of resource use and residency, mating behavior and social interactions, feeding behavior and diet composition, the ecological role turtles play in their diverse habitats, and the implications of habitat condition on the health and sustainability of turtles.

FISHERIES & THREATS

This session focuses on the evaluation of natural and anthropogenic threats that degrade the condition of critical sea turtle habitats, or which increase the risk of mortality and major population declines of sea turtles. Topics include fisheries bycatch, characterization of fishing gear and fishing effort, strandings due to any factor, impact of degradation of nesting and feeding habitats, impacts of urban development in coastal areas, and emerging threats from climate change, among others. Presentations may also include evaluation of potential impacts of either known or newly discovered threats, as well as proposed or actual measures taken to reduce risks to turtle populations.

ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY & HEALTH

This session includes research on all aspects of sea turtle form and function, and how these relate to the environment. Studies and reports fitting in the anatomy, physiology, and health session include anatomy, functional morphology, physiology, reproductive physiology, embryonic development, physiological stress, toxicology, thermal biology/thermoregulation, osmoregulation, and their relationships to normal turtle health. Further, this session includes research on rehabilitation and veterinary care and on individual and population-wide health problems. Includes studies and reports on diseases, veterinary care, rehabilitation, and health assessment.

CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT & OUTREACH

This session highlights work on economic, legal, policy, and management aspects of sea turtles and their conservation. Topics include studies and reports that address issues of legislative support and enforcement, policies and programs that safeguard sea turtles and their habitats, management issues related to sea turtle monitoring and conservation, and related matters. This session also includes reports on the implementation, results, and impact of initiatives and international agreements pertaining to sea turtle protection. Abstracts submitted should include robust evaluation of implementation, methodology and policy or describe use and application of new tools in management initiatives that result in successful conservation outcomes. A strong component of this session is outreach, and socio-cultural issues. Topics include innovative educational methods for raising awareness of sea turtles and promoting their conservation in different parts of the region, as well as efforts to develop and enhance advocacy efforts on behalf of sea turtles at any level of community or government. In addition, we welcome themes that broadly explore the human dimension of sea turtles and the importance of turtles in diverse cultures and societies around the region, in accordance with the Conference theme “Guardians of our Ancient Sea”.

WORKSHOPS, MEETINGS & ROUNDTABLES

SUNDAY, 8 NOVEMBER

Title	Organizer	Location	Time
IMTA Workshop (by invitation only)	BC4T, MTSG IMTA Task Force	ALPHA	09:00 – 18:00
LIFE ADAPTS Partners Meeting (by invitation only)	LIFE ADAPTS Partners	OMEGA	14:30 – 18:00

MONDAY, 9 NOVEMBER

Title	Organizer	Location	Time
IMTA Workshop (by invitation only)	BC4T, MTSG IMTA Task Force	OMEGA	09:00 – 18:00
Workshop 1 | Satellite tagging the sea turtle "lost years": a practical workshop for successfully tracking young sea turtles	Kate Mansfield	DELTA	09:00 – 13:00
Workshop 2 | Monitoring Marine Turtles in the Mediterranean: Understanding related IMAP Indicators and Ecosystem-Based Management	Lobna Ben Nakhla, Yassine Ramzi Sghaier & Imen Zribi	MARATHON	09:00 – 13:00
Workshop 3 | JUST A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR HELPS THE MEDICINE GO DOWN: A workshop to support the engagement in conservation of adults of all ages.	MEDASSET (Kostas Thomopoulos)	ALPHA	09:00 – 13:00
Workshop 4 | 6th Marine Turtle Rehabilitation Workshop	Daniela Freggi, Mariluz Parga, Antonio Di Bello	DELTA	14:30 – 18:00
Workshop 5 | Integrating Monitoring of Multiple Impacts for Sea Turtle Conservation in the Mediterranean	ISPRA	MARATHON	14:30 – 18:00
Workshop 6 | NAST-Net at a Crossroads: Stocktaking, Strategy and Perspectives for Marine Turtle Conservation in North Africa	Imed Jribi & Wassim Amdrous	ALPHA	14:30 – 18:00

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER

Title	Organizer	Location	Time
IMTA Workshop (by invitation only)	BC4T, MTSG IMTA Task Force	OMEGA	11:30 – 18:00
Workshop 1 | "From Pixels to Populations": An educational platform exploring Sea Turtle Ecology, Artificial Intelligence and Mathematics (presentation & practical session)	Kostas Papafitsoros	DELTA	14:30 – 16:00
Workshop 2 | Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) and Turtles in the Med: Time to Engage with Industry	Ricardo Sagarminaga, Gala Moreno & Yonat Swimmer	ALPHA	14:30 – 16:00

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER

Title	Organizer	Location	Time
IMTA Workshop (by invitation only)	BC4T, MTSG IMTA Task Force	OMEGA	11:30 – 18:00
Roundtable 1 | Tourism & Sea Turtle Conservation	Onur Kandan & Panagiota Theodorou	MARATHON	14:30 – 16:00
Roundtable 2 | Loggerhead Turtle Nesting Range Expansion: Conservation Challenges and Best Practices	LIFE TURTLENEST CONSORTIUM	ALPHA	14:30 – 16:00

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER

Title	Organizer	Location	Time
IMTA Workshop (by invitation only)	BC4T, MTSG IMTA Task Force	OMEGA	11:30 – 16:00
Workshop 1 | Beyond Air Temperature: Climate change and turtle nests	Marc Girondot	ALPHA	14:30 – 16:00
Workshop 2 | Drones for Sea Turtle Research and Conservation	ALan F Rees, Fulvio Maffucci	DELTA	14:30 – 16:00

SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER | AT A GLANCE

OPENING CEREMONY | MARATHON Details on p.15	09:00 – 11:00
MORNING BREAK	11:00 –11:30
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (multiple locations) Details on p.16-17	11:30 – 13:06
LUNCH BREAK	13:00 –14:30
WORKSHOPS (multiple locations) Details on p.13	14:30 – 16:00
AFTERNOON BREAK	16:00 – 16:30
POSTER SESSION #1 | MAIN BAR AREA Poster presenter's first name beginning A – H. Details on p. 26-35	16:30 – 18:00
EVENING BREAK	18:00 – 20:00
DOCUMENTARY SCREENING 1 | MARATHON **Life MareNatura: Protecting Marine Life in a Changing World** Details on p. 7	20:00 – 21:00

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER - **OPENING CEREMONY**

OPENING CEREMONY | MARATHON	**09:00 - 11:00**
Welcome from the President	Aliki Panagopoulou, Research Coordinator, ARCHELON Regional Co-ViceChair, IUCN – SSC/MTSG
Welcome from the Host Organization	Thomas Arapis, President, ARCHELON
Greetings from	Maria-Eleni Soukouli-Viliali, Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy
	Angela Varela, President, Greek National Tourism Organization
	Dr. James Spotila, Professor Emeritus, Former Betz Chair of Envrionmental Science, Drextel University
	Lobna ben Nakhla, Programme Officer, UNEP MAP SPA/RAC
	Heidrun Frisch-Newankama, Programme Management Officer – Aquatic Species Team Coordinator of the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU, CMS
	Ronel Nel, Co-Chair, IUCN – SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group
	Ioannis Androulakis, President, Green Fund
	Alexandra Ćulibrk, Oceanographer, Project Manager LIFE MareNatura, NECCA
Keynote Address	Maria Damanaki, Independent Advisor on Climate – Oceans, F. EU Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

8th MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON MARINE TURTLES
MARATHON | GREECE 2026

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER | **CONCURRENT SESSION 1**

MARATHON		**11:30 – 13:06**
ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY & HEALTH		
Chairs: José Luis Crespo-Picazo & Mariluz Parga * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
Occurrence of embryonic malformations in a newly emerging loggerhead turtle nesting area in the western Mediterranean	**Fulvio Maffucci**, Marzia Scarfò, Marianna Farina, Erica Moura, Giuseppe Piccolo, Roberta Teti, Giuseppe De Riso, Andrea Affuso, Sandra Hochscheid	11:30 – 11:42
Traumatic cranial injuries in 39 Mediterranean loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*): An updated 2014–2026 retrospective cohort	**Delia Franchini**, Carmela Valastro, Ilaria Laino, Stefano Ciccarelli, Elisabetta D'Elia, Federica Tirrito, Pasquale Salvemini, Davide Bellomo, Antonio Di Bello	11:42 – 11:54
Going tropical? Ecological insights from long-term monitoring of helminth community in *Caretta caretta* from the Adriatic Sea	**Erica Marchiori**, Rudi Cassini, Federica Marcer	11:54 – 12:06
Lessons from a decade of plasma hormone and blood biochemistry monitoring in captive green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*)	**Joseph Aizen**, Lea Mogilevski, Revital Zamsky, Yaniv Levy	12:06 – 12:18
A multi-parameter approach to assess plastic exposure of wild loggerhead sea turtles incidentally captured in the NW Mediterranean waters *	**Ignacio Peña Pascucci***, Isabel Marín Beltrán, Ilaria Caliani, Jean Cristophe Auguet, Ángela Loring Salmerón, Lucía Garrido Sánchez, Luis Cardona, Montserrat Solé	12:18 – 12:30
Sex identification of loggerhead turtle, *Caretta caretta*, using conservative plasmatic sex steroid and B-esterase levels	Evaristo Mañanos, **Montserrat Solé**, José Luis Crespo, Daniel García	12:30 – 12:42
The effect of human visitor sounds on loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) sea turtles' behaviour in a rehabilitation centre *	**Alexandra Tsingas***, Eirini Kasimati, Aliki Panagopoulou	12:42 – 12:54
Comparative in vitro efficacy of antifungal drugs and essential oils, and in vivo assessment of essential oils for the treatment of cutaneous fusariosis in loggerhead sea turtles (C*aretta caretta*)	**Giulia Massaro**, E Marchiori, T Bordoni, A Gustinelli, L Albonetti, S D'Acunto, P Danes, M Di Mercurio, M Di Vito, E Tentoni, M Scozzoli, R Galuppi	12:54 – 13:06

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER | **CONCURRENT SESSION 2**

ALPHA		**11:30 – 13:06**
IN-WATER BIOLOGY		
Chairs: Fulvio Maffucci & Kostas Papafitsoros * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
Loggerhead turtle availability models in the Mediterranean Sea: Revealing complex patterns of animal surfacing behavior at a basin-wide scale	**Andrew DiMatteo**, Selahattin Aksit, Eduardo Jorge Belda Perez, Annette C Broderick, Mustafa Demir, Tasos Dimalexis, Brendan J Godley, Sandra Hochscheid, Brendan Hurley, Olcay Ipek, Matic Jančič, Yakup Kaska, Bojan Lazar, David March, Javier Menéndez-Blázquez, Sheila Miller Edwards, Aliki Panagopoulou, ALan F Rees, Ricardo Sagarminaga, Robin T E Snape, Dogan Sozbilen, Jesús Tomás, Laura Sparks	11:30 – 11:42
User-friendly artificial intelligence-based pipeline for sea turtle photo-identification ready for field deployment	**Lukáš Adam**, Kostas Papafitsoros, Lukas Picek, Jon Lapeyra Martin, Micol Montagna, Valeria Roma, Brendan J Godley	11:42 – 11:54
Habitat connectivity and foraging strategies of loggerhead sea turtles at an emerging nesting hotspot in south-west Italy *	**Margherita S Panzuto***, Luis Cardona, Alessandra Cani, Aitana Merino, Marianna Chimienti, Fulvio Maffucci, Sandra Hochscheid	11:54 – 12:06
High occurrence of oceanic foragers among the female loggerhead turtles *Caretta caretta* nesting in Greece	**Luis Cardona**, ALan F Rees, Alessandra Cani, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Aliki Panagopoulou	12:06 – 12:18
Telling a different story: Loggerhead turtles exhibit more complex post nesting strategies than previously thought	**Aliki Panagopoulou**, ALan F Rees, Dimitris Margaritoulis	12:18 – 12:30
Satellite tracking of loggerhead turtles from Ventotene – a tiny island with extensive habitat connectivity across the Mediterranean Sea	**Sandra Hochscheid**, Fulvio Maffucci, Andrea Affuso, Arianna Bellucci, Gianluca Treglia, Benedetta Bianchi, Antonio Romano, Paolo Luschi	12:30 – 12:42
Drone-based photo identification dramatically increases monitoring capacity for sea turtles in Argostoli, Kefalonia, Greece (2015–2025)	**Josh Witzmann**, Chanel Comis	12:42 – 12:54
The Mediterranean's longest running in-water capture-mark-recapture programme: Amvrakikos Gulf, Greece	**ALan F Rees**, Dimitris Margaritoulis	12:54 – 13:06

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER | AT A GLANCE

KEYNOTE 1 & PLENARY TALKS | MARATHON Details on p. 19	09:00 – 11:00
MORNING BREAK	11:00 – 11:30
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (multiple locations) Details on p. 20-21	11:30 – 13:06
LUNCH BREAK	13:00 – 14:30
ROUNDTABLES (multiple locations) Details on p.13	14:30 – 16:00
AFTERNOON BREAK	16:00 – 16:30
POSTER SESSION #2 | MAIN BAR AREA Poster presenter's first name I – Z. Details on p. 26 - 35	16:30 – 18:00
EVENING BREAK	18:00 – 20:00
DOCUMENTARY SCREENING 2 | MARATHON **Mediterranean: Life Under Siege** Details on p. 7	20:00 – 21:00

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER - **PLENARY SESSION - MARATHON**

KEYNOTE SPEECH		
From Sea turtles to SeaChange: The journey towards environmental justice in marine conservation	**Kartik Shanker**	09:00 – 10:00
The history of conservation is imbued with a colonial legacy, in which the control of money, knowledge, and space shaped strategies and their implementation around the world. Sea turtle conservation is embedded in a similar past, where people, ideas and actions often flowed from the Global North to the Global South. Today, while there is much discussion of decolonisation, pathways towards more inclusive conservation science and more just practice remain far from straightforward. In this talk, I explore this thorny challenge through my own trajectory—from being a simple turtle walker to becoming a sea turtle biologist, establishing long-term monitoring programmes and working with communities on health, livelihoods, and governance. I will make a case for conservation pluralism and propose a theory of change that brings together environmental action and human wellbeing.		
PLENARY TALKS		**10:00 – 11:00**
Loggerhead nesting in Greece: a multi-decadal success story	**Dimitris Margaritoulis,** ALan F Rees, Aliki Panagopoulou, Thomas Arapis	10:00 – 10:15
From global policy to regional and local action: how the outcomes of CMS COP15 and related guidance can support sea turtle conservation in the mediterranean	**Heidrun Frisch-Nwakanma**	10:15 – 10:30
Towards an updated Mediterranean marine turtle conservation action plan: implementation review and gap assessment	**Lobna Ben Nakhla**	10:30 – 10:45
Long term trends reveal sustained increases in loggerhead and green turtle nesting abundance in Cyprus	**Simon Demetropoulos**	10:30 – 10:45

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER | **CONCURRENT SESSION 1**

MARATHON		**11:30 – 13:06**
CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT & OUTREACH		
Chairs: Abdulmaula Hamza, Ayşe Oruç & Robin TE Snape * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
Mothers of diversity: Genomic evidence for the central role of female green turtles in maintaining genetic variation in the Mediterranean population	Talya Ohana, Gili Tikochinski, Camila J Mazzoni, **Yaron Tikochinski**	11:30 – 11:42
A genomic baseline for individual assignment in loggerhead turtles and beyond	A Luna-Ortiz, A Casquet, A Cherin, A Barbanti, C Pegueroles, A Abreu-Grobois, P Casale, D Freggi, S Giralt, E Labastida-Estrada, R Llera-Herrera, S Machkour M`Rabet, A Marco, D Margaritoulis, O Turkozan, C Carreras, **M Pascual**	11:42 – 11:54
Artificial irrigation to combat warming of sea turtle nest environments: Dampened sand can increase heat transfer to nest depth *	**Fred L Baggs***, Kimberley L Stokes, Peter Esteban, Emilia Urbanek, Yakup Kaska, Graeme C Hays, David T Booth, Melissa N Staines, Nicole Esteban	11:54 – 12:06
Integrating fishers' knowledge, citizen science and satellite telemetry to identify loggerhead turtle hotspots and support dynamic fisheries management in the Gulf of Gabès, Tunisia	**Imed Jribi**, Sami Karaa, Arij Sadraoui, Asma Chaabane, Hamed Mallat, Maissa Louhichi, Marwa Hrizi, Wiem Boussellaa, Zouhour Bouain, Mohamed Nejmeddine Bradai	12:06 – 12:18
Addressing bycatch through fishermen's wives and children in the Kingdom of Morocco	**Wafae Benhardouze**, Mustapha Aksissou, John Dutton, Manjula Tiwari	12:18 – 12:30
Effects of the 2025 Natura 2000 expansion on loggerhead sea turtle conservation in the Adriatic Sea: Progress made and gaps remaining	**Matic Jančič**, Bojan Lazar	12:30 – 12:42
Fifteen-year nesting data across Romanos wider area, Greece, indicate a significant increase of nest numbers and a site-specific differentiation of incubation durations	**Kostas Teneketzis**, Dimitris Margaritoulis	12:42 – 12:54
Trends in sea turtle satellite tracking in the Mediterranean and beyond: Representation, accessibility, and linkages to conservation and management	**Sara M Maxwell**, Tiffany M Dawson, Nicholas B Sisson, Isabel Rodriguez, Samara Radigan, Molly McCormley, Brooklyn Foster, Bhavagnya Somala, Somya Prasad, Lucas Gomes Gallo, Andrew S Maurer, Kristen M Hart	12:54 – 13:06

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER | **CONCURRENT SESSION 2**

ALPHA		**11:30 – 13:06**
FISHERIES & THREATS / NESTING BIOLOGY		
Chairs: Jesús Tomás & Wafae Benhardouze / Annette C Broderick, Angela Mastrogicomo & Pilar Santidrián Tomillo * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
Turtle Alert: Sonar Application for Sea Turtle Detection	**Roee Diamant**, Yaniv Levi	11:30 – 11:42
Sea Turtle Strandings Along the Libyan Coast (2018–2026): Spatial Hotspots, Mortality Drivers, and Conservation Implications in the Southern Mediterranean	**Abdulmaula Hamza,** Salih Diryaq, Almokhtar Saied	11:42 – 11:54
Trends in sea turtle strandings and mortality causes along the Lebanese coast: Six years of the National Stranding Network (2020–2025)	**Ali Badreddine**	11:54 – 12:06
A machine learning method to identify the foraging ground of nesting female loggerhead turtles using the stable isotope ratios of C, N and S in tissue samples	**Alessandra Cani**, Margherita Panzuto, Sandra Hochscheid, ALan F Rees, Dimitris Margaritoulise, Jesús Tomás, Guillem Félix, Elena Abella, Fernando Escribano, Eduardo Belda, Aliki Panagopoulou, Luis Cardona	12:06 – 12:18
Comprehensive individual monitoring reveals wild Mediterranean sea turtles show reproductive, but not actuarial, senescence *	**James Chatfield*,** Damla Beton, Sophie Davey, Brendan Godley, Robin Snape, Xavier Harrison, Annette E. Broderick, Erik Postma	12:18 – 12:30
Conservation genomics of the endangered Mediterranean green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) reveals breeding dynamics and population structure	**Talya Ohana**, Gili Tikochinski, Yaniv Levy, Camila J Mazzoni, Yaron Tikochinski	12:30 – 12:42
Unravelling the origin and ecology of the loggerhead turtle colonisation of Italy through genomics and stable isotope analysis *	**Aitana Merino***, Gisela Marin-Capuz, Helena Vela-Garcia, Sandra Hochscheid, Fulvio Maffucci, Margherita Panzuto, Piero Carlino, Nicolo Molle, Andrea Camedda, Giuseppe Andrea de Lucia, Giovanni Parise, Salvatore Urso, Nicola Marrone, Guido Gerosa, Cecilia Mancusi, Cinta Pegueroles, Marta Pascual, Luis Cardona, Carlos Carreras	12:42 – 12:54
Nesting distribution and abundance of loggerhead sea turtles in Tunisia: Indicators for integrated environmental monitoring and assessment in a changing environment	**Olfa Chaieb**, Ahmed Souki, Menel Kraiem, Ahmed Ghedira, Lobna Ben Nakhla, Seifeddine Triki, Mohamed Slama, Mehdi Aguir	12:54 – 13:06

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER | AT A GLANCE

KEYNOTE 2 & PLENARY TALKS | MARATHON Details on p. 23	09:00 – 11:00
MORNING BREAK	11:00 – 11:30
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (multiple locations) Details on p. 24-25	11:30 – 13:06
LUNCH BREAK	13:00 – 14:30
WORKSHOPS (multiple locations) Details on p.13	14:30 – 16:00
AFTERNOON BREAK	16:00 – 16:30
CLOSING CEREMONY | MARATHON	16:30 – 18:00
PHOTOBOOTH Details on p. 8	18:00 – 19:00
GALA DINNER | BYZANTINO Details on p. 8	20:30 – 22:00

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER - **PLENARY SESSION - MARATHON**

KEYNOTE SPEECH		
Where the Journey Began: Making a Path in Conservation	**Joanna Alfaro Shigueto**	09:00 – 10:00
Marine turtle conservation is often narrated as a story of species and statistics, yet its deepest currency is community. Here I want to trace how a focused topic I work with closely - small-scale fisheries - emerged not from a laboratory or a policy desk, but from conversations on fishing docks, scribbles from mentors, crowded conference coffee breaks, and of course late-night talks with turtle friends— the informal architecture through which conservation science actually grows. Small-scale fisheries pose a paradox for marine turtle conservation: individually modest in scale, collectively significant in impact, and largely invisible in bycatch statistics dominated by industrial fleets. Addressing this paradox required more than gear modifications or observer programs; it required trust-building with fishers whose livelihoods and knowledge of local waters preceded any research permit. In this presentation I would like to reflect on the origins of studying certain subjects such as these fisheries: where does a conservation career, or a research question, actually come from? This is rarely a solitary epiphany. More often it is a mentor's offhand suggestion, a colleague's introduction at a turtle symposium, a fisher's willingness to explain why he struggles seeing his kids as future fishermen. This work traces that lineage, identifying mentors, collaborators, key fishermen, and other fellow early-career researchers whose guidance, data-sharing, and encouragement shaped a research trajectory that might otherwise never have found its footing. Their contributions — a shared dataset, an introduction to a coastal cooperative, a candid critique of an early proposal — are treated here not as footnotes but as the connective tissue for conservation science itself. Professional networks are not peripheral to conservation outcomes; they are a primary mechanism through which niches are discovered, methods are refined, and fieldwork becomes possible. Gratitude, in this framing, is not a sentiment but in my case has been also part of the methodology: an acknowledgment that conservation science is co-produced across disciplines and institutions, but also across individuals and coastlines.		
TRIBUTE TO ANDREAS DEMETROPOULOS		
Andreas Demetropoulos: My father, a pioneer in sea turtle research and conservation	**Simon Demetropoulos**	10:00 – 10:30
PLENARY TALKS		
Mitigation measures to reduce loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) bycatch in the Gulf of Gabès fisheries (Tunisia)	**Mohamed Nejmeddine Bradai**	10:30 – 10:45
Tracking inter- and post-nesting movements of leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) off the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica	**Frank V Paladino,** Ashley N Chase, Chelsea E Durr, James R Spotila, Samir H Patel	10:45 – 11:00

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER | **CONCURRENT SESSION 1**

MARATHON		**11:30 – 13:06**
CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT & OUTREACH / NESTING BIOLOGY		
Chairs: Abdulmaula Hamza, Ayşe Oruç & Robin TE Snape / Annette C Broderick, Angela Mastrogiacomo & Pilar Santidrián Tomillo * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
20 years of green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) conservation efforts: Akyatan (Adana, Turkiye)	**Ayse Oruc,** Can Yilmaz	11:30 – 11:42
From little-known nesting to Nature Protection Zones: 14 years of sea turtle conservation in Kefalonia, Greece	**Nikolaos Vallianos**, Josh Witzmann, Chanel Comis	11:42 – 11:54
Integrating remote sensing and long-term nesting data to assess the effectiveness of protected areas for sea turtle nesting	**Robin TE Snape**, Zoe Laurence, Lucy CM Omeyer, Jon Bennie, Damla Beton, Burak A Çiçek, Sophie Davey, Camille Fleury, Wayne Fuller, Brendan J Godley, Noam Leader, Yaniv Levy, Meryem Özkan, Simge Oy, Jack Wiggins, Annette C Broderick	11:54 – 12:06
Beyond the white spot: Cytological evidence reveals potential mating failure in colonizing Mediterranean loggerhead turtles	Chiara Mancino, Montserrat Coll Llado, Irene Alvarez de Quevedo, Jose Luis Crespo-Picazo, Fernando Escribano, Guillem Félix, Sílvia Giralt, Jim Swoger, Jesús Tomás, **Elena Abella Pérez**	12:06 – 12:18
How sea turtles colonise new areas? From sporadic nesting to population establishment	Gisela Marín-Capuz, Astrid Luna-Ortiz, Marta Pascual, Jesús Tomás, Elena Abella, Eduardo Belda, Luis Cardona, Irene Álvarez de Quevedo, Mireia Aguilera, Guillem Félix, Fernando Escribano, Adolfo Marco, Cinta Pegueroles, **Carlos Carreras**	12:18 – 12:30
Moving nests, shifting seasons: Long-term phenology trends and nest relocation in Israel*	**Gilad Mazor***, Yaniv Levy, Shir Sassoon, Noam Leader, Shay Rotics, Ofir Levy	12:30 – 12:42
From emergence to clutch: Modelling the drivers of nesting success and climate-resilient habitats for loggerhead turtles in the Western Mediterranean	**Irene Álvarez de Quevedo**, Chiara Mancino, Mireia Aguilera-Rodà, Jesús Tomás, Eduardo J Belda, Luis Cardona, Adolfo Marco, Carlos Carreras, Marta Pascual, Fernando Escribano, Guillem Félix, Xisca Pujol, Elena Abella	12:42 – 12:54
A collaborative remote monitoring system for sea turtle hatchling predation at Sekania Beach (Zakynthos, Greece)	**Sofia Kapota**, Charikleia Minotou, Panagiota Maragou, Laurent Sourbes, Pavlos Koutsis, Charalampos Dimitriadis	12:54 – 13:06

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER | **CONCURRENT SESSION 2**

ALPHA		**11:30 – 13:06**
FISHERIES & THREATS		
Chairs: Jesús Tomás & Wafae Benhardouze * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
When the devil is in the detail: Developing best handling and release practices for surface longline fisheries	**Mariluz Parga**, Sandra Andraka	11:30 – 11:42
Evaluating climate-driven overlap and nest predation between *Caretta caretta* and *Ocypode cursor* in the central Mediterranean	**Nicolò Molle**, Fabio Bozzeda, Piero Carlino, Lucia Fanini, Chiara Mancino, ALan F Rees, Giorgio Mancinelli	11:42 – 11:54
Long-term ingestion of marine debris by loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the Valencia region (western Mediterranean) *	**Mar Izquierdo-Serrano***, L Cardona, FJ Aznar, J Tomás	11:54 – 12:06
A standardized health-status calculator (HSC) to assess anthropogenic impacts on *Caretta caretta*: A pilot study in the Adriatic and Tyrrhenian seas	**Ludovica Di Renzo**, C Bergamini, A Petrella, C Acri, S Hochscheid, A Affuso, L Marino, M Matiddi, C Silvestri, V Olivieri, C Profico, G Aretusi, C Cocumelli	12:06 – 12:18
Invisible Collisions: Are Offshore Ship Strikes a major threat to sea turtles?	**Marianna Farina** , Marta Azzolin, Ilaria Campana, Lara Carosso, Matteo Costantino, Roberto Crosti, Lea David, Natalia Fraija-Fernández, Odei Garcia-Garin, Martina Gregorietti, Francesca Grossi, Raúl Míguez-Lozano, Eugenia Pasanisi, Marco Pecoraro, Juan AntonioRaga, Elena Santini, Gianluca Sarà, Antonella Servidio, Paola Tepsich, Roberta Teti, Morgana Vighi, Sandra Hochscheid, Fulvio Maffucci, Antonella Arcangeli	12:18 – 12:30
Tracking change: 26 years of the Campanian Sea Turtle Stranding Network.	**Emanuele Esposito**, Doriana Iaccarino, Maria Oliviero, Myriam De Bonis, Gianluigi Padovano, Fulvio Maffucci, Andrea Affuso, Gianluca Treglia, Roberta Teti, Marianna Farina, Wiem Boussellaa, Luciano Bosso, Flegra Bentivegna, Domenico Sgambati, Alba Fagnano, Nicola Campomorto, Carmela Guidone, Caterina Iacono, Fabio Di Nocera, Sandra Hochscheid	12:30 – 12:42
Lagrangian drift simulations to infer neritic vs. pelagic mortality of stranded sea turtles: Cross-validation using epibiont barnacles and longline hooks	**Tim Toomey**, Sofía Ten, Baptiste Mourre, David March, Francisco Javier Aznar	12:42 – 12:54
Identifying fisheries interaction hotspots for the emerging Spanish nesting population of loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the western Mediterranean	**Eduardo J Belda**, Jesús Tomás, Víctor Gallego, Carlos Carreras, Marta Pascual, Elena Abella, Irene Álvarez de Quevedo, Luis Cardona	12:54 – 13:06

POSTER TITLES & AUTHORS

Poster	Title	Authors
ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY & HEALTH * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
PP001	Distinct colonic and cloacal microbiomes in hawksbill sea turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) from the northwest Indian Ocean *	Maximilian R Polyak, **Lara Kalisch ***, Matteo Monti, Francisca C García, Chakkiath Paul Antony, Tristan Neto, Mariana Fragoso, Hasnaulhusna, Abdullah Alwali , Stephanie Köhnk, Enas Mohamed Riyaz, Isha Afeef, Claire Petros, Martin Stelfox, Raquel S Peixoto
PP002	A vision-based method to evaluate stress responses of sea turtles in controlled experiments *	Roee Diamant, **Marko Barisic ***, Yaniv Levi
PP003	Navigating the operational demand and public advocacy value of a long-term marine turtle care: The story of "Leo"	**Marco Magazzu**, Francisca Pujol Tania Monreal Pawlowsky, Juan Ignacio Serra Colomer
PP004	Establishment of a biological monitoring and conservation platform for marine turtles in Morocco: First national rehabilitation unit and first documented case of loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) rehabilitation	**Kamar Drif**, Fatima El Aamri, Mohamed Naoufal Tamsouri, Lobna Ben Nakhla, Rachid Errouagui, Zohayr Dibar, Chaimaa Rhattas, Jalila Lioubi, Mohammed Malouli Idrissi, Abderrahim Chiarr, Saïd Benchoucha, Jilali Bensbai, Imane Tai
PP005	Beyond physical recovery: Environmental enrichment as a tool for sea turtle release readiness	**Eva-Maria Alexandra Panagiotou**
PP006	Anaesthetic challenges in sea turtle patients with traumatic brain injury	**Arsinoi Psaroudaki**, Stylianos Mantzios, Aleksandr Semjonov
PP007	Morphometric growth and weight gain in loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) injured hatchlings under rehabilitation conditions	**Emre Odabaş**, M Vezard, O Ipek, Y Kaska
PP008	Successful rehabilitation of a loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) with severe cranial trauma and old carapace injuries following a boat strike *	**Emre Odabaş***, Barbaros Şahin, Melissa Vezard, Fatih Polat, Yakup Kaska
PP009	Evaluating injury causes and rehabilitation outcomes of Mediterranean sea turtles: An 18-years assessment from Dekamer, Türkiye	**Emre Odabaş**, Barbaros Şahin, Melissa Vezard, Fatih Polat, Yakup Kaska
PP010	Two decades of clinical experience with esophago-gastric tube feeding in debilitated sea turtles: a favorable balance between minimal complications and major rehabilitation benefits.	**Antonio Di Bello**, D Franchini, S Ciccarelli, Daniela Freggi, E D'Elia, I Laino, P Salvemini, D Bellomo, C Valastro
PP011	Gross and histopathological characterization of unusual cutaneous lesions in five stranded loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) stranded in apulia (southern Adriatic Sea, Italy): Pathological findings and unresolved etiological aspects	**Giorgia Corazzola**, Leonardo Marino, Beatrice Maffei, Grazia Siragusa, Guido Pietroluongo, Cinzia Centelleghe, Sandro Mazzariol, Antonio Petrella
PP012	Occurrence of gas embolism in stranded and at-sea recovered loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) from the central and southern Adriatic Sea (Italy), 2019–2025	**Loudovica Di Renzo**, A Petrella, C Cocumelli, C Bergamini, G Di Francesco, B Maffei, D Gatti, M Matiddi, C Silvestri, G Gioacchini, P Salvemini, V Olivieri, L Marino
PP013	The use of Oxygen therapy in sea turtle wound care: preliminary results	**Eirini Kasimati**, Michalis Moraitis
PP014	Nematode-associated coelomic lesions in loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*):	**Chiara Bergamini**, F Pizzurro, F Marcer, C Tessarin, D Gatti, C Profico, G Di Francesco, L Di Renzo

	Integrating pathology and molecular diagnostics to define etiology	
PP015	Beyond treatment: Identifying predictors of sea turtle rehabilitation success at Lampedusa rescue unit	**Gaia Cavalaro**, Camilla Roldi, Pietro Santalucia, Daniela Freggi
PP016	An integrative case study of a juvenile Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*) in the Mediterranean Sea: Clinical, genetic, plastic-ingestion and satellite-tracking evidence	Wiem Boussellaa, Gianluca Treglia, Giovanni Annona, Alba Fagnano, Domenico Sgambati, Fulvio Maffucci, **Andrea Affuso**, Sandra Hochscheid
PP017	First record of dicephalism in loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) from the Mediterranean Sea	**Olfa Chaieb**, Ludovica Di Renzo, Giorgia Gioacchini
PP018	Enhanced growth and welfare in head-started loggerhead turtles through optimized rearing conditions	**Giuseppe Piccolo**, Sandra Hochscheid, Andrea Affuso, Guglielmo Areh Soriente, Antonio Andolfo, Fulvio Maffucci
PP019	Shaping sea turtle carapace: A combination of genomics and environment	**Gisela Marín Capuz,** Marta Pascual, Cinta Pegueroles, Elena Abella, Ainhoa López, Jesús Tomás, Eduardo Belda, Irene Álvarez de Quevedo, Adolfo Marco, Fernando Escribano, Guillem Félix, Luis Cardona, Carlos Carreras
PP020	Polymicrobial upper respiratory tract disease in a juvenile loggerhead sea turtle: A case report of *Mycoplasma* spp., *Serratia marcescens* and *Fusarium* spp. coinfection	**Simona Soloperto,** Andrea Motolese, Giacomo Marzano, Diana Binanti , Giorgia Matteucci
PP021	In vitro activity of alternative topical agents against *Fusarium oxysporum* isolated from a loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*).	**Giorgia Matteucci**, Diana Binanti, Giacomo Marzano, Andrea Motolese, Simona Soloperto
PP022	New insights into sexual maturity in Mediterranean loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) from ovarian histology and FTIR imaging	**Ludovica Di Renzo**, Erica Trotta, Luca Marisaldi, Giulia Mariani, Valentina Notarstefano, Gabriella Di Francesco, Laura Zonta, Elisabetta Giorgini, Silva Rubini, Cecilia Silvestri, Marco Matiddi, Yakup Kaska, Giulia Chemello, Giorgia Gioacchini
PP023	The impact of environmental enrichment (EE) on blind sea turtles in rehabilitation: A preliminary case study on *Caretta caretta*	**Francesca Evans**, Jarne Surmont, Eirini Kasimati
PP024	DE.BLO.PLAST: detecting bloodborne microplastic-like particles in Adriatic trawl-caught loggerhead sea turtles	**Stefano Ciccarelli**, D Franchini, D Freggi, E D'Elia, C Perrone, F Capuozzo, C Valastro, A Di Bello
PP025	Electroretinography and computed tomography in the clinical assessment of a Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*) with head trauma and neurological signs	Barbara Lamagna, Lucia Ambrosio, Maria Laura Basso, Dario Basso, Dario Costanza, Leonardo Meomartino, Pasquale Santoro, Nicole Damiano, Marzia Scarfò, Wiem Boussellaa, Gianluca Treglia, Fulvio Maffucci, Sandra Hochscheid, **Andrea Affuso**
PP026	Speeding the treatment of sea turtle wounds: Photobiomodulation therapy	**Valentina Paterniani**, Nicola Ridolfi

FISHERIES & THREATS

* Indicates Candidate for Student Award

PP027	Assessing the impact of environmental pollutants on reproductive parameters in loggerhead sea turtles: A study on eggs collected along the southern Tyrrhenian coast	**Mauro Esposito**, Silvia Canzanella, Sara Lambiase, Fulvio Maffucci, Simone Moretti, Donato Sansone, Angela Pepe, Rosa Avolio, Stefania Squadrone, Gianfranco Brambilla, Sandra Hochscheid, Pasquale Gallo, Fabio Di Nocera
PP028	Ghost nets in the Sounio Marine Protected Area: Implications for sea turtles	**Nikolaos Simantiris**, Nikos Karatzas, Dimitra Papadoiliopoulou, Martha Z Vardaki
PP029	70 years of leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) encounters in Israel, eastern Mediterranean (1956–2026)	**Shir Sassoon**, Dan Tchernov, Yaniv Levy
PP030	High density of sea turtle strandings along the Israeli Mediterranean coastline (2019–2020)	**Olga Rybak**, Shir Sassoon, Anael Engel, Yaniv Levy

PP031	Marine turtle strandings in Morocco from 1980 to 2025: Species composition, spatio-temporal patterns, and conservation implications	**Imane Tai**, Zohayr Dibar, Chaimaa Rhattas, Jalila Lioubi, Saïd Benchoucha, Mohamed Naoufal Tamsouri, Moulay Hachem Idrissi, Badreddine Mekyassi, Rachid Errouagui, El Mahdi El Joumani, Mohamed Boughariou, Abderrahim Chiarr, Kamar Drif, Fatima El Amri, Jilali Bensbai
PP032	Testing fishing-gear modifications to mitigate sea-turtle bycatch in the Gulf of Gabès (Tunisia): Circle hooks on bottom longline and led lights on the "garracia" gillnet	**Imed Jribi**, Sami Karaa, Maissa Louhichi, Arij Sadraoui, Mohamed Nejmeddine Bradai
PP033	Microplastic pollution in sea turtle nests: A preliminary assessment of potential threat to *Caretta caretta* conservation in a key nesting area of Calabria	**Salvatore Urso,** Carola Murano, Giovanni Parise, Cristina Pedà, Teresa Romeo
PP034	Landscape connectivity and micro-habitat vulnerability: modeling red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) predation risk on loggerhead turtle nests in southern Italy	**Giovanni Parise**, Chiara Mancino, Teresa Malito, Salvatore Urso, Andrea Pedrazzini, Raffaele Greco, Emilio Sperone
PP035	Range expansion and co-occurrence of *Ocypode cursor* and *Caretta caretta*: A case study from Calabria, Italy	**Chiara Mancino**, Cecilia Setti, Giovanni Parise, Salvatore Urso, Andrea Pedrazzini, Teresa Malito
PP036	Recent necropsy findings provide conservation-relevant insights on the potential causes of sea turtle mortality on the Aegean and Mediterranean coast of Türkiye	**Melissa A Vezard**, E Odabaş, A Koroney, F Polat, O Ipek, Y Kaska
PP037	Hook presence in loggerhead sea turtles: Patterns and outcomes of longline bycatch at the Lampedusa turtle rescue center (2014–2024)	**Filippo Bramvilla**, Gaia Cavallaro, Camilla Roldi, Marina Zucchini, Daniela Freggi
PP038	Sea turtle fisheries interaction assessment in the Kerkennah Islands using the fishermen's daily report	**Hamed Mallat**, Jane Lloyd, Stephanie Köhnk, Charaf M'Rabet
PP039	Integrating fishermen's knowledge into sea turtle bycatch monitoring: The fishermen biologist concept in the Kerkennah Islands, Tunisia data collection *	**Hamed Mallat***, Ines Kamilia Chakroun, Ahmed Souissi, Ons Benzarti, Malek Souissi, Charaf M'rabet
PP040	A comparison of two decades of loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) rescue in the Aeolian Archipelago.	**Alessia Fungi**, Francesca Serafino, Monica Francesca Blasi
PP041	3D utilization distribution of sea turtles: A novel perspective to understand sea turtle-fishery interactions *	**Javier Menéndez-Blázquez ***, Jessica Ruff, Ricardo Sagarminaga, Brendan J Godley, David March
PP042	Timing matters: The impact of fishermen collaboration on rehabilitation success of hook-affected sea turtles from Lampedusa rescue unit	**Gaia Cavallaro,** Filippo Brambilla, Camilla Roldi, Marina Zucchini, Daniela Freggi
PP043	Sentinels of a plastic sea: Marine litter ingestion and entanglement in loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) of the central Mediterranean — a model-based assessment of 2025 MSFD monitoring	Wiem Boussellaa, **Roberta Tetti**, Fulvio Maffucci, Andrea Affuso, Luisa Stellato, Doriana Iaccarino, Emanuele Esposito, Myriam De Bonis, Maria Oliviero, Gianluigi Paduano, Fabio Di Nocera, Cecilia Silvestri, Marco Mattidi, Sandra Hochscheid
PP044	Long-term assessment of pressures on loggerhead sea turtles in Tunisia: Evidence from stranding, rehabilitation, and nesting monitoring	**Olfa Chaieb**, Menel Kraiem, Nader Bel Hadj Hamida, Mourad Attouchi, Mohamed Naceur Dhraief, Ali Yahiya
PP045	Caught in the debris: Twenty-five years of loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) entanglement in Sicily (2001-2025)	**Vittoria Fiandino**, Chiara Agabiti, Daniela Freggi, Oleana Olga Prato, Stefania D'Angelo, Davide Bonaviri, Gerlando Callea, Gino Galia, Nicola Napolitano, Giuseppe Palilla, Alessandro Salemi, Luigi Agresti, Paolo Casale
PP046	Evaluation of plastic pollution in the northern Adriatic Sea using loggerhead sea turtles as bioindicators *	**Ana Halovanić ***, Sven Amančić, Matic Jančić, Bojan Lazar

PP047	Bycatch and stranding of sea turtles in the Moroccan Mediterranean Sea	**Mustapha Aksissou,** Fatima Zahra Hamiche
PP048	Spatial distribution and characterization of sea turtle entanglement in ALDFG in the central-western Mediterranean: preliminary results from the LIFE OASIS project	**Mar Izquierdo-Serrano**, J Tomás, A Affuso, C Agabiti, MF Blasi, W Bousella, F Escribano, V Fiandino, D Freggi, A Fungi, L Garrido, M Hermoso, S Hochscheid, A Lofaro, M Marambio, I Peña, F Pujol, A Scicluna, F Serafino, P Casale
PP049	Temporal patterns of dog and wild boar predation on loggerhead sea turtle nests in Kyparissia Bay, Greece (2021-2023)	**Michalis Souroulidis**, Harriet E Parsons, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Aliki Panagopoulou
PP050	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in loggerhead sea turtles embryos from the Mediterranean Sea and associated biological responses	**Erica Trotta**, Francesco Alessandro Palermo, Paolo Cocci, Filippo Fistarol, Ludovica Di Renzo, Cecilia Silvestri, Marco Matiddi, Gianluca Cirelli, Giovanni Galluzzo, Vito Petragallo, Giulia Chemello, Yakup Kaska, Giorgia Gioacchini
PP051	Nest temperatures and hatching success of green turtles in Cyprus: Potential climate change impacts	**Angela Mastrogiacomo,** Andreas Demetropoulos, Andreas Pistentis, Melina Marcou, Yianna Samuel, Simon Demetropoulos
PP052	The effect of microplastic type and amount on nest temperature *	**Güven Arslan ***, Onur Candan
PP053	Characterization of anthropogenic materials in the gastrointestinal tract of loggerhead sea turtles found stranded along the Veneto coastline, north-western Adriatic Sea	**Carola Vallini**, Guido Pietroluongo, Ksenia Orekhova, Luca Ceolotto, Marco Bonat, Giorgia Corazzola, Alberto Barausse, Cinzia Centelleghe, Sandro Mazzariol
PP054	Repeated observations of eight Mediterranean loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) from Kefalonia, Greece: Insights into injury, maturation, movement and survival	**Chanel Comis**, Josh Witzmann, Michalis Xanthakis, Eirini Kasimati, Aliki Panagopoulou, Daniela Freggi, Nikos Vallianos
PP055	An 11-year assessment of sea turtle injuries and strandings around Kefalonia, Greece	**Chanel Comis**, Josh Witzmann, Harry Thomas, Poppy Oliver, Nikos Vallianos
PP056	Untangling the unknown: Marine turtle bycatch within a data poor Mediterranean small-scale fishery	**Damla Beton**, Josie L Palmer, Hasan D Akbora, Burak Ali Çiçek, Brendan J Godley, Kristian Metcalfe, Meryem Özkan, Robin TE Snape, Annette C Broderick
PP057	Marine litter impacts on sea turtles: An eight-year assessment of the Italian national stranding network within the Marine Strategy Framework Directive	**Eugenia Gentile**, Cristiano Cocumelli, Chiara Acri, Ludovica Di Renzo, Chiara Bergamini, Francesca Di Gaudio, Salvatore Dara, Giuseppe Andrea de Lucia, Andrea Camedda, Sara Vencato, Antonio Petrella, Leonardo Marino, Pasquale Salvemini, Giorgia Gioacchini, Erica Trotta, Cecilia Silvestri
PP058	PAH accumulation and embryonic health in late-stage *Caretta caretta* embryos from an emerging nesting area in southern Italy: a combined chemical and biological approach *	**Erica Trotta ***, Giulia Chemello, Paolo Cocci, Vittoria Colleoni, Roberta Teti, Giuseppe Piccolo, Marco Matiddi, Cecilia Silvestri, Francesco Alessandro Palermo, Fulvio Maffucci, Sandra Hochscheid, Giorgia Gioacchini
PP059	Maternal transfer of pahs and embryonic CYP1A responses in loggerhead sea turtles nesting in the eastern Mediterranean	**Erica Trotta**, Giulia Chemello, Paolo Cocci, Francesco Alessandro Palermo, Marco Matiddi, Cecilia Silvestri, Melissa Vezard, Yakup Kaska, Giorgia Gioacchini
PP060	Trends in sea turtle strandings and mortality causes along the Lebanese coast: Six years of the national stranding network (2020–2025)	**Ali Badreddine**
PP061	The impact of mammalian predators on marine turtle nesting populations in the Mediterranean*	**Jasmine Bahra***, Brendan J Godley, Kristian Metcalfe, ALan F Rees, Robin TE Snape, Annette C Broderick

NESTING BIOLOGY

* Indicates Student Award Candidate

PP062	Turtle hatchling sex ratios: Moisture and disturbance effects on sand temperature at Iztuzu beach, Türkiye	**Katherine Butcher**, Nicole Esteban

PP063	Does relocation to protect *Caretta caretta* (loggerhead turtles) nests change the hatchling sex ratios on Iztuzu beach?	**Abigail Holliday**, M Vezard, Y Kaska, N Esteban
PP064	Expansion of green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) nesting range in Greece: A review of historical and recent records	**Anna Karatsori**, Giannis Chalkias
PP065	Are the loggerhead turtles *Caretta caretta* nesting in Spain neophytes? Evidence from skeletochronology	**Luis Cardona**, Irati Montilla, Alessandra Cani, Mariano Domingo, Jesús Tomás
PP066	Internesting habitat of loggerhead sea turtles at four important nesting areas in Greece: Are established Natura 2000 areas spatially sufficient to protect the turtles?	**ALan F Rees,** Aliki Panagopoulou, Dimitris Margaritoulis
PP067	Landward illuminance and point-source light pollution influence different stages of loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) nesting behaviour in Kefalonia, Greece	**Poppy Oliver,** Nikos Vallianos
PP068	Stability in loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) clutch size at Kefalonia, Greece from 2013 to 2025	**Josh Witzmann,** Chanel Comis, Nikos Vallianos
PP069	Comparing mammalian predation pressure on relocated and in-situ loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) nests at Dalyan beach, Türkiye	**Joshua Keedy-Davies,** Nicole Esteban, Yakup Kaska, Melissa Ana Vezard, Helen Pheasey
PP070	From patchy records to basin-wide insight: integrating six decades of Mediterranean Sea turtle nesting data	**Chiara Mancino**, ALan F Rees, Sandra Hochscheid, Luigi Maiorano
PP071	The role of climate change on loggerhead turtle nesting phenology at Dalyan beach, Türkiye	**Selahattin Aksit**, O Ipek, MO Baykara, Yakup Kaska
PP072	Thermal monitoring of wild and breeding stock green turtle nests in Israel	**Lea Mogilevski**, Revital Zamsky, Yaniv Levy, Joseph Aizen
PP073	Designing robust thermal monitoring protocols for sea turtle nesting beaches: The importance of sampling effort and spatiotemporal coverage	**Elsa Balanca**, M Vezard, J Kirkham, Y Kaska
PP074	Spatial distribution of *Caretta caretta* nesting density and evaluation of conservation status along the Manavgat coast, Antalya, Türkiye	**Fatih Polat**, Cansu Ulusoy, Haydar Metin, Ali Fuat Canbolat, Caner Erbasan
PP075	Long-term monitoring of loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) nesting at the Kuriat Islands, Monastir (Tunisia): Increasing nesting trends and emerging challenges	**Seifeddine Triki**, Olfa Chaieb, Malek Chaarana
PP076	First sea turtle hatchery in Tunisia (Kuriat Island): A four-season comparative assessment of loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) nest hatching success between in situ and relocated clutches (2022–2025)	**Seifeddine Triki**, Olfa Chaieb, Malek Chaarana
PP077	Hatchling production and biometric variability in a newly established *Caretta caretta* nesting area of the north-western Mediterranean: Preliminary data from Liguria (Italy)	**Davide Ascheri**, Elena Fontanesi, Laura Castellano, Valentina Giussani, Dario Ottonello, Fulvio Garibaldi, Cecilia Pinto, Nicola Pussini, Daniela Caracciolo, Sonia Albanese, Giulia Calogero, Eleonora Pignata, Michael Bonifai
PP078	Translating scientific evidence on marine litter into sea turtle-based outreach for young audiences	**Raffaella Piermarini**, Laura Ciaralli, Eugenia Gentile, Marco Matiddi, Eleonora Monfardini, Martina Radicioli, Maila Severini, Cecilia Silvestri, Tommaso Valente, Marco Pisaria
PP079	Sea turtles, ghost gear and IMO governance: From reporting obligations to prevention and accountability in the Mediterranean	**Raffaella Piermarini**, Laura Ciaralli, Eugenia Gentile, Marco Matiddi, Eleonora Monfardini, Martina Radicioli, Simona Rossi, Maila Severin, Tommaso Valente, Tiziana Zarrillo, Cecilia Silvestri

PP080	Mitogenomic analysis redefines global phylogeography and investigates adaptive signatures of the loggerhead sea turtle	**Livia Tolve**, Alessia Cherin, Marta Pascual, Alberto Abreu-Grobois, David J Duffy, Luisa Garofalo, Abdulmaula Hamza, Alessio Iannucci, Elizabeth Labastida-Estrada, César P Ley-Quiñónez, Astrid Luna-Ortiz, Salima Machkour-M'Rabet, Cecilia Mancusi, Adolfo Marco, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Letizia Marsili, Giovanni Parise, Oleana Olga Prato, Oguz Turkozan, Salvatore Urso, Alan Zavala-Norzagaray, Marco AL Zuff, Cinta Peguerole, Claudio Ciofi, Carlos Carreras
PP081	Nests and attempts of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the Aeolian Archipelago (southern Tyrrhenian Sea): Reproductive activity in a marginal nesting habitat	**Francesca Serafino** , Alessia Fungi, Monica Francesca Blasi
PP082	Sporadic nesting events of loggerhead sea turtles *Caretta caretta* from 2018 to 2025 along the Albanian coast: A first baseline knowledge in the east and south of Adriatic	**Enerit Sacdanaku,** Nexhip Hysolako, Fotjon Prence, Ardian Kocli, Endora Celohoxha, Kosta Xhaho, Artion Seferi, Ilda Prifti, Viola Cova, Vicky Rae, Nikolaos Simantiris
PP083	«Coolspots»: Preliminary identification of male producing beaches through incubation period in southern Italy.	**Giulia Baldi**, Oleana Olga Prato, Gianluca Cirelli, Jasmine De Marco, Antonio Mingozzi, Luigi Agresti, Paolo Casale
PP084	Long-term records reveal an exponential increase in loggerhead sea turtle nesting in southern Italy during the 21st century	**Chiara Agabiti** , Oleana Olga Prato, Diego Fiorentino, Giuseppe Di Rosa, Jasmine De Marco, Gianluca Cirelli, Luigi Agresti, Toni Mingozzi, Paolo Casale
PP085	The northernmost *Caretta caretta* nest ever recorded in the Pelagos sanctuary	**Eleonora Pignata**, G Calogero, L Castellano, V Giussani, D Ottonello, F Garibaldi, N Pussini, D Caracciolo, E Fontanesi, D Ascheri, C Guidi, E Biasissi, B Violi
PP086	35 years of intense individual monitoring of one of the most important sea turtle nesting sites in the Mediterranean, Alagadi Beach	**Damla Beton,** Annette C Broderick, James Chatfield, Brendan J Godley, Robin TE Snape
PP087	The first documented nest of loggerhead sea turtle in Croatia *	**Sven Amančić ***, Draško Holcer, Ana Halovanić, Bojan Lazar
PP088	Environmental and anthropogenic factors affecting nesting success of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in an emerging nesting area of the western Mediterranean: A three-year study	**Giuseppe Piccolo**, Fulvio Maffucci, Érica Moura, Roberta Teti, Marianna Farina, Giuseppe De Riso, Nicola Campomorto, Daniela Guariglia, Chiara Roncari, Sandra Hochscheid
PP089	Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) nesting range extension across the Adriatic Sea and associated anthropogenic and pathogenic risks	**Simona Soloperto**, Andrea Motolese, Angela Argentieri, Giacomo Marzano
PP090	Increasing effort confirms the Spanish Mediterranean as a regular nesting area for the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*)	**Gizela Marin Capuz**, Marta Pascual, Ohiana Revuelta, Elena Abella.
PP091	The wrong assumptions of the effects of climate change on marine turtle nests with Temperature-dependent Sex Determination: The proof	**Marc Girondot,** Chloé Marcante
PP092	Nesting and nesters: Long-term monitoring, modeling, and conservation management of sea turtles in Israel	**Shir Sassoon**, Dan Tchernov, Yaniv Levy
PP093	Twenty-four years of longitudinal monitoring reveal reproductive output and nesting patterns in Mediterranean green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*)	**Rinat Kashi**, Shir Sassoon, Yaniv Levy
PP094	Northern range expansion may buffer climate-driven feminization in Mediterranean loggerhead turtles	**Elena Abella**, Irene Alvarez de Quevedo, Jose Luís Crespo, Celia Solis, Mireia Aguilera, Jesús Tomás, Guillem Félix, Xisca Pujol, Fernando Escribano, Svia Giralt, Lucía Garrido, Marc Girondot
PP095	Epibiont community of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the western Mediterranean:	Camila Lara Grima-de-María, Isabel Hidalgo-Díaz, **Sofía Ten**

	Associations between macrofauna, meiofauna, and algae	
PP096	Long-term monitoring reveals increasing nesting activity and reproductive success of marine turtles along the Lebanese coast (2020–2025)	**Ali Badreddine**
PP097	Low-cost monitoring of green turtle recovery in a newly established marine reserve in Cyprus	**Simge Oy**, Damla Beton, Annette C Broderick, Amelia Clark-Allan, Sophie Davey, Harry Eland, Brendan J Godley, Demet Beton Kalmaz, Robin TE Snape
PP098	To lay or not to lay? a comprehensive national assessment of *Caretta caretta* nesting trends in Italy (2020–2025)	**Chiara Mancino,** Fulvio Maffucci, Luigi Majorano, Marco Arculeo, Monica Francesca Blasi, Irene Cambera, Andrea Camedda, Francesca Capanni, Piero Carlino, Laura Castellano, Andrea G De Lucia, Angelo Dimarca, Andrea Ferrari, Giovanni Furrii, Yuri Galletti, Guido Gerosa, Valentina Giussani, Cecilia Mancusi, Luca Marisaldi, Nicola Marrone, Letizia Marsili, Giacomo Marzano, Nicolò Molle, Vincenzo Olivieri, Dario Ottonello, Daniele Pagli, Luana Papetti, Sauro Pari, Giovanni Parise, Elena Prazzi, Daniela Celeste Profico, Chiara Roncari, Simona Soloperto, Laura Tonelli, Isa Tonso, Salvatore Urso, Marco AL Zuffi, Sandra Hochscheid
PP099	Automated detection of loggerhead sea turtle tracks in UAV imagery: Performance and cross-site generalisation	**Poppy Oliver,** Nikos Vallianos

CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT & OUTREACH * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
PP100	The LIFE MareNatura project, key milestones in outreach and policy	**Konstantina Andreanidou**, Onteta Netzipi
PP101	From resource to conservation icon: Changing representations of sea turtles in the Greek press (1922–1996)	**Anna Karatsori**
PP102	Sea turtle geoportal Morocco: The first interactive platform for monitoring and conservation	**Zohayr Dibar,** A Bouaza, A Lansari, ZEA El Morjani, J Bensbai, I Tai
PP103	The mutualism between sea turtles and conservation volunteers: A study on how sea turtle conservation programs and volunteers affect each other	**Ilayda Rosato**, Melissa Vezard, Yakup Kaska
PP104	Loggerhead nest relocation along the Ionian coast of Calabria (Italy): Reproductive success and conservation implications	**Teresa Malito,** Chiara Mancino, Giovanni Parise , Andrea Pedrazzini, Salvatore Urso, Raffaele Greco, Emilio Sperone
PP105	How visual storytelling shapes public perceptions of marine turtle conservation on social media: A content analysis of audience responses to conservation posts	**Christiana Kamprogianni**
PP106	Engaging tourists and tourism stakeholders in sea turtle conservation on nesting beaches of Crete	**Christiana Kamprogianni**, Panagiota Theodorou
PP107	A GIS-based support system for sea turtle conservation decisions at Dalyan beach, Türkiye	**Olcay Ipek**, M Vezard, S Aksit, Y Kaska
PP108	Environmental education and public awareness at the first aid sea turtle centre of the faculty of sciences of Sfax (Tunisia): Outcomes of the LIFE Medturtles project (2021–2024)	**Arij Sadraoui**, Hamed Mallat, Asma Chaabane, Sami Karaa, Zouhour Bouain, Maissa Louhichi, Marwa Hrizi, Wiem Boussellaa, Imed Jribi
PP109	Twenty years of sea turtles conservation at Asinara National Park (Sardinia, Italy)	**Daniele Denurra**, Vittorio Gazale , Laura Pireddu, Valeria Sanna, Aldo Zanello, Michela Zappata

PP110	New horizons for loggerhead sea turtle conservation in northern Tunisia: Synergy between field surveys and Citizen Science	**Sahbi Dorai**, Hamed Mallat, Sabri Jaziri, Sami Karaa
PP111	From awareness to conservation: Engaging youth, volunteers, private and institutional stakeholders in participatory governance for *Caretta caretta* conservation in Monastir, Tunisia, with the support of innovative technologies	**Mariem Marzouki**, Seifeddine Trikki, Ahmed Souki
PP112	Citizen science as a key tool for detecting and protecting sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) nests in an emerging nesting area of the north-western Mediterranean: The Ligurian experience	**Elena Fontanezi,** Davide Ascheri, Laura Castellano, Valentina Giusanni, Dario Ottonello, Fulvio Garibaldi, Nicola Pussini, Daniela Caracciolo, Giulia Calogeros, Eleonora Pignata, Enrico Carta, Elisa Ravaioli, Gaia Capellini, Caterina Ferravants, Tiffany Ambrosini
PP113	Understanding volunteer participation in ARCHELON's sea turtle conservation programs: A three-year analysis	**Fryni Papanikolaou,** Aliki Panagopoulou
PP114	A rising star from the Aegean: Kuşadasi for sea turtles	**Oguz Turkozan**, Bahattin Sürücü
PP115	Repurposing for conservation: A recycled floating station as a sea turtle rehabilitation center on the Kerkennah Islands	**Hamed Mallat**, Ahmed Zaddem, Ahmed Souissi, Ons Benzarti, Ahmed Ben Hmida
PP116	The first year of LIFE OASIS project in the Aeolian Archipelago (southern Italy): Current perspectives of major stakeholders in the fish market	**Monica Francesca Blasi,** Livia Crippa, Riccardo Falco
PP117	Thirty-five years after: Confirmation of loggerhead nesting increase in Rhodes	**Kostas Teneketzis**, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Aliki Panagopoulou, Paraskevi Louizidou, Konstantinos Kalaentzis, Gerasimos Kondylatos, Dimitris Mavrouleas
PP118	Nest monitoring and protection of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in Crete, Greece: Conservation outcomes of the TUI Turtle Aid Greece program (2023–2025)	**Danai Tsaparli**, Aliki Panagopoulou, Panagiota Theodorou
PP119	Identifying offshore priority areas for Mediterranean loggerhead turtles using integrated outputs from the LIFE Conceptu Maris project	**R Lozano**, M Pecoraro, E Pignata, JA Raga, M Roul, E Santini, G Sarà, P Tepsich, M Vighi, A Arcangeli
PP120	Conservation success in a sea under pressure: Questioning rising nest counts in a changing Mediterranean	**Doğan Sözbilen**
PP121	Blue Flag: Bridging tourism, sustainability and wildlife	**Dareia Nefeli Vourdoumpa,** Christina Strati
PP122	Twenty-four years of longitudinal monitoring in an ex-situ breeding program reveals growth patterns, sexual maturation, and reproductive success of Mediterranean green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*)	**Yaniv Levy**, Rinat Kashi, Shir Sassoon, Shlomi Oz Piha, Gaston Kahn, Guy Ivgy, Yaron Tikochinski, Talia Ohana, Revital Zamsky, Lea Mogilevski, Joseph Aizen
PP123	Harbour-based education and volunteer engagement raising public awareness of foraging loggerhead sea turtles in a high-tourism Mediterranean port	**Charlie Holden,** Chanel Comis, Nikos Vallianos
PP124	Enhancing marine turtle conservation in the Jordanian Gulf of Aqaba: Phase II - fostering international cooperation for bycatch reduction and capacity building	**Abeer Bilbeisi,** Hamed Mallat, Micol Montagna, Yvette Fernandez

PP125	Assessing the conservation status of *Caretta caretta* in Greece, under the Habitats Directive 92/43/eec	**Mia Kotzageorgi**, Lydia Koutrouditsou, Polymnia Nestoridou, Michalis Maroulakis, Vasilis Christodoulou, Vasiliki Chrysopolitou, Elena Hadjicharalambous, Aliki Panagopoulou, George Kotzageorgis
PP126	The Ashtoum El-Gamil sea turtle rescue center: A first national model for marine turtle conservation and supporting sustainable development in Egypt	**Mohamed S Abdelwarith**, Ihab Helal
PP127	Twelve years of sea turtle rescue, monitoring and rehabilitation in the Cyclades, Greece (2014-2026)	**Sophia Lykouropoulou**, Yiannis Orfanos
PP128	The path to becoming a certified turtle-friendly hotel: ARCHELON's mentoring role within an international network	**Panagiota Theodorou**, Danai Tsaparli, Frosso Dimitrakopoulou

IN-WATER BIOLOGY * Indicates Student Award Candidate		
PP129	Behavioral analysis of post-rehabilitation sea turtles in the eastern Mediterranean monitored using satellite tracking*	**Shir Sassoon***, Dan Tchernov, Yaniv Levy
PP130	25 years of Photo-Identification on Zakynthos Island, Greece: A journey from ecological research to conservation, outreach and artificial intelligence	**Kostas Papafitsoros**, Lukáš Adam, Galini Samlidou, Vincent Tarrit, Tracy Bowers, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Aliki Panagopoulou
PP131	Between past and future: Machine learning for predictive modelling of *Caretta caretta* distribution in the Ligurian Sea (2016-2022)	**Laura Tagliaferro**, Niccolò Bellin, Alessia Ardenghi, Laura Filonzi, Sabina Airoldi, Elena Fontanesi, Alessandro Verga, Eleonora Pignata, Gabriella Motta, Aurelie Moulins, Francesco Nonnis Marzano
PP132	Evidence of trophic integration of the invasive alien Atlantic blue crab through gastrointestinal analyses of stranded loggerhead sea turtles in the northern Adriatic Sea	**Guido Pietroluongo**, Cinzia Centelleghe, Giorgia Corazzola, Luca Ceolotto, Carola Vallini, Marco Bonato, Sandro Mazzariol
PP133	Beyond facial scales: An integrative multi-body part approach for robust sea turtle photo-identification	**Lukáš Adam**, Kostas Papafitsoros, Micol Montagna, Valeria Roma, Agnese Mancini, Claire Jean, ALan F Rees
PP134	Sea turtle population at Bat Galim Reef: findings from an independent scientific initiative by Tal Raz – "Tal Mermaid"	**Tal Raz**, Amir Perlberg
PP135	Evaluation of the spatial movements of post-release rehabilitated loggerhead sea turtles from Türkiye	**Olcay Ipek**, M Vezard, E Odabaş, S Aksit, Y Kaska
PP136	Phthalate esters (PAES) concentration reflects dietary habitats (δ13C), in Mediterranean loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*)	**Monica Francesca Blasi**, Gabriele Favero, Daniela Mattei, Pasquale Avino, Ivan Notardonato, Sandra Hochscheid, Andrea Camedda, Giuseppe Andrea de Lucia
PP137	In-situ behavioral effects of flexible satellite tag attachment method on wild neonate loggerhead sea turtles	**Matic Jančič**, Maya Blanchard, Siera Leete, Isla McCullough, Grace Webb, Mateja Zekan Lupić, Ana Halovanić
PP138	Annual growth rates of *Caretta caretta* on the Tunisian continental shelf (central Mediterranean)	**Martina Bardini**, D Freggi, P Casale
PP139	Sharing the meadows? coexistence of green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) and herbivorous fishes in a tropicalizing eastern Mediterranean	Luis Cardona, **Alessandra Cani**, Emily Nikolaidi, Angela Mastrogiacomo, Simon Demetropoulos
PP140	Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) distribution in the offshore southern Tyrrhenian	**Gaia Caneve**, Fulvio Maffucci, Sandra Hochscheid, Roberta Teti, Marianna Farina, Giuseppe De Riso, Eugenia Pasanisi,

	Sea: Insights from the fixed Naples–Palermo (NAPA) and Salerno–Palermo (PASA) transects	Antonella Arcangeli.
PP141	Some like it cold: Overwintering space use strategies of loggerhead turtles in the Adriatic Sea	Matic Jančič, Tilen Genov, Paolo Casale, **Bojan Lazar**
PP142	Same places, different turtles? shifts in the composition of *Caretta caretta* foraging grounds across the Atlanto-Mediterranean*	**Helena Vela-Garcia** *, Astrid Luna-Ortiz, Silvia Giralt, Daniela Freggi, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Jesús Tomás, Francisca Pujol, Ana Liria-Loza, Carolina Fernández-Maldonado, Sandra Hochscheid, Marta Pascual, Cinta Pegueroles, Carlos Carreras
PP143	Temporal fluctuations in the loggerhead locomotion: Assessing monthly and life-stage variations using satellite data	**Onur Candan**, Fatih Polat, Cansu Ulusoy, Jale Şakiyan Ateş, Caner Erbasan, Ali Fuat Canbolat
PP144	Turtles from above: Using UAV technology to monitor sea turtle populations in a Cypriot MPA	Angelos Pechlivanis, **George Constantinou**, Melina Marcou, Giannis Ioannou, Hannah Petrou, Periklis Kleitou
PP145	Loggerhead turtles and Mediterranean monk seal interactions at a shared foraging site in Kefalonia, Greece	**Harry C Thomas**, Chanel Comis, Nikos Vallianos
PP146	Tracing the movements of loggerhead sea turtles in the western Mediterranean through the Oxygen stable isotopes in their epibiont barnacles	**Sofía Ten**, Alessandra Cani, Jesús Tomás, Eduardo Belda, Francisco Javier Aznar, Luis Cardona
PP147	Assessing the origin of leatherback turtles in Spanish waters through the analysis of their genome diversity	Alessia Cherin, Keilor E Cordero Umaña, Carolina Fernández-Maldonado, Silvia Giralt, Ana Liria-Loza, Adolfo Marco, Pilar Santidrián Tomillo, Alfredo López, Sibelle Torres Vilaça, Sarah Maria Vargas, Jesús Tomás, Marta Pascual, Cinta Pegueroles, **Carlos Carreras**
PP148	Pilot study of loggerhead sea turtle habitat use to inform coastal conservation planning	**Beatriz Tintoré**, Lucrezia Carroccia, Elisa Lamberti, Margherita Medina, Anastasia Miliou, Thodoris Tsimpidis
PP149	Going deep into loggerhead turtle diving behaviour during active travel and internesting using high-resolution biologging	**Benedetta Bianchi**, Chiara Agabiti, Paolo Domenici, Yakup Kaska, Paolo Casale, Alessandro Cini, Paolo Luschi
PP150	Where do loggerhead sea turtles forage in the Atlanto-Mediterranean region? The power of individual genomic origin assignments	**Helena Vela-Garcia**, Astrid Luna-Ortiz, Silvia Giralt, Daniela Freggi, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Oguz Turkozan, Jesús Tomás, Francisca Pujol, Ana Liria-Loza, Carolina Fernández-Maldonado, Alfredo López, Fulvio Maffucci, Valeria Angelini,Yaniv Levy, Marta Pascual, Cinta Pegueroles, Carlos Carreras
PP151	From rehabilitation to movement ecology: Satellite tracking of loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) released from western Sardinia, central-western Mediterranean Sea	**Andrea Camedda**, Giuseppe Andrea de Lucia, Paolo Briguglio, Roberto Brundu, Stefania Coppa, Graziella Dedola, Simone Fazio, Roberto Loche, Massimo Marras, Elisa Maria Mocci, Monica Pais, Pieraugusto Panzalis, Sara Vencato, Giorgio Massaro

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING TEAM

President:	Aliki Panagopoulou
Conference Coordinator:	Panagiota Theodorou
Steering Committee:	Aliki Panagopoulou (ARCHELON) Lobna Ben Nakhla (SPA/RAC) Ronel Nel (IUCN/SSC/MTSG)
Host Organization:	ARCHELON, the Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece
ARCHELON Steering Committee:	Aliki Panagopoulou Panagiota Theodorou Dimitris Margaritoulis Dimitrios Dimopoulos Rania Spyropoulou Paraskevi Raissi
Communication:	Anna Karatsori Christiana Kambrogianni
Registrar:	Fryni Papanikolaou
Exhibitors / Vendors Chair:	Anna Lamaj
Travel Grant Chair:	Michalis Souroulidis
Volunteers Coordinator:	Anna Lamaj
Program Chairs:	Sandra Hochscheid Imed Jribri Yakup Kaska Aliki Panagopoulou
Program Coordinator:	ALan Rees
Session Chairs:	Wafae Benhardouze Annette Broderick José Luis Crespo Abdulmaula Hamza Fulvio Maffucci Angela Mastrogiacomo Kostas Papafitsoros Mariluz Parga Ayşe Oruç Pilar Santidrián Tomillo Robin Snape Jesús Tomás

Poster Chair:	Michalis Souroulidis
Student Awards Chair:	Brendan Godley
Silent Auction Chair:	Marina Zucchini
Workshop Organizers:	Kate Mansfield Sandra Hochscheid Margherita Panzuto Lobna Ben Nakhla Yassine Ramzi Sghaier Imen Zribi MEDASSET (Kostas Thomopoulos) Daniela Freggi Mariluz Parga Antonio Di Bello ISPRA (Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research) on behalf of the National MSFD Stranding Sea Turtle Network Imed Jribri Wassim Amdrous Kostas Papafitsoros Yonat Swimmer Gala Moreno Lauriane Escalle Ricardo Sagarminaga Marc Girondot ALan F Rees Fulvio Maffucci
Additional Contributors:	Daphne Mavrogiorgos Dimitris Fytilis Eirini Kasimati Michalis Moraitis Reggina Stefanatou Evangelia Alpidou Vicky Sotiriou Aris Tsiroglou Danae Tsaparli Evdokia Roumania Agnes Syrogiannouli
Secretarial Support:	Eventure E.E. – Event Planning and Education
Photography & Videography:	Leonardo Calo
Branding & Design:	Myrto Zografaki

HOST

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

SUPPORTERS

medturtleconf.gr