# Turtle data format, as recorded by program CARETTA.COM

Last updated: March 2020

CARETTA and TURTLE data formats are identical, except that turtle sightings have a sighting number in columns 40-44, and the rest of the t event items are shifted right by five columns.

## Sample DAS section (starts below column indicators)

```
0         1         2         3         4         5         6         7
123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------
 35* 111100 090200 N36:46.37 W121:47.58
 36T.111107 090200 N36:46.48 W121:47.86   16
 37V.111107 090200 N36:46.48 W121:47.86    e    g    e    e    g
 38P.111107 090200 N36:46.48 W121:47.86    sb   jb   kf   td
 39A.111107 090200 N36:46.48 W121:47.86   650  100
 40W.111107 090200 N36:46.48 W121:47.86    rh   60    1    1    5
 41*.111200 090200 N36:47.78 W121:48.90
 42V.111207 090200 N36:48.01 W121:49.00    e    g    g    e    g
 43C.111234 090200 N36:48.60 W121:49.75 last transect was 14;
 44t.111250 090200 N36:48.84 W121:50.16   16   sb  -40    1   cc    2    u
 45*.111300 090200 N36:49.00 W121:50.45
 46S.111310 090200 N36:49.11 W121:50.67   17   kf   73    1   el
 47V.111324 090200 N36:49.42 W121:51.20    e    g    g    e    g
 48S.111326 090200 N36:49.46 W121:51.25   18   sb  -46   30   lo   zc
   1                                                      80   20
 49W.111328 090200 N36:49.49 W121:51.31    n   60    1    2    5
 50C.111340 090200 N36:49.66 W121:51.59 6 feet turtle
```

| Columns | Item | Format |
|---|---|---|
| 1-3 | Line number | ### |
| 4 | Event Code | # |
| 5 | Effort dot or blank | # |
| 6-11 | Time | HHMMSS |
| 12 | Blank | # |
| 13-18 | Date | MMDDYY |
| 19 | Blank | # |
| 20-28 | Latitude | NDD:MM.MM |
| 29 | Blank | # |
| 30-39 | Longitude | WDDD:MM.MM |
| 40-44 | | |
| 45-49 | | |
| 50-54 | Data fields. Information is event-code specific, according to key below | |
| 55-59 | All fields must be RIGHT JUSTIFIED within the 5 provided spaces. | |
| 60-64 | | |
| 65-69 | | |
| 70+ | | |

| Event code | Col>40 | Description/Key |
|---|---|---|
| * = Auto-position | -- | Automatically logged position (every minute) |
| # = Deletion marker | -- | Notes location of deleted entries. |
| C =Comment | 41-132 | Notes, corrections, molas, fish balls, etc. |
| E = End effort | -- | Temporary end effort to circle, go over land/clouds etc. |
| R = Resume effort | -- | Resume from temporary end effort |

| Event code | Col 40+ | Description/Key |
|---|---|---|
| O= Transect End | -- | Use to signal end of transect lines |
| T =Transect Start | 40-44 | Transect # (up to 4 numeric characters) |
| | | |
| V =Viewing Condition | | E=*excellent, G=Good, P=Poor, O=Off* |
| | 40-44 | Left inside (<35 degrees) |
| | 45-49 | Left outside (>35 degrees) |
| | 50-54 | Belly |
| | 55-59 | Right Inside (<35 degrees) |
| | 60-64 | Right Outside (>35 degrees) |
| | | |
| P =Observer Codes | | *2-character initials (unique)* |
| | 40-44 | Left Observer |
| | 45-49 | Belly Observer |
| | 50-54 | Right Observer |
| | 55-59 | Recorder |
| | | |
| A = Altitude/Speed | 40-44 | Altitude in feet |
| | 45-49 | Speed in knots |
| | | |
| W =Weather/Env. | 40-44 | *H=Haze/K=Kelp/R=Red tide/N=None* |
| | | (Priority when more than one present: R > K > H > N) |
| | 45-49 | % overcast BETWEEN SUN AND VIEWING AREA |
| | 50-54 | Beaufort sea state *(0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)* |
| | 55-59 | Jellyfish *0=none, 1=few, 2=moderate, 3=lots* |
| | 60-64 | Horizontal sun *(Clock system, 12 = ahead, 6=behind)* |
| | | |
| S = Sighting (Mammal) | 40-44 | Sighting number, numeric only, up to 4 digits |
| | 45-49 | Observer who made sighting |
| | 50-54 | Declination angle (LEFT = negative) |
| | 55-59 | Number of animals (best estimate) |
| | 60-64 | Species 1, 2-char. species code |
| | 65-69 | Species 2, 2-char. species code (blank if no other spp.) |
| | 70-74 | Species 3, 2-char. species code (blank if no other spp.) |
| | | |
| 1 = Ancillary sighting info | | Species percentages, for multi-species sightings only |
| | 60-64 | Species 1 percent |
| | 65-69 | Species 2 percent |
| | 70-74 | Species 3 percent (blank if no other spp.) |
| | | |
| s = Re-sight | 40-44 | Sighting number |
| | 45-49 | Declination Angle (LEFT=negative) |
| | | |
| t = Turtle Sighting | 40-44 | Sighting number |
| | 45-49 | Observer who made sighting |
| | 50-54 | Declination angle (LEFT = negative) |
| | 55-59 | Number of turtles |
| | 60-64 | Species code *(dc=leatherback, uh = unid. hard shell)* |
| | 65-69 | Size of turtle, either in feet or s/m/l code |
| | 70-74 | Tail Visible? *(Y=Yes, N=No, U=Unknown)* |

## SPECIES CODES:
Also see SpCodesAirDAS.dat

### Large whales
PM   Sperm whale
MN   Humpback whale
BM   Blue whale
BP   Fin whale
ER   Gray whale
EG   Right whale
BB   Sei whale
BE   Bryde's whale
UB   Unid. baleen whale
LW   Unid. large whale
UW   Unid. large whale
UC   Unid. cetacean

### Medium-sized whales
BD   *Berardius bairdii*
ZI   *Ziphius cavirostris*
ZU    Unid. beaked whale
UM   *Mesoplodon* sp.
MC   *Mesoplodon carlhubbsi*
UK   *Kogia* sp.
BA   Minke whale
SW   Unid. small whale

### Dolphins/Porpoises
PP   Harbor porpoise
PD   Dall's porpoise
UP   Unid. porpoise
DD   *Delphinus* (unspecified)
DS   *Delphinus* (short-beaked)
DL   *Delphinus* (long-beaked)
LB   *Lissodelphis borealis*
LO   '*Lags'* / Pacific white-sided
GG   Grampus / Risso's
TT   *Tursiops truncatus*
GM   Pilot whale
OO   Killer whale
UD   Unid. dolphin/porpoise

### Pinnipeds/Fissiped
PV   Harbor seal
MA   Elephant seal
EJ   Stellar sea lion
CU   Northern fur seal
EL   Sea otter
PU   Unid. pinniped
US   Unid. Seal
[ZC   CA sea lion – Usually not recorded]

### Other
M1      Small *Mola mola* (<2ft)
M2      Medium *Mola mola* (2-4ft)
M3      Large *Mola mola* (>4ft)

### Turtles
DC   Leatherback
CC   Loggerhead
CM   Green turtle
LV   Olive ridley
UH   Unid. hardshell
UT   Unid. turtle

### Miscellaneous (Recorded in comments)
ALBF      Black-footed albatross
FB#x      Fish ball (e.g. fb1m, fb10s)
Sharks – comment
JFx### - JF species & % composition
        (x = C for Chrysaora, M for moon
                jelly, E for egg-yolk jelly, and
                O for other)
        (e.g. JFC080 JFM020 for 80%
        chrysaora, 20% moon jelly; record
        whenever species composition
        changes.)
# CP      Crab pot (e.g. 2 cp, 10 cp)