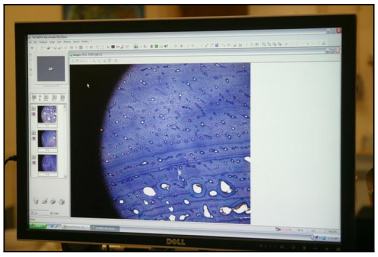

Skeletochronology and Stable Isotope analyses of flatback turtles

Status Underway

Aims Skeletochronology will generate age estimates from museum specimens, and new found carcasses for the flatback turtle, the Australian endemic which has an unknown life history stage. Stable analysis will generate chemical signatures for what flattback turtles feed upon, where they feed, and how that changes through the different life history stages.

Relevance Skeletochronology will define the first ages of reproduction, growth curves, and longevity estimates for flatback turtles. Stable Isotope analysis will evaluate if and how diets change with growth from hatchling-juvenile-adult status.

NWSFTCP Code -

Partners National Marine Fisheries Service, UWA, Isotopes, CSIRO, National Fisheries Service

Specimens Dr. Colin Limpus (QLD Department of Environmental Heritage and Protection), Dr. Mick Guinea (Charles Darwin University), Dr. Kellie Pendoley (Pendoley Environmental), Queensland Museum, NT Museum, WA Museum.