

Benefits of conserving turtles.

Marine turtles play an important role in the shaping and regulation of coastal marine communities by contributing to the maintenance of healthy sea grass beds and coral reefs, helping balance marine food webs and facilitating nutrient cycling.

Example (PNG)

PNG turtles' conservation is a volunteer programme slowly established throughout PNG by conducting awareness, research, collecting data and survey on turtle conservation. A good example in Milne Bay province. All the programme was purposely done to meet sustainable which is goal 14. Life below water.



Turtle Conservation



Examples (global)

The Conservation and Biodiversity Operations Branch (CBOB) of the Department of Environment and Science acknowledges that it is only one of the agencies working on the management and recovery of marine turtles in Queensland. Other key organisations are Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) within the same department, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and research institutions including James Cook University, Griffith University and the University of Queensland.

What is turtle conservation?

Why is it important ?

What are the management strategies used for marine turtle species ?

What are the benefits of conserving turtles?



What is turtle conservation ?

Turtle conservation refers to the long term protection of sea turtles by developing solutions that enables the reduction of resilience on management requiring direct human involvement.

As stated in the Papua New Guinea consolidated legislation, the protection of marine species according to Fauna (Protection and Control) Act 1966 (fisheries management law) the law state everything should be done and not done.

A brief highlight of the of law

1. Restriction on taking or killing of turtles
2. Sales and purchase of turtles
3. Measuring of turtles
4. Payment for turtles
5. Restriction on taking and killing of other fauna
6. Prohibition of use of shotguns



Why is turtle conservation important ?

The five reason why turtle conservation is very important.

1. *Turtle help control their prey.* For example, leatherbacks help manage amount jelly fish in the ocean. Hawksbill help reefs by eating sponges that compete with them for space
2. *Turtle nesting helps beaches.* The nutrients left behind by eggs and hatching that don't survive provide an important source for coastal vegetation.
3. *Hatching are an important source of food for many animals.* Birds, fish, mammals like raccoons and other rely on plentiful hatchlings to survive during nesting seasons
4. *They are important for coastal economics and native communities.* Many place rely on turtle watching or diving for jobs and income and number indigenous communities revere sea turtle as part of their culture.
5. *Green turtle grazing on seagrass is an important way to keep seagrass beds healthy.* Healthy benefits many species and able to store carbon.

Note: The mangroves and sea grass stores 3 to 4 times carbon than forest (Charles Nyanga, 2020) that is why it is important to conserve turtles as well as the surrounding including mangroves, coral reef ecosystem and other ecosystem does not mention.



What are the different ways of conserving turtles?

1. Reduce marine debris that may entangle or be accidentally eaten by sea turtles
2. Participate in coastal clean up and reduce plastic use to keep our beach and ocean clean
3. Keeping nesting beaches dark and safe for sea turtles.

Strategy that is applicable to apply in terms of turtle conservation

Note; CBOM's (Conservation and biodiversity operation branching)

This strategy relates to CBOB's own actions and the influence it seeks on actions of others in regards to five species of marine turtle:

- loggerhead, green, flat back, hawksbill, olive ridley

BOB's overarching strategy for marine turtle species management has seven interrelated elements:

1. Monitoring
2. Research
3. Threat abatement (management) and regulation
4. Habitat management