

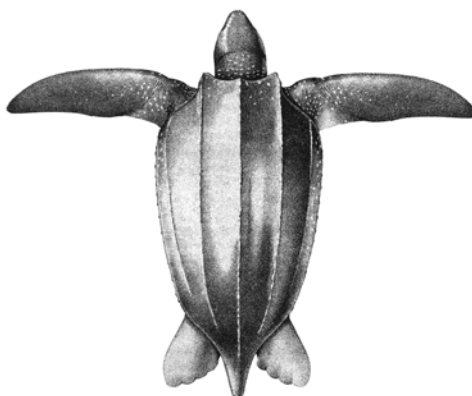


Marine Environmental Monitoring

www.strandings.com

UK & Eire Marine Turtle Strandings & Sightings Annual Report 2003

R.S.Penrose. February 2004



**Marine
Environmental
Monitoring**



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1. INTRODUCTION

In 1990, the Collaborative UK Marine Mammal Strandings Project was initiated and part-funded by the UK Department of the Environment (now Defra). The project involves detailed pathological and other investigations of stranded marine mammal carcasses (mostly cetacean) from UK waters. It forms part of the Department's international obligations towards conservation agreements, including the Agreement on the conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS). The UK Defra contract is held by the Natural History Museum (NHM), with research being co-ordinated in England and Wales by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) in Scotland. A number of other organisations are involved with the collaboration which include Marine Environmental Monitoring (MEM), the Centre for Environmental Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS), the University College Cork and the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland. *Post-mortem* examinations are carried out by the Department of Veterinary Pathology, University of Liverpool, the Zoological Society of London, the Veterinary Investigation centre, Truro and the Scottish Agricultural College, Inverness. In addition to pathological and related investigations, a range of frozen and fixed material, collected *post-mortem*, are currently archived at the Zoological Society of London. As from 2001, marine turtles have been included within the project and dead carcasses have been routinely collected, wherever possible, for *post-mortem* examination.

Records of sightings and strandings of live and dead marine turtles are kept by the Welsh Strandings Co-ordinator within the “Collaborative UK Marine Mammal & Marine Turtle Strandings Project”.

1.1 The UK Turtle Implementation Group.

In 1999, English Nature published the UK Marine Turtles Grouped Species Action Plan (SAP) on behalf of the UK Biodiversity Group. The SAP is part of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and aims to enhance marine turtle conservation in UK waters and in the UK Overseas Territories as well as raise awareness and knowledge of their occurrence, legal protection and measures to enhance conservation amongst marine users and the general public. The SAP is being implemented by a group of organisations led by joint lead partners the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) and the Herpetological Conservation Trust (HCT). The contact agency is Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). The Turtle Implementation Group (TIG) consists of the following organisations:-

- **Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)** The Countryside Council for Wales is the statutory advisor to government on sustaining natural beauty, wildlife and the opportunity for outdoor enjoyment throughout Wales and its inshore waters. Contact: *Tom Stringell 01248 385780*
- **English Nature (EN)** is the Government agency that champions the conservation of wildlife and natural features throughout England. Contact: *Jim Foster 01733 455251*
- **Environment and Heritage Service** is the agency responsible for the implementation of government environmental policy in Northern Ireland. Its aim is “to protect and conserve the natural and man-made environment and to promote its appreciation for the benefit of present and future generations”. Contact: *John Milburne 02890 546558*
- **MEDASSET**, founded in 1988, is an international non-governmental organisation registered as a charity in the UK and as a non profit organisation in Greece, working for the conservation of sea turtles and their habitats throughout the Mediterranean. Its scientific and educational website www.euroturtle.org, was developed by Roger Poland, and is hosted by Exeter University. Contact: *Lily Venizelos +30 210 3613572*
- **Herpetological Conservation Trust** are an authority on reptile and amphibian issues and are Lead Partners or joint Lead Partners for all five of the reptile and amphibian Action Plans within the UK BAP. Contact: *Tony Gent 01202 391319*
- The **Marine Conservation Society (MCS)** is the UK charity dedicated to the protection of the marine environment and its wildlife. MCS is joint Lead Partner of the Marine Turtles Grouped Species Action Plan and coordinates the TIG with support from the Cheltenham & Gloucester plc. Contact: *Peter Richardson 01989 566017*
- **Marine Environmental Monitoring (MEM)** is a member of the Defra “Collaborative UK Cetacean & Marine Turtle Strandings Project”, www.strandings.com. MEM also manages ‘TURTLE’ a UK & Eire database holding both records of sightings and strandings of marine turtles dating back to 1748. Contact: *Rod Penrose (Reporting telephone No. 01348 875000)*
- **The Marine Turtle Research Group (MTRG)** University of Exeter in Cornwall, Carries out fundamental and applied research on marine turtles in British waters, the Mediterranean, West Africa and throughout the UK Overseas Territories. Staff edit the international Marine Turtle Newsletter www.seaturtle.org/mtn Contacts: *Dr Brendan Godley & Dr Annette Broderick 01872 865389*

- **Professor John Davenport** is Head of Department of Zoology & Animal Ecology at University College Cork. He has worked on most species of sea turtles since the early 1980s, conducting fundamental studies on their physiology and biomechanics. He is currently linked to turtle conservation programmes in Bermuda and Cephalonia. Contact: +353 21 490 4051
- **Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)** is a government body responsible to the Scottish Executive and Scottish Parliament. SNH promotes the care, improvement, responsible enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and sustainable use of Scotland's natural heritage. SNH is the contact government point for the Marine Turtles Grouped Species Action Plan. Contact: *Dr Martin Gaywood 0131 446 2444*
- **University of Wales, Swansea:** Dr Graeme Hays and Dr Jonathon Houghton are currently coordinating an INTERREG project with Prof. John Davenport to investigate the ecological relationship between leatherbacks and jellyfish in the Irish Sea. Contact: *Dr John Houghton 01792 205678*
- **The Wildlife Trusts** is a partnership of 47 Wildlife Trusts, across the UK, caring for more than 2,400 nature reserves. It campaigns for the protection of wildlife and invests in the future by helping people of all ages to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of nature. Contact: *Colin Speedie 07836 746197*

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Contact details vary for different parts of the UK and the Turtle Code should be consulted for the relevant contacts.

In **England & Wales** a 24 hour answerphone **01348 875000**, is interrogated at regular intervals. A message requests callers to leave details of the stranding or sighting and location, along with their name and contact phone number, so they may be reached if confirmation of details are required. (If the stranding is a live stranding then a message on the answerphone informs the caller to contact the RSPCA immediately. see 2.1).

For **Scotland** all records should be reported to Scottish Natural Heritage on **0131 4474784** with dead strandings being reported to the Scottish Agricultural College **01463 243030**. Live strandings, entanglements should be reported to the SSPCA on **0131 3390111**.

For **N.Ireland** all records should be reported to the Ulster Museum **02890 3831144** with 'live/dead' and entanglements to the Portrush Countryside Centre on **02870 823600**.

In the **Republic of Ireland** all records should be reported to Prof. John Davenport on **00353 (0)21 4904140** (work) and **00353 (0)21 4897392** (home).

The following criteria are applied: -

2.1 Live

(Condition code 1)¹

In 1994 the Marine Animal Rescue Coalition (MARC) was formed. This consists of all the major animal welfare and conservation bodies involved with marine mammals in the UK. It has been agreed that in the case of a live stranding the first point of call would be the RSPCA (England & Wales), SSPCA (Scotland) as they support a manned 24-hour emergency phone. The RSPCA/SSPCA would then contact the relevant organisations, Marine Environmental Monitoring etc.

Contacts and advice can be found in the UK Turtle Code at www.strandings.com/Turtlepage.html

2.2 Dead

(Condition code 2a extremely fresh as if just died)¹

(Condition code 2b slight decomposition)¹

Health and safety precautions are followed with the animal being handled only with gloved hands. It is then taken immediately for *post-mortem* examination.

¹ Body condition based on the Zoological Society of London condition code.

(Condition code 3 moderate decomposition)¹

Health and safety precautions are followed with the animal being handled only with gloved hands.

Preferably it is taken immediately for *post-mortem* examination. Storage at +4⁰ Celsius is permissible for a maximum of 1 week.

(Condition code 4 advanced decomposition)¹

(Condition code 5 mummified carcass)¹

Species identified, basic measurements taken together with skin for DNA. Health and safety precautions being observed. Local Authorities then contacted for safe disposal of remains.

All live and dead marine turtles are allocated a “T0000/01” number. “T” designates the animal as a marine turtle, 0000 is the year and /01 is an individual number for each record of the same year. Records of all strandings & sightings in the UK & Eire are kept by the Strandings Co-ordinator. Copies of *post-mortem* examination reports are sent from the Strandings Co-ordinator to the finder and others associated with the relevant stranding.

3. RESULTS

The following three tables include all ‘sightings’ and ‘strandings’ reported through 2003.

Table 1.

2003 Total number of reported marine turtles for UK & Eire (live & dead).													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Green turtle (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hawksbill turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kemp's ridley turtle (<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leatherback turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)	1	0	0	0	0	1	8	9	10	1	1	0	31
Loggerhead turtle (<i>Caretta caretta</i>)	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
Unidentified	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total animals	3	2	0	1	0	3	8	9	11	1	1	0	39

Table 2.

2003 Number of live marine turtles.													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Green turtle (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hawksbill turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kemp's ridley turtle (<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leatherback turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	7	7	1	0	0	23
Loggerhead turtle (<i>Caretta caretta</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total animals	1	0	0	0	0	3	7	7	8	1	0	0	27

Table 3.

2003 Number of dead marine turtles.													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Green turtle (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawksbill turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kemp's ridley turtle (<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leatherback turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	6
Loggerhead turtle (<i>Caretta caretta</i>)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Unidentified	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total animals	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	10

No information on 'live' or 'dead' status can be ascertained on two leatherback turtle sightings. One east of Lundy on the 9th July and the second off Lavernock Point, Glamorgan in September. These records are included in Table 1. and plotted in Figure 4. 'leatherback sightings' but consequently do not appear in either Table 2. 'live turtles' or Table 3. 'dead turtles'.

The general geographical distribution of each species, strandings and sightings, are plotted on the following maps. Although the maps are generated directly from the data stored, they should be regarded as showing distribution of animals rather than giving absolute counts. While the co-ordinate system and the mapping software can theoretically differentiate between points as close as 1 metre apart, even with separations of 100 metres at the scale at which these maps are presented, some symbols may appear to overlap completely.

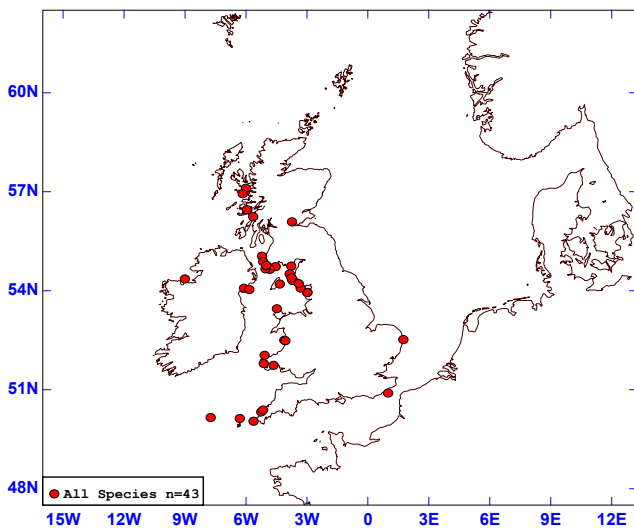


Figure 1. All species sightings & strandings 2001.

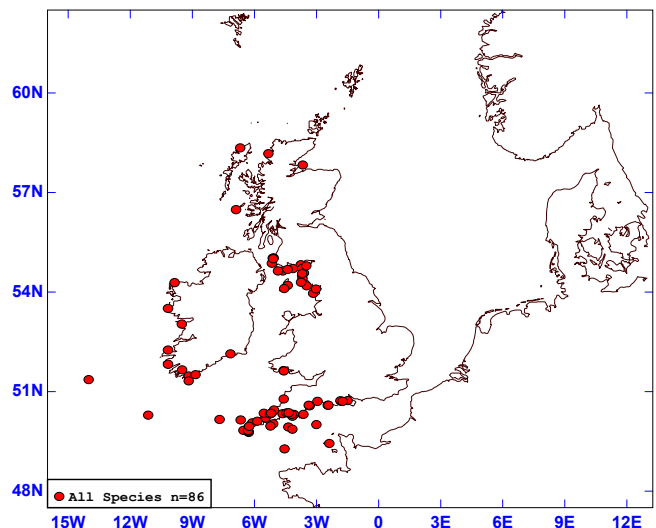


Figure 2. All species sightings & strandings 2002.

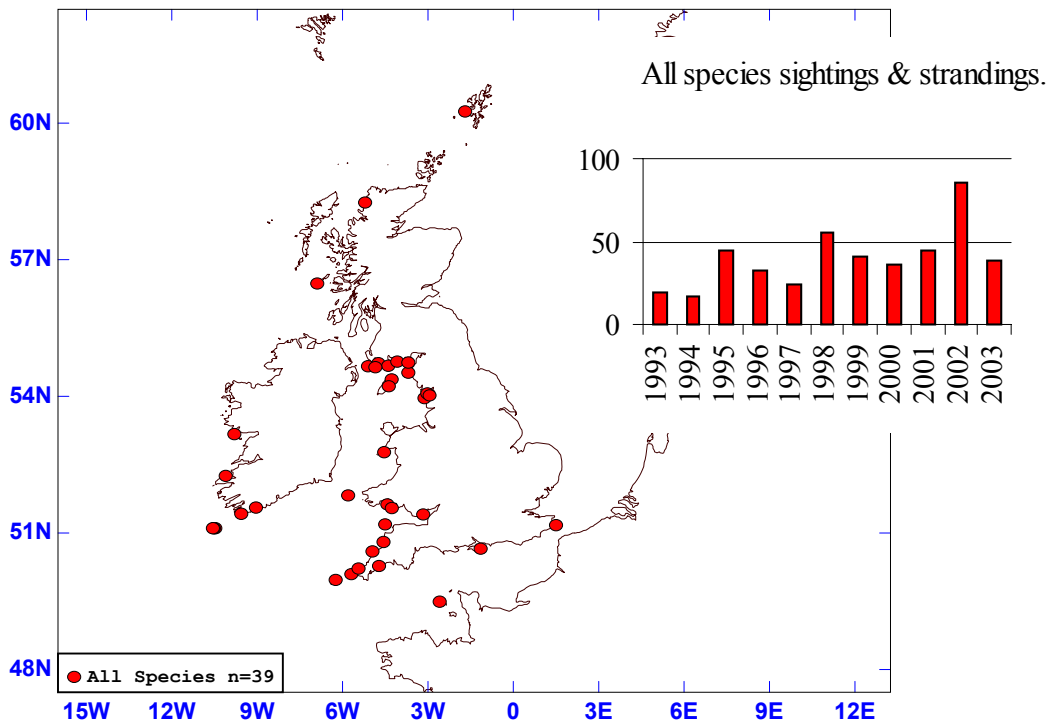


Figure 3. All species sightings & strandings 2003.

3.1 Sightings.

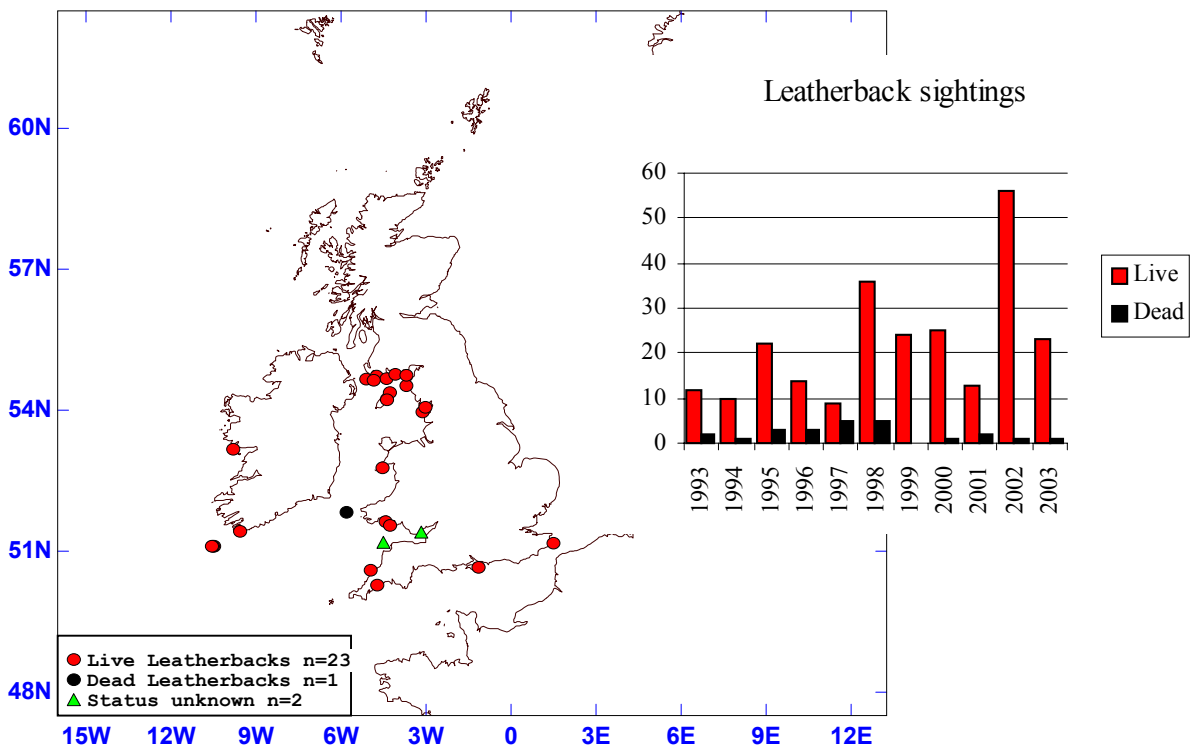


Figure 4. Leatherback sightings 2003.

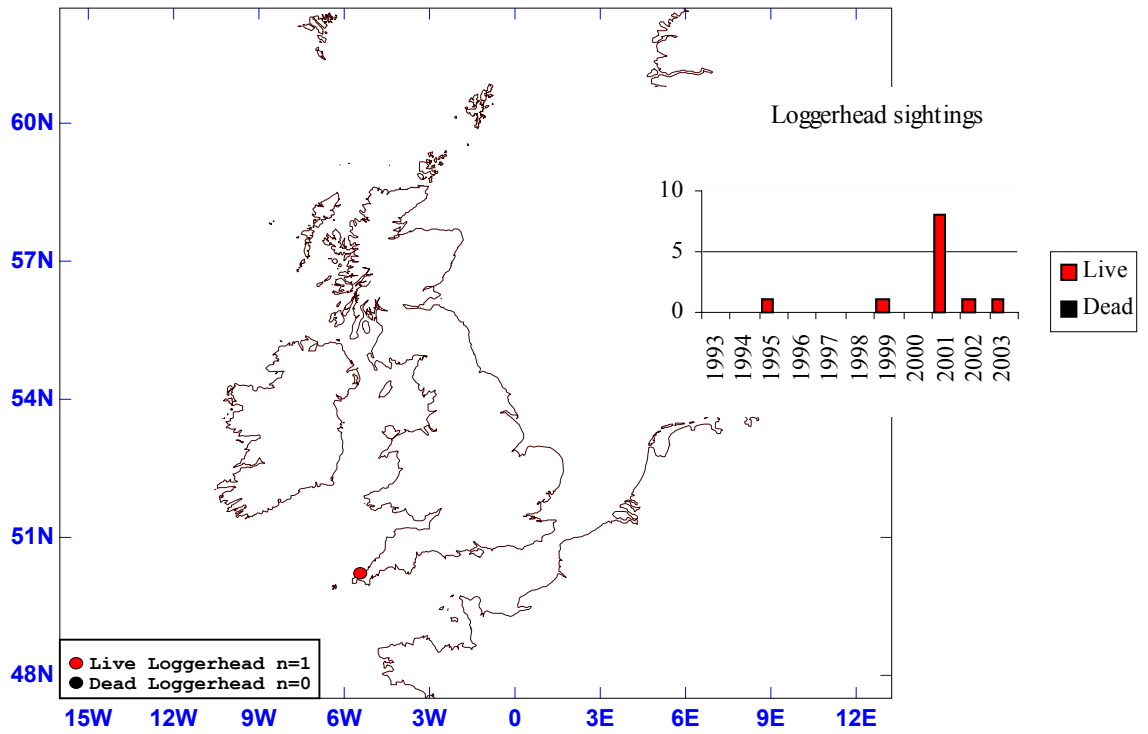


Figure 5. *Loggerhead sightings 2003.*

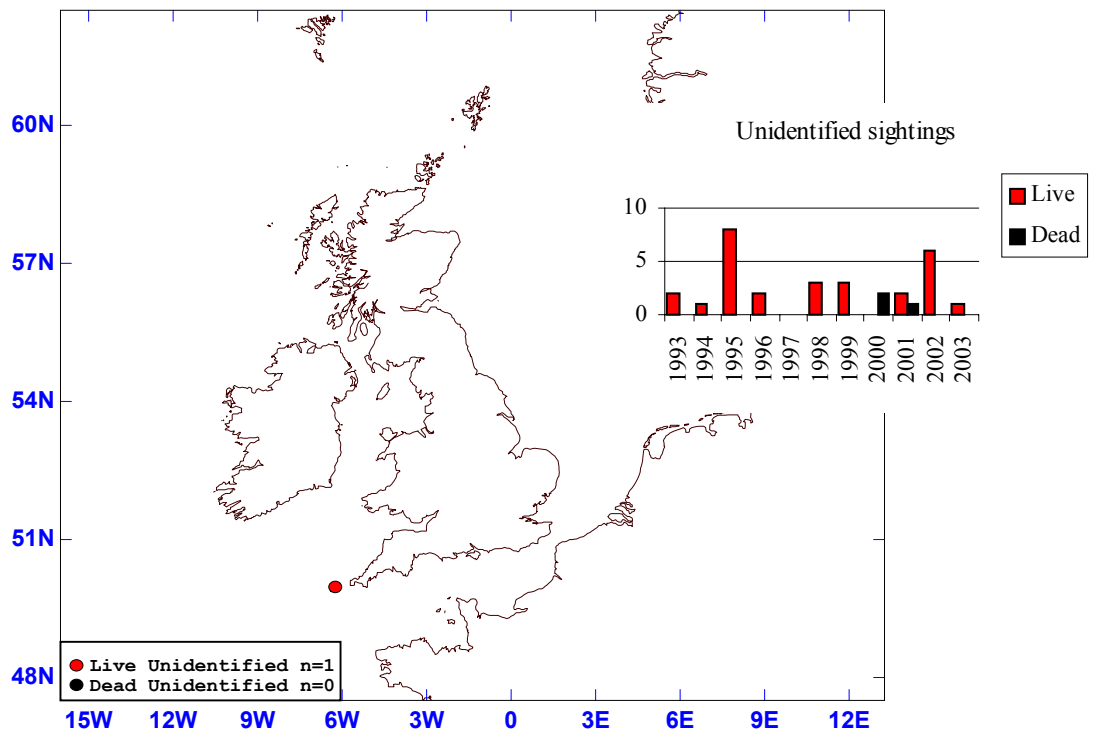


Figure 6. *Unidentified sightings 2003.*

3.2 Strandings.

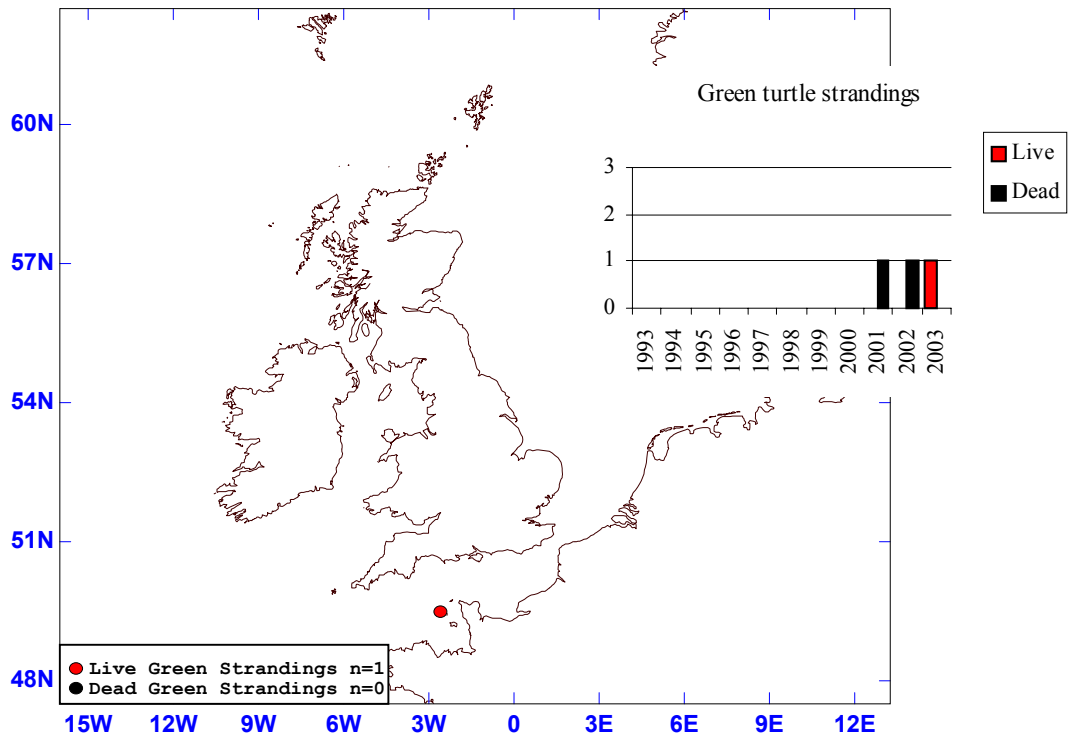


Figure 7. *Green turtle strandings 2003.*

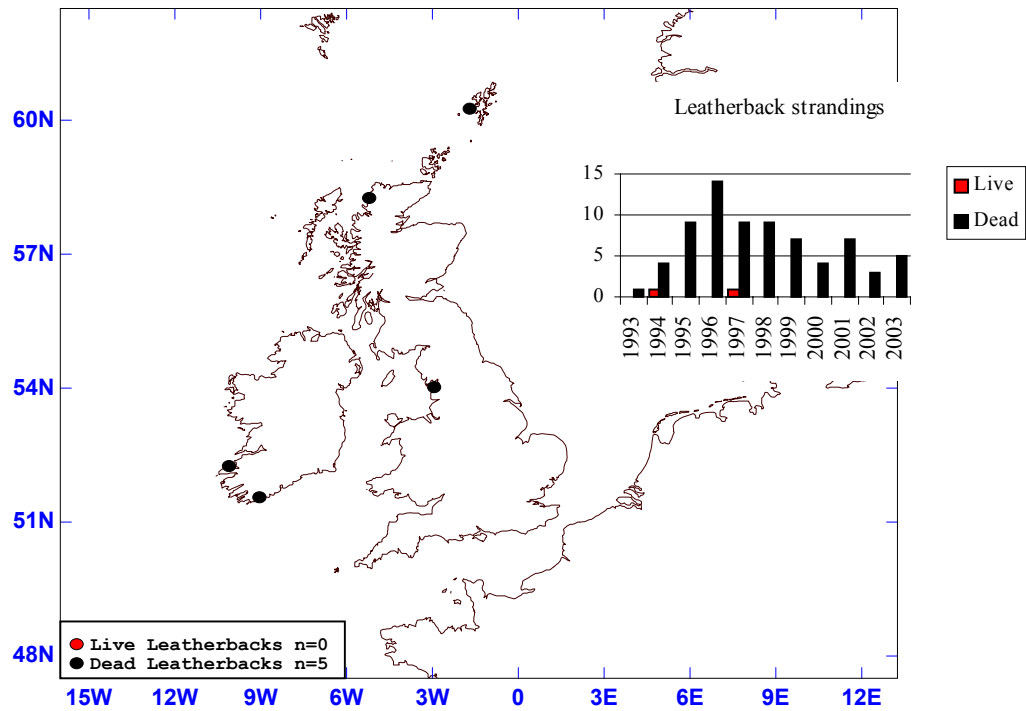


Figure 8. *Leatherback strandings 2003.*

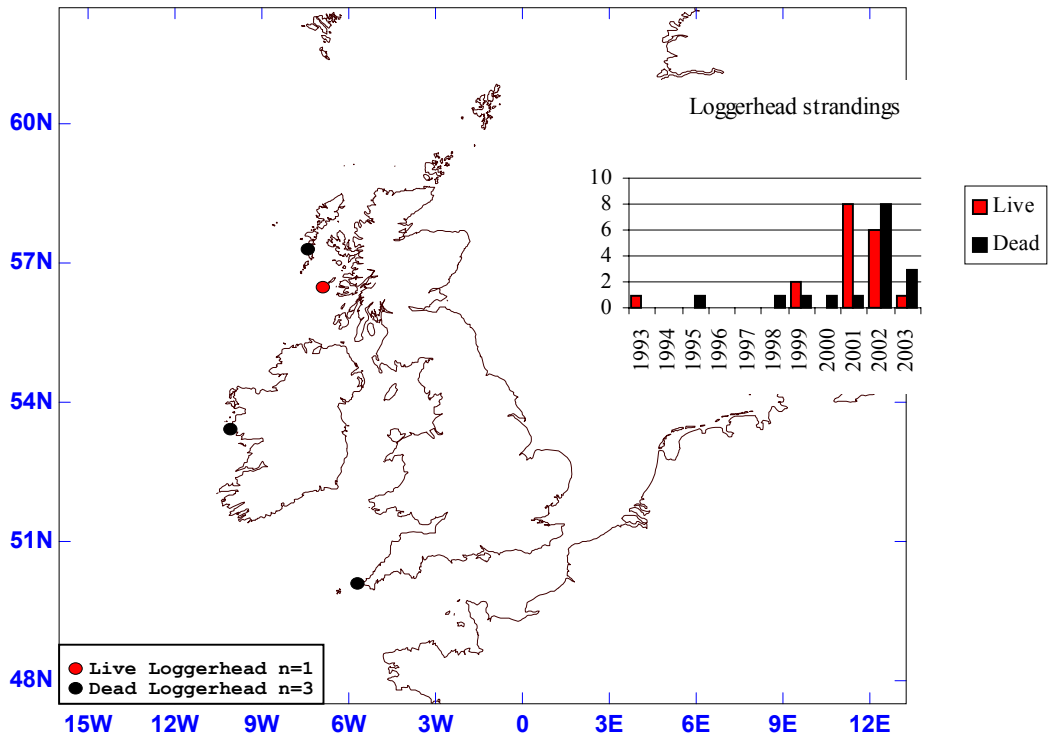


Figure 9. *Loggerhead strandings 2003.*

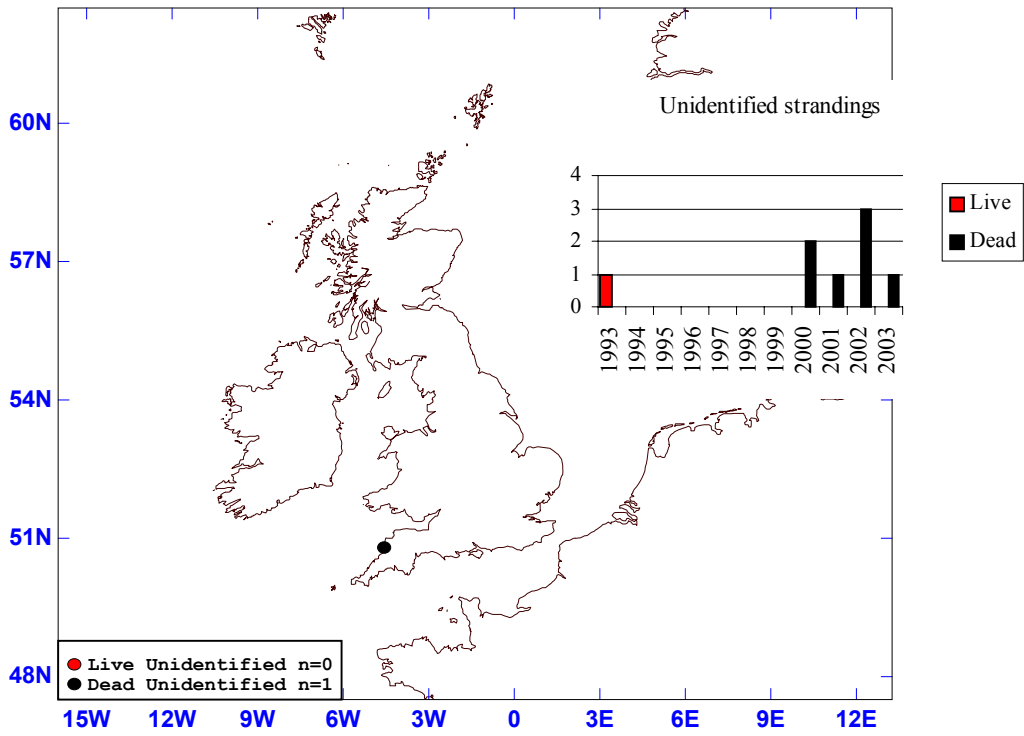


Figure 10. *Unidentified strandings 2003.*

No live or dead Kemp's ridley turtle 'sightings' were reported during this eleven year period. However, 'strandings' of both live and dead Kemp's ridley turtles have been recorded as shown in **Figure 11**.

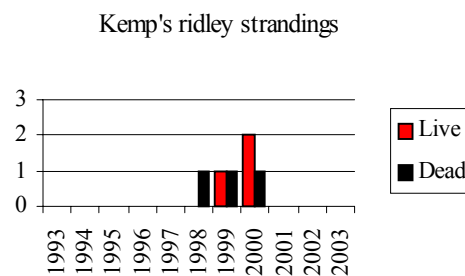


Figure 11. Live and dead Kemp's ridley strandings from 1993 - 2003.

The current 'Turtle Code'² was distributed throughout 2002 to Sea Fisheries Committees (SFC's), Fish Producers Organisations (FPO's), dive clubs, marinas, harbour masters, sailing clubs, RSPCA, Solway Firth partners and wildlife NGO's in England and Wales. Towards the end of 2002 turtle codes were sent to all Defra fisheries offices in England. In total, 11,886 turtle codes were distributed between March and December 2002 (Peter Richardson MCS pers. comm.).

In 2003, four hundred turtle codes were distributed by MCS accompanying the MCS "Jellyfish survey".

No explanation can be offered for the increase in leatherback sightings during 2002, although the distribution of 'Turtle Codes' must have increased awareness. Strandings of loggerhead turtles were also high in this year compared to previous years. It would be interesting to investigate surface sea temperatures and other weather parameters over this period for comparison to see if any correlation exists.

Table 4.

Cumulative number of records.		
Country	All Species	
	2003	1748 - 2003
England	16	394
Scotland	9	255
Eire	8	196
Wales	5	116
Channel Islands	1	11
N. Ireland	0	6
Total	39	978

Countries are listed in **Table 4.** by descending order of total number of records shown in the year **1748 – 2003** column.

² The current Turtle Code has evolved from the SNH Turtle Code which was distributed from 1996 with associated publicity in Scotland. Initially 3,500 codes were distributed predominantly in Scotland but also around the UK and abroad from where a Welsh Turtle Code was developed in the late 1990's.

Table 5.

Species Comparison.												
Country	1983 - 1993											
	1993 - 2003											
	GT		HB		KR		LBT		LOG		UNI	
England	0	1	0	0	0	4	67	145	10	16	8	22
Scotland	0	2	0	0	0	0	61	78	5	15	17	8
Eire	0	0	1	0	0	0	29	64	15	13	0	1
Wales	0	0	0	0	0	2	9	62	3	1	1	5
Channel Islands	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
N. Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Total	0	4	1	0	0	6	167	349	33	47	27	37

GT = Green turtle, HB = Hawksbill turtle, KR = Kemp's ridley turtle, LBT = Leatherback turtle, LOG = Loggerhead turtle, UNI = Unidentified turtle.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

4.1 2002

Four retrospective reports were received during 2003, these have been added to the database and will be uploaded to the TURTLE Web-site together with the 2003 records. All four reports were of live animals.

T2002/86 Leatherback turtle, alive at sea, 7th July, off Bournemouth, Dorset.

T2002/87 Leatherback turtle, alive at sea, 17th August, Poole Harbour, Dorset.

T2002/88 Leatherback turtle, alive at sea, 19th August, off Lundy, Devon.

T2002/89 Unidentified turtle, alive at sea, 21st August, halfway across the Irish Sea.

T2002/16 'Buddy' and **T2002/18** 'Perry' rehabilitated during 2002 at Blue Reef Aquarium, Newquay and filmed by BBC TV programme 'The Really Wild Show' was screened on national television on the 10th June 2003. The programme has been recorded and can be viewed on the attached CD-ROM in MPEG format as **Appendix 2**.

5. LIVE STRANDING EVENTS 2003.

There were only 2 live-strandings of marine turtles reported in 2003.

T2003/01 was a green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) found stranded on the 13th January in the Channel Islands at Saline Bay, Guernsey. The animal was collected by the Guernsey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (GSPCA) and taken to the Guernsey Aquarium for rehabilitation. This would appear to be the first recorded live stranding of a green turtle for the UK. (See 5.1 Rehabilitation).

T2003/07 was a female loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*), (straight overall length 34cm), found stranded on the 3rd June on Sorabaidh beach, Isle of Tiree in the Western Isles, Scotland. The animal was taken to the Oban Sealife centre where it died three days later on the 6th June. The carcass was delivered to the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) Inverness for full *post-mortem* examination where the cause of death was given as Starvation/hypothermia.

5.1 Rehabilitation

Green turtle **T2003/01** (known locally as **GT1**) was found alive by Mary Harrison at Grand Rocques, Saline Bay, Guernsey in the Channel Islands on the 13th January. The sea temperature around Guernsey at the time was 9 degrees Celsius and the animal was in a state of torpidity. It was collected by Geoff George of the Guernsey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (GSPCA) and taken to the Guernsey Aquarium where it was cared for by owner David Miller and veterinarian John Knight of Les Eturs Veterinary Centre. A copy of the draft TIG rehabilitation manual was emailed to the Island.

The geographical origin of this turtle was not known so a problem now existed on where to repatriate it, either the Mediterranean or Atlantic where nesting sites are known to exist. A shallow skin biopsy was taken and sent to Angela Formia at Cardiff University for DNA analysis but the results were inconclusive, the closest match linked the animal to the green turtle population in the Indian Ocean. A juvenile stranding of a green turtle in February 2002 in Scotland (T2002/02) also gave its closest match to the Indian Ocean population. Further samples from green turtles taken over time from the Atlantic may give us a better genetic understanding as not all nesting populations in the Mediterranean or Atlantic have yet been typed.

As a rookery could not be determined and origin from the Indian Ocean or Mediterranean was unlikely it was decided to finally release the animal in warmer waters in the Atlantic. The Canaries, Bermuda, and Florida were all candidate destinations all having good turtle release programs. The Canary Islands were eventually chosen, as an established route already existed through the Canary Islands through the previous release of several loggerhead turtles from the UK and it was closer from the point of view of travel time for the turtle.

It was thought that the turtle may benefit by being transported to the UK mainland and rehabilitated at either Weymouth Sealife Centre or Blue Reef Aquarium who both have experience in successful turtle 'rescue and rehab.'

Two members of the UK Turtle Implementation Group (TIG), Peter Richardson and Rod Penrose flew out to Guernsey, funded by MCS, to offer advice and discuss the possibility of having the animal transported to the mainland for rehabilitation.

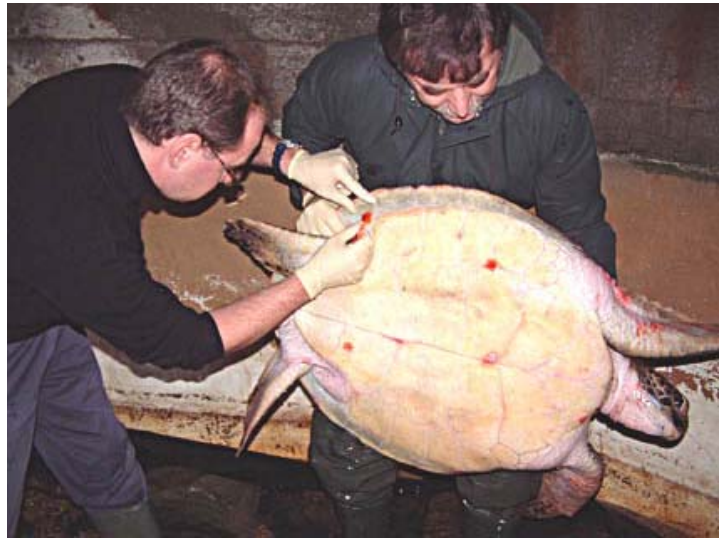


Plate 1. Vets Jean-Paul Segers and John Knight treat the green turtle GT1 at the Guernsey Aquarium.

Photo: Peter Richardson.



Plate 2. A meeting was arranged to discuss the release of the turtle. Left to Right. Martin Gavet Cetacean Section La Societe Guernesiaise, John Knight Veterinarian, Rod Penrose MEM, Jayne Le Cras GSPCA and Peter Richardson MCS.

Photo: Richard Lord.

It was quickly realised that the animal was in very good hands on the Island and direct transport links between Guernsey and the Canary Islands via a private aircraft could be established. A meeting was arranged between all interested parties and it was agreed the animal should stay where it was until fit to fly and then transported to state veterinarian Pascual Calabuig in Grand Canaria for eventual release.

As the Channel Islands are part of Great Britain but not part of the United Kingdom or the European Union, CITES agreements were required to move the samples to the UK and also to move the animal to Gran Canaria. On the 5th February, with all relevant paperwork obtained and a twin engined aircraft loaned by ‘Specsavers’, GT1 was flown to Gran Canaria.

On leaving Guernsey the turtle weighed 40kg with a straight overall length of 86.5cm. A PIT tag was inserted in the right shoulder No.826198100011001.

Whilst attending the European Cetacean Conference in Gran Canaria in March 2003, time was taken to visit state vet Pascual Calabuig and his facilities. GT1 was still being held until it was able to take food on its own, it was finally released into the warm waters of the Canaries on the 4th April 2003.

6. BYCATCH.

Only one turtle was reported as bycaught through 2003.

T2003/13 was a leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) The turtle was found alive entangled in a salmon net just north of Onaght on Inishmore Island, Eire. The animal was described as ‘enormous’ and was successfully disentangled and released by the fisherman unharmed.

A full report on ‘Bycatch of Marine Turtles in UK & Irish Waters’ JNCC Report No.310 Pierpoint C., 2000 can be downloaded at www.strandings.com/Turtlepage.html

7. OTHER REPORTS OF INTEREST 2003.

T2003/15-17 A loose group of 3 leatherbacks were sighted 60km SW of Mizen Head, Cork on the 2nd September by a commercial whale watcher. He noted they were amongst jellyfish that he had not seen before and described the jellyfish as having a purple green colour.



Plate 3. The Beechcraft Kingair 350 loaned by ‘Specsavers’ preparing for its flight to Gran Canaria.

Photo: Richard Lord.



Plate 4. GT1 in holding tank in Gran Canaria.

8. SAMPLES.

The normal procedure for the taking of samples is from fresh animals that have been taken for *post-mortem* examination within the Collaborative UK or the Irish Strandings project.

Requests have been received from North Carolina, USA for humeri from dead loggerhead turtles that are found stranded on the UK coast. The study is to develop a means to age loggerhead turtles using growth layers in the humeri.

Requests have also been received from IATA-CNR, Italy for 1 to 2 grams of scute plus 2 to 3 marginal bones (where ribs are inserted) from dead loggerhead turtles for Carbon and Oxygen stable isotope determinations to learn more about the peculiarity/differences among populations. This is to compare non-Mediterranean animals to those within the Mediterranean.

Wherever possible the above samples have been collected and archived at MEM, Llechryd. The samples will be forwarded, once numbers have been collected, to both parties with the appropriate CITES agreements.

Samples of skin have continued to be taken by the Strandings Co-ordinator from animals, which would normally have been disposed of. These samples have been archived at -20° C.

9. PUBLICITY.

The Strandings Web-site has been maintained to provide details of both the Collaborative UK & Celtic Strandings Projects. Although this is intended primarily for Wales, key contact details are given for England, Scotland and Ireland. The pages can be viewed at www.strandings.com/ and I would be grateful for any comments on the Web site and any further links to other sites that may be of interest.

The "TURTLE" database is now available on this site together with annual reports and other turtle related publications at www.strandings.com/Turtlepage.html

Posters and leaflets produced to increase awareness of the project have continued to be distributed.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Jemma Lerwill and Robin Pratt for providing support and base of operations at Fishguard.

Dorothe and Richard Lord for accommodation and making us feel very welcome on our visit to Guernsey. The Marine Conservation Society for funding flights to the Channel Islands.

Norman Hammond, Solway Shark Watch & Sea Mammal Survey for passing on turtle records.

Dr John Houghton and Tom Doyle, Interreg Irish Sea Turtle Survey for passing on turtle records.

Marine Environmental Monitoring wishes to acknowledge the financial support of English Nature, the Countryside Council for Wales and the Marine Conservation Society.

11. APPENDICES.

Appendix 1.	2003 Turtle data.
Appendix 2.	CD-ROM.

To run the CD-ROM (Appendix 2) using Microsoft Windows:

- Insert the CD into your CD drive.
- Double click on the “My Computer” icon.
- Double click on the CD drive icon (usually (D:)).
- Double click on the “Buddy” icon.
- The Windows Media Player should open automatically and run the program.

Record No	ALT NO	SPECIES	GROWTH	HAIR	SIGHTING OR STRANDING?	ALIVE OR CAPTURED?	ANATOMY	DATE	COUNTRY	COUNTY	LOCATION
T2003/01		GT	Y	ST	ALIVE	Y		January 13, 2003	ISLANDS	GUERNSEY	Saline Bay
T2003/02		UNI	Y	ST	DEAD	F		January 29, 2003	ENGLAND	CORNWALL	Widemouth Bay
T2003/03		LBT	ST	ST	DEAD			January 31, 2003	EIRE	KERRY	Gowlane Strand, nr Stradbally
T2003/04		LOG	Y	ST	DEAD	Y		February 19, 2003	EIRE	GALWAY	Ballyconnelly
T2003/05		LOG	Y	ST	DEAD			February 3, 2003	ENGLAND	CORNWALL	Nanquidno, Beach 3 miles from Lands end.
T2003/06		LOG	Y	ST	DEAD	Y		April 5, 2003	SCOTLAND	WESTERN ISLES	Snishival/Peninerne Beach Sth Uist.
T2003/07		LOG	Y	ST	ALIVE			June 3, 2003	SCOTLAND	WESTERN ISLES	Sorabardh Beach, Tiree
T2003/08		UNI	SEA	SEA	ALIVE			June 26, 2003	ENGLAND	SCILLY ISLES	St Martins, 'Hard Lewisies'
T2003/09		LBT	SEA	SEA	?			July 9, 2003	ENGLAND		East of Lundy
T2003/10		LBT	SEA	SEA	ALIVE			June 6, 2003	ENGLAND	ISLE OF WIGHT	Sandown
T2003/11		LBT	SEA	SEA	ALIVE			July 21, 2003	EIRE		2nm NW of Clear Island nr Baltimore
T2003/12		LBT	ST	ST	DEAD	AD		August 4, 2003	SCOTLAND	SHETLAND	Dale of Walls
T2003/13		LBT	SEA	SEA	ALIVE	Y	20.03		EIRE		Nth of Onaught on Inishore Island
T2003/14		LOG	Y	SEA	ALIVE			September 2, 2003	ENGLAND	CORNWALL	St Ives Bay
T2003/15		LBT	1/3	SEA	ALIVE			September 2, 2003	EIRE	CORK	Off Mizen Head
T2003/16		LBT	2/3	SEA	ALIVE			September 2, 2003	EIRE	CORK	Off Mizen Head
T2003/17		LBT	3/3	SEA	ALIVE			September 2, 2003	EIRE	CORK	Off Mizen Head
T2003/18		LBT		SEA	?				WALES	GLAMORGAN	Off Lavernock Point
T2003/19		LBT		SEA	ALIVE			September 12, 2003	WALES	SWANSEA	Lougher Estuary
T2003/20		LBT		SEA	ALIVE	Y		September 16, 2003	ENGLAND	KENT	Off Dover
T2003/21		LBT		SEA	DEAD	AD		September 17, 2003	WALES		NW of Smalls
T2003/22		LBT		SEA	ALIVE			September 20, 2003	WALES	GWYNEDD	Tremadoc Bay
T2003/23		LBT		ST	DEAD	MD		September 27, 2003	SCOTLAND	SUTHERLAND	Drumbeg
T2003/24		LBT		ST	DEAD	AD		November 15, 2003	EIRE	CORK	Millcove, Rosscarbery
T2003/25		LBT		SEA	ALIVE			October 18, 2003	ENGLAND	CORNWALL	2.5-3 miles off Mevagissey
T2003/26		LBT		SEA	ALIVE			November 15, 2003	WALES	SWANSEA	Off Gower
T2003/27		LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 18, 2003	ENGLAND	CORNWALL	Pentire Point
T2003/28	0564	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			July 22, 2003	ENGLAND	CORNWALL	Ramsey Bay
T2003/29	0565	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			July 8, 2003	ENGLAND	ISLE OF MAN	North Channel, 5NM west Crammag Head
T2003/30	0571	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			July 11, 2003	SCOTLAND	DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	Terally Point, Luce Bay.
T2003/31	0572	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			July 16, 2003	SCOTLAND	DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	8 NM west of The Cronk
T2003/32	0577	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			July 17, 2003	ENGLAND	ISLE OF MAN	Lune Deep, Morcambe Bay
T2003/33	0586	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 2, 2003	ENGLAND	LANCASHIRE	Lancaster Sound, Morcambe Bay
T2003/34	0592	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 2, 2003	ENGLAND	LANCASHIRE	Burrow Head
T2003/35	0596	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 4, 2003	SCOTLAND	DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	Little Ross Island
T2003/36	0604	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 9, 2003	SCOTLAND	DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	Off St Bees North Head
T2003/37	0608	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 16, 2003	ENGLAND	CUMBRIA	Mull of Galloway, Luce Bay. (Lagveg)
T2003/38	0613	LBT		ST	DEAD			August 24, 2003	SCOTLAND	DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY	Middleton Sands, Morcambe Bay
T2003/39	0616	LBT		SEA	ALIVE			August 20, 2003	ENGLAND	LANCASHIRE	
								September 8, 2003	ENGLAND	CUMBRIA	Outer Solway Firth

Record No	NOTES	REPORTED BY
T2003/01	Taken to Guernsey Aquarium for re-hab.	Richard Lord
T2003/02	Found by a puppy.	Vic Sel
T2003/03	On IWDG website as 1st Feb Castlegregory.	
T2003/04		Duchas Ranger Ger O'Donnell
T2003/05	Believed to be a loggerhead (confirmed 05/03/03), dinner plate size and uninjured apart from gull damage. To be sent to Rob Deaville ZSL.	Mrs Ninnis
T2003/06	The shell reported as 9" long x 6" wide. Keeper (Nigel Taylor) is intending to preserve the shell.	Dr Martin Gaywood
T2003/07	Died 06/06/03 at Oban Sealife centre. SAC Inverness informed.	Julie Naylor
T2003/08	Seen swimming, flat calm, sea temperature recorded by 'fish finder' at 16 degrees Celsius.	Neal Hayley
T2003/09	It was still and floating abnormally high in the water thought to be dead.	Ivor Rees
T2003/10	Swimming, 300 - 400 yds from Sandown Pier approx. 3pm	Martin Mangin
T2003/11	Swimming, approx. length 7ft. Seen from yacht.	Nick Ager
T2003/12	Carcass found on a grassy bank and headless.	
T2003/13	Reported by the fisherman as being "enormous" and released unharmed.	Tom Doyle
T2003/14	Seen swimming in circles with one flipper raised, dived when approached. Thought to be sick or injured.	Vince Smith (CornishWildlife e-mail list)
T2003/15	Seen swimming amongst purple green jellyfish. Aerial survey by Tom Doyle a few days later revealed no further sightings.	Tom Doyle
T2003/16	Seen swimming amongst purple green jellyfish. Aerial survey by Tom Doyle a few days later revealed no further sightings.	Tom Doyle
T2003/17	Seen swimming amongst purple green jellyfish. Aerial survey by Tom Doyle a few days later revealed no further sightings.	Tom Doyle
T2003/18		Jon Houghton
T2003/19	Seen from aerial survey, swimming at surface in westerly direction with large blooms of Rhizostoma octopus.	Jon Houghton
T2003/20		Alan Booth
T2003/21	Remains of decomposed LBT seen from Carliet Lady NW of Smalls.	Cliff Benson
T2003/22	Seen from aerial survey, swimming at surface in northerly direction with large blooms of Rhizostoma octopus.	Jon Houghton
T2003/23	Described as inaccessible and decomposed so no pime carried out	Bob Reid
T2003/24	Found by William Helps. Blubber and dermal bones only. Identified by Tom Doyle UCC.	Tom Doyle
T2003/25	Turtle surfaced whilst hauling crab pots. Jellyfish present.	Jo Leach
T2003/26	Sea temp 59 - 60 degrees F. Jellyfish present.	Nigel Bruce
T2003/27	Seen flipping over in water in gully between rock and Pentire point.	Natalie Stanton
T2003/28	Observed from boat, approx. 4 metres distance.turtle swimming south. H.Gulls, Fulmar, Kittiwakes present.	T & W Hegerty
T2003/29	Observed from boat, approx. 10 metres distance.turtle swimming south. Gannets, Fulmar, Kittiwakes present.	T & W Hegerty
T2003/30	Observed from boat, approx. 3 metres distance.turtle swimming east. Gulls, & Guillemots present.	John Wright
T2003/31	Observed from boat, approx. 8 metres distance.turtle swimming south. Gannets, H.Gulls, Fulmars present.	NH & PM
T2003/32	Observed from boat, approx. 4 metres distance.turtle swimming south. H.Gulls, Eider, LBB Gull present.	Allan Bell
T2003/33	Observed from boat, approx. 5 metres distance.turtle swimming east. H.Gulls present.	Tom Jackson
T2003/34	Observed from land, approx. 75 metres distance.turtle swimming east.	Allan Whitehead
T2003/35	Observed from land, approx. 28 metres distance.turtle swimming east.	Karen Upton
T2003/36	Observed from boat, approx. 10 metres distance.turtle swimming south. H.Gulls, Fulmar, Kittiwakes present.	Ted Tunstall
T2003/37	Observed from land, approx. 90 metres distance.turtle swimming east.	NH & FH
T2003/38	Stranded dead with poss. prop mark behind head. Refloated and disappeared.	
T2003/39	Observed from boat, approx. 12 metres distance.turtle swimming south. H.Gulls present.	Sheila Armstrong