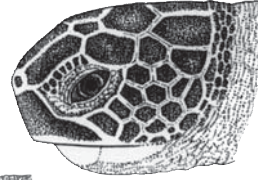
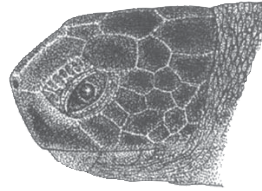


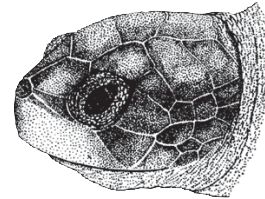
Leatherback
Dermochelys coriacea



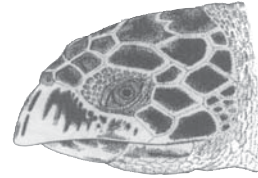
Green
Chelonia mydas



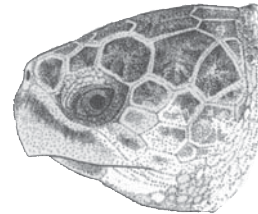
Black*



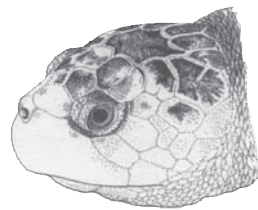
Flatback
Natator depressus



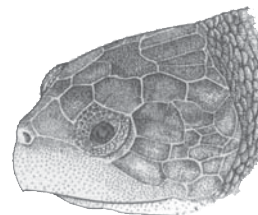
Hawksbill
Eretmochelys imbricata



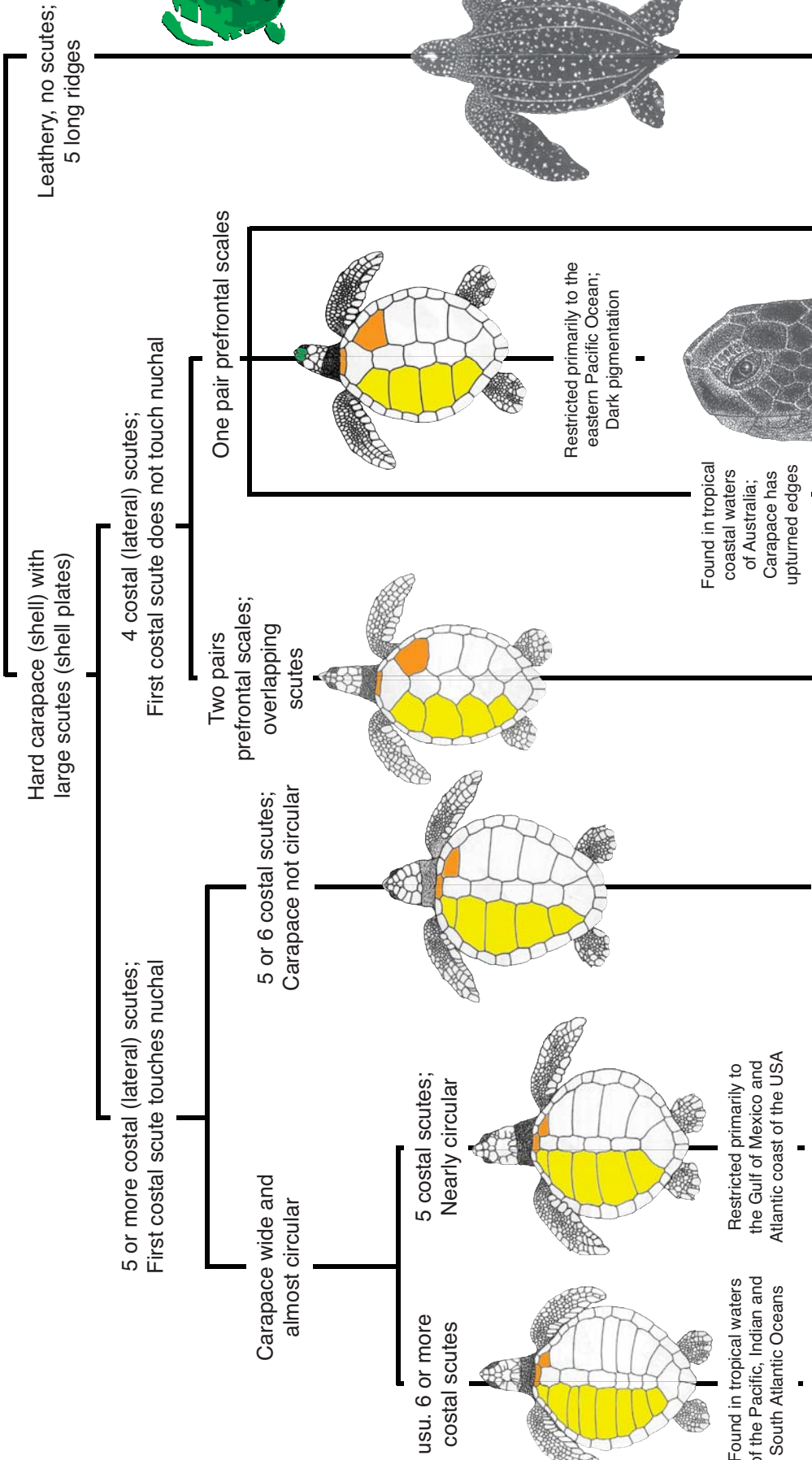
Loggerhead
Caretta caretta



Kemp's Ridley
Lepidochelys kempii



Olive Ridley
Lepidochelys olivacea



Species Descriptions

Common Name

Spanish Name

Scientific Name

Leatherback

Baula, Tortuga Laúd, Tora

Dermochelys coriacea

Color dark gray/black with white spots **Carapace** tapered; leathery with 5 ridges

Max Length 165 - 190+ cm **Plastron** relatively small

Max Weight 400 - 500 kg **Head** tooth-like notch on either side of upper jaw; no scales

Range all oceans, subarctic to tropical; pelagic

Green Turtle

Tortuga Verde, Tortuga Blanca

Chelonia mydas

Color J: radiating streaks; A: brown, buff **Carapace** 4 costal scutes

Max Length 120 cm **Plastron** yellowish; 4 inframarginal scutes

Max Weight 230 kg **Head** round face; serrated jaw; 1 pair elongate prefrontal scales

Range all subtropical and tropical seas; bays and coastal waters

Black Turtle*

Tortuga Negra, Prieta

Chelonia mydas

Color black or grayish with black markings **Carapace** 4 costal scutes

Max Length 90 cm **Plastron** cream to gray; 4 inframarginal scutes

Max Weight 150 kg **Head** round face; serrated jaw; 1 pair elongate prefrontal scales

Range East Pacific Ocean; bays and coastal waters

*The status of the Black turtle or east Pacific green turtle, sometime referred to as *Chelonia agassizii* or *C. mydas agassizii*, remains uncertain. Recent genetic evidence supports an Atlantic-Mediterranean vs. Indian-Pacific grouping, while morphological and behavioral data suggest an east Pacific species or subspecies.

Flatback Turtle

Kikila, Tortuga Franca Oriental

Natator depressus

Color olive grey **Carapace** 4 costal scutes; broad and round; upturned margins

Max Length 100 cm **Plastron** yellowish; 4 inframarginal scutes

Max Weight 90 kg **Head** preocular scale; wide; flat; triangular

Range tropical coastal Australia

Hawksbill Turtle

Tortuga Carey

Eretmochelys imbricata

Color amber and brown streaks **Carapace** 4 costal scutes; (usually) overlapping scutes; oval

Max Length 90 - 110+ cm **Plastron** cream with dark blotches front and rear; 4 inframarginal scutes

Max Weight 80 kg **Head** curved beak; distinct overbite; 2 pair prefrontal scales

Range all oceans; tropical waters; reef areas

Loggerhead

Caguama, Amarilla, Cabezona, Tortuga Boba *Caretta caretta*

Color red brown to brown **Carapace** longer than wide; 5 or more costal scutes, first very small

Max Length 90 - 110 cm **Plastron** yellow to orange, 3 inframarginal scutes

Max Weight 100 - 180 kg **Head** large head; 4 or more prefrontal scales

Range all oceans; primarily temperate waters; near shore, often associate with structures (i.e., wrecks, platforms)

Kemp's Ridley

Tortuga Lora, Cotorra

Lepidochelys kempii

Color gray to light olive green **Carapace** round; 5 (sometimes 6) costal scutes

Max Length 70 cm **Plastron** white to yellow; 4 inframarginal scutes with pores

Max Weight 40 - 50 kg **Head** triangular; relatively large; 2 pair prefrontal scales

Range Gulf of Mexico, eastern USA; coastal; < 16° N

Olive Ridley

Tortuga Golfina, Tortuga Olivacea, Parlama *Lepidochelys olivacea*

Color gray to olive green **Carapace** nearly round; 6 - 9 costal scutes, number may be asymmetrical

Max Length 70 - 80 cm **Plastron** cream/white; 4 inframarginal scutes with pores

Max Weight 45 - 60 kg **Head** triangular; relatively large; 2 pair prefrontal scales

Range tropical waters of Pacific, Indian and South Atlantic Oceans; pelagic

Produced in cooperation with:



Report sea turtles sighted during REEF surveys as an additional species on the back of your survey report form. Visit <<http://www.reef.org/data/seaturtle.htm>> for more information.

SUGGESTED REFERENCES

Bjorndal, KA (Editor). 1995. *Biology and Conservation of Sea Turtles* (Revised Edition). Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC.

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