Project Period	02/01/2012 - 08/01/2012
Award Amount	$9,550.00
Matching Contributions	$10,000.00
Project Location Description (from Proposal)	The Darien Gap includes approximately 600 kilometers of beaches, as well extensive swamplands and mangroves estuaries, representing ideal hawksbill nesting habitat in the eastern Pacific
Project Summary (from Proposal)	Research and conservation activities to stabilize/increase eastern Pacific hawksbills
Summary of Accomplishments	18 communities were visited and 64 inhabitants were interviewed for information on hawksbills in the Darien Gap region of Pacific Panama and Colombia. 14 and 22 key nesting beaches for hawksbills were identified in Colombia and Panama, respectively Nesting season for hawksbills in Colombia reportedly extends from August through October with the peak in August. The same months apply for Panama with the peak in September. Nine key index beaches for nesting hawksbills in Panama in order of importance are Playa Caracoles, Cocalito, Isla Iguana, Gicacal, Sugaran, Playa Brava , Trinidad and Playa del Muerto. Seven index-nesting beaches for hawksbills were identified in Colombia: Chaguera, Coredo, Tortuguero, Octavia, Curiche, Guarin. Local inhabitants recognized the hawksbill turtle as the second most common nesting species along the coast of the Darien Gap region. Illegal nest harvest is higher at beaches in Panama compared to Colombia. Local inhabitants in both countries agree that there has been a dramatic decline in the number of nesting females at the major reproductive areas in the last 20 years. Hawksbills are observed along much of the Panama-Colombia coast, mainly at areas consisting of coral and rocky reef substrates. Gillnets and longlines are reportedly the fishing gear responsible for the highest incidental capture of hawksbills The main threats to hawksbills in the Darien region are poaching, direct harvest and the illegal tortoiseshell trade.
Lessons Learned	It is crucial to inform local inhabitants and authorities about the aim of the project from the very beginning in order to be accepted and for gathering high quality data. It is important local people be included as part of the research to avoid resistance and for better access to the information. Planning and logistics are fundamental for the project implementation according to the work plan and for effective funding expenditure Engagement of national environmental authorities is key to ensure the success of the fieldwork. Institutional arrangements and partnerships are critical for reducing costs, risks and for obtaining high quality outcomes. Is important to identify the target people that interact with the species

for the achievement of more comprehensive and reliable information

Is better to have people gathered in the same place in order to conduct surveys rather than going door by door doing personal interviews

Conservation Activities	Evaluate hawksbill nesting and foraging activity in the Darien Gap
Progress Measures	# of miles of beach/coast monitored
Value at Grant Completion	200
Conservation Activities	Evaluate hawksbill nesting and foraging activity in the Darien Gap
Progress Measures	Other (# of communities visited)
Value at Grant Completion	18
Conservation Activities	Evaluate hawksbill nesting and foraging activity in the Darien Gap
Progress Measures	Other (# of interviews conducted)
Value at Grant Completion	68
Conservation Activities	Local outreach and education
Progress Measures	# of community members participating
Value at Grant Completion	350
Conservation Activities	Local outreach and education
Progress Measures	Other (# of workshops held)
Value at Grant Completion	8
Conservation Activities	Promote bi-national collaboration and hawksbill conservation
Progress Measures	Other (# of organizations involved in the project)
Value at Grant Completion	12

Conservation Outcome(s)	Hawksbill nesting sites identified in the Darien Gap
Conservation Indicator Metric(s)	Other (# of sites hosting nesting hawksbills in the Darien Gap)
Baseline Metric Value	N/A
Metric Value at Grant Completion	7
Long-term Goal Metric Value	21
Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	2015
Conservation Outcome(s)	Hawksbill foraging sites identified in the Darien Gap
Conservation Indicator Metric(s)	Other (# of sites hosting foraging hawksbills in the Darien Gap)
Baseline Metric Value	N/A
Metric Value at Grant Completion	7
Long-term Goal Metric Value	35
Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	2015
Conservation Outcome(s)	Influence fishermen and coastal community members' perspectives and actions towards hawksbills
Conservation Indicator Metric(s)	Other (% of Darien Gap communities engaged by project staff)
Baseline Metric Value	0%
Metric Value at Grant Completion	90%
Long-term Goal Metric Value	100%
Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	2017

Final Programmatic Report Narrative

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed ten (10) pages; do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line final programmatic report task as instructed.

1. Summary of Accomplishments

18 communities were visited and 64 inhabitants were interviewed for information on hawksbills in the Darien Gap region of Pacific Panama and Colombia.
14 and 22 key nesting beaches for hawksbills were identified in Colombia and Panama, respectively
Nesting season for hawksbills in Colombia reportedly extends from August through October with the peak in August. The same months apply for Panama with the peak in September.
Nine key index beaches for nesting hawksbills in Panama in order of importance are Playa Caracoles, Cocalito, Isla Iguana, Gicacal, Sugaran, Playa Brava , Trinidad and Playa del Muerto.
Seven index-nesting beaches for hawksbills were identified in Colombia: Chaguera, Coredo, Tortuguero, Octavia, Curiche, Guarin.
Local inhabitants recognized the hawksbill turtle as the second most common nesting species along the coast of the Darien Gap region.
Illegal nest harvest is higher at beaches in Panama compared to Colombia.
Local inhabitants in both countries agree that there has been a dramatic decline in the number of nesting females at the major reproductive areas in the last 20 years.
Hawksbills are observed along much of the Panama-Colombia coast, mainly at areas consisting of coral and rocky reef substrates.
Gillnets and longlines are reportedly the fishing gear responsible for the highest incidental capture of hawksbills
The main threats to hawksbills in the Darien region are poaching, direct harvest and the illegal tortoiseshell trade.

2. Project Activities & Outcomes

Activities

- Evaluate hawksbill nesting and foraging activity in the Darien Gap
- Local outreach and education
- Promote bi-national collaboration and hawksbill conservation

Outcomes

- Hawksbill nesting sites identified in the Darien Gap
- Hawksbill foraging sites identified in the Darien Gap
- Influence fishermen and coastal community members
- perspectives and actions towards hawksbills

3. Lessons Learned

It is crucial to inform local inhabitants and authorities about the aim of the project from the very beginning in order to be accepted and for gathering high quality data.

It is important local people be included as part of the research to avoid resistance and for better access to the information.

Planning and logistics are fundamental for the project implementation according to the work plan and for effective funding expenditure

Engagement of national environmental authorities is key to ensure the success of the fieldwork.

Institutional arrangements and partnerships are critical for reducing costs, risks and for obtaining high quality outcomes.

Is important to identify the target people that interact with the species for the achievement of more comprehensive and reliable information

Is better to have people gathered in the same place in order to conduct surveys rather than going door by door doing personal interviews

4. Dissemination

Leaflets with species identification cues were distributed broadly among local stakeholders in both countries. In addition workshops and meetings were held in every visited village to inform inhabitants about the current plight of hawksbills and other marine turtle species. Spanish version report was also distributed to environmental authorities in Colombia and Panama and to community councils along the coastal Pacific coast of the two countries..

5. Project Documents

Materials were uploaded as requested below

Include in your final programmatic report, via the Uploads section of this task, the following:

- 2-10 representative photos from the project. Photos need to have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi;
- Report publications, Power Point (or other) presentations, GIS data, brochures, videos, outreach tools, press releases, media coverage;
- Any project deliverables per the terms of your grant agreement.

POSTING OF FINAL REPORT: *This report and attached project documents may be shared by the Foundation and any Funding Source for the Project via their respective websites. In the event that the Recipient intends to claim that its final report or project documents contains material that does not have to be posted on such websites because it is protected from disclosure by statutory or regulatory provisions, the Recipient shall clearly mark all such potentially protected materials as "PROTECTED" and provide an explanation and complete citation to the statutory or regulatory source for such protection.*