

World Wetlands Day 2008 and marine turtle conservation in Pakistan

Ahmad Khan

*Programme Manager Regional Programmes, Pakistan Wetlands Programme,
House No. 3, Street No. 4, F-7/3, Islamabad, Pakistan.
Email: akhan@wwf.org.pk*

The Pakistan Wetlands Programme and Pakistan State Oil Company Limited celebrated the World Wetlands Day 2008 by organising a seminar in Gawadar, a town on the Makran Coast. The seminar on tagging of marine turtles was held under the Regional Programmes of Pakistan Wetlands Programme. The local community, heads of local educational institutes and representatives from local government and partner organisations attended the seminar.

Pakistan State Oil donated the first transmitter to the Pakistan Wetlands Programme, which is titled "PSO TURTLE". The transmitter will be put on a

green turtle in next few months, when turtles start arriving on the coast of Makran. Mr. Waqar Ahmad, a representative from the Pakistan State Oil also participated in the seminar.

Mr. Ahmad Khan briefed the participants about the Pakistan Wetlands Programme, objectives of the satellite tagging and its procedure. The Chief Guest of the occasion, Mr. Majid Sohrabi, appreciated the effort and stressed for more efforts to ensure the sustainability of the Makran Coast and its wetland resources not only for the current but also for future generations.



Figure 1: Majid Sohrabi, Tehsil Nazim Gawadar, addressing the seminar