

IOTN AND MTB COORDINATED SPECIAL ISSUES ON RESCUE AND REHABILITATION OF SEA TURTLES

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Many sea turtle populations worldwide are impacted by anthropogenic activities. Even in healthy populations, individual turtles can be harmed and affected by a wide range of threats such as interactions with fisheries leading to entanglement, hooking, gear ingestion and amputation or other injury, boat strikes causing blunt-force trauma, deliberate injuries that can take many forms, and extreme environmental conditions leading to cold-stunning. There is a growing network of rescue organisations and rehabilitation centres across both the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean region, that offer high quality treatment and rehabilitation of turtles suffering from one or more of these impacts.

The purpose of a co-ordinated special issue between IOTN and MedTurtle Bulletin (MTB) is to highlight the work being carried out by these organisations and at these centres, bring our collective attention to the numbers of turtles being treated and the range of impacts they are experiencing, and to promote the huge potential that operating rescue and rehabilitation centres have for raising awareness about the biology and conservation of sea turtles and the marine environment.

We are seeking submissions on the topics of sea turtle rescue and rehabilitation, including protocols, stakeholder involvement, successful and unsuccessful treatments, diet and care, environmental enrichment, assessment of behaviour and outcomes after release, and related education and awareness activities. The goal is to produce coordinated and synchronised themed issues of IOTN and MTB in issues released mid-2024. IOTN and MTB will present similar editorials and reference each other to highlight exciting updates and insights that we anticipate will be published in these special issues.

Submissions, following formatting guidelines, should be emailed to the relevant region at the addresses below by February 2024:

Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia region
Email IOTN: iotn.editors@gmail.com
Instructions for authors: <https://www.iotn.org/submission/>

Mediterranean region
Email MTB: editor.mtb@gmail.com
Instructions for authors: <https://bit.ly/485bQjB>