

# Overview of the IOSEA Site Network

23 January 2012  
Bangkok, Thailand  
IOSEA SS6

## History

- 2004 -- 2<sup>nd</sup> Signatory States Meeting IOSEA Site Network Concept Introduced
- 2005 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Signatory States Meeting - Secretariat presents proposal for Site Network
- 2008 - 4<sup>th</sup> Signatory States Meeting - SS agree to form a Site Network Working Group
  - 2008 Advisory Committee meeting
- 2009-2011- Site Network Working Group met via conference call

## Site Network Working Group

- Participants -
  - Australia, Mauritius, Oman, Philippines, United Kingdom, United States, South Africa
- Input from the Advisory Committee

## Discussions of the Site Network Group

- December 16, 2009 - First conference call
  - Key Discussion Points -
    - Discussion of White Paper of Options for Implementation
    - Objective of the Site Network - "ecological importance" vs. "raising profile of critical sites."
    - Role of countries in the designation process
    - Nature of the network
    - Costs

## Discussions of the Site Network Group

- March 17, 2010
  - Discussion of a consultancy to develop the criteria (advertised on Cturtle)
  - Discussion of the role of government
- Spring/Summer 2010 - Draft Criteria and Framework reviewed
- September 2010 - Second draft circulated to WG and AC
- October 2010 - Third draft circulated to WG and AC
- January 2011 - WG conference call

## Discussions of the Site Network

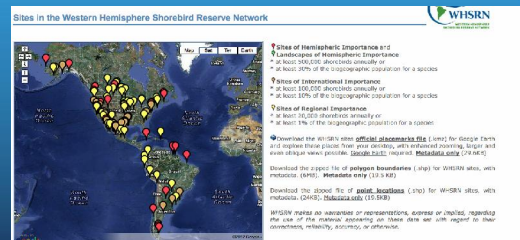
- February 2011 - Dr. Hamann and Dr. Nel test the criteria
  - Significant comments made, revisions to the criteria and scoring
- September 2011 - 4<sup>th</sup> draft circulated to the IOSEA FPs

## Purpose of the Site Network

- Provide a regional mechanism to enhance the **conservation of sites of importance** to marine turtles that might otherwise not be adequately protected, that will attain additional benefits from being in a network irrespective of their current status, and that serve as regional models of effective governance;
- Derive ecological and governance benefits that are not possible to achieve by managing individual sites in isolation;
- Contribute, through enhanced regional conservation of marine turtles and their habitats, to more effective maintenance of ecosystem services that support human well-being; and
- Catalyse opportunities for participatory resource management and community development centred on marine turtles, through network-wide information exchange.

## Examples of Existing Site Networks

- Important Bird Areas
- Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network



## Proposed Process

- 1.) Identify a potential site
- 2.) Complete site information sheet
- 3.) Signatory States nominate sites
  - Using nomination template
- 4.) Nominations reviewed by the Advisory Committee, Recommendations Made to Signatory States
- 3.) Signatory States designate sites
- 4.) Site Inventory
- 5.) Management Plan

## Criteria for Evaluation

- 1.) Network-wide Ecological Criteria (min 10/max 20)
  - 2.) Ecological and Biological Criteria (min 20/max 38)
  - 3.) Governance Criteria (min 20/max 42)
  - 4.) Socio-economic and political criteria (min 15/37)
- Total minimum score -- 75

## Funding

- Option 1 - Limited to No New Funding
  - Support from the IOSEA Secretariat, webpage, sister sites
- Option 2 - Moderate New Funding Available
  - New Site Management Plan
- Option 3 - Substantial New Funding
  - Improved network coordination
  - Infrastructure development
  - Human resource development and capacity building
  - Conservation Interventions