



2nd Hicatee Conservation Forum and Workshop in Belize

“Progress Toward Long-term Conservation of *Dermatemys mawii*, the Hicatee”

AGENDA

Thursday, February 25th

- 9:30 – 9:35 Welcome by BFREE - Jacob Marlin, BFREE
9:35 – 9:40 Welcoming remarks and introduction - Kalene Eck - Belize Fisheries Department
9:40 – 9:45 The role of The Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) - Rick Hudson, TSA
9:45 – 10:00 The Hicatee Conservation and Monitoring Network - Felicia Cruz - Belize Fisheries Department

SESSION 1 – BACKGROUND

- 10:00 – 11:00 *Dermatemys mawii* in Mexico: what was learned in 20 years in the field and laboratory - Richard Vogt, PhD
11:00 – 11:30 Distribution and DNA analysis of *D.mawii* throughout its range – Gracia Gonzalez, PhD
11:30 – 12:00 Recap of 2010 Belize country-wide survey - Thomas Rainwater, PhD, Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, Clemson University

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

SESSION 2 – CAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

- 1:00 – 2:00 Tour of the Hicatee Conservation and Research Center (HCRC), Thomas Pop – HCRC Manager
2:00 – 2:30 The Hicatee Conservation and Research Center – lessons learned – Jacob Marlin, BFREE
2:30 – 2:45 *D. mawii* in captivity in US zoos, past and present –Dustin Smith, North Carolina Zoological Park, USA

SESSION 3 – RESEARCH

- 2:45 – 3:15 Research and Monitoring in northern Belize - Dustin Smith, NC Zoological Park and Venetia Briggs, PhD, Lamanai Research Center/ University of Florida
3:15 – 3:45 Ecological and Distribution Assessment of Hicatee in Southern Belize - Elmar Requena , TIDE
3:45 – 4:00 Break
4:00 – 4:30 Central America River Turtle Current Status and Conservation Activities in Guatemala – Richard Vogt, PhD
4:30 – 5:00 Field Research on *D. mawii* in Mexico - Andrea Del Rocio Barcenas Garcia and Richard Vogt, PhD
5:00 – 5:30 Wild diet of *Dermatemys mawii* assessed by stomach contents analysis, AND Utilizing growth rates to determine the onset of sexual maturity - Nichole Bishop, PhD student, University of Florida
5:30 – 7:00 Icebreaker/Social
7:00 -8:00 Dinner
8:00 - ??? Guided night hikes into forest and night viewing of the HCRC

Friday, February 26th

7:30 – 8:00 Breakfast

SESSION 4 – LAW ENFORCEMENT

8:00 – 8:30 Updates on proposed regulations, law enforcement, what is being permitted and promoted in Belize, Felicia Cruz - Belize Fisheries Department

8:30 – 9:00 Discussion

SESSION 5 – EDUCATION and OUTREACH

9:00 – 9:30 Raising national awareness of the Hicatee and public support for its protection - Elmar Requena, TIDE

9:30 – 9:45 Education and Outreach Efforts in northern Belize - Dustin Smith, NC Zoological Park, and Venetia Briggs, PhD, Lamanai Research Center/ University of Florida

9:45 – 10:15 Education and Outreach Efforts - Felicia Cruz, Belize Fisheries Department

10:15 – 10:30 Break

Workshop 1 – IUNC RED LIST MEETING

10:30 – 12:00 *Dermatemys* and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species - Peter Paul Van Dijk, Global Wildlife Conservation

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

Workshop 2 - FUTURE EFFORTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

1:00 – 3:00 Discussion led by Rick Hudson, TSA

Topics to be discussed include research, captive management, outreach and education, other

3:00 – 3:30 Next steps and follow up

4:00 Depart