

TIME LAPSE RECORDINGS OF NESTING LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES IN ZAKYNTHOS, GREECE: A TOOL FOR EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND NESTING BEACH MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT. Time lapse recording denotes the video technique of speeding up time by taking a photo frame every few seconds and playing back all the frames in a normal rate (usually 24 frames per second). Combined with a high sensitivity camera and the natural moon light, this technique is capable of recording the night nesting activity of sea turtles with no use of artificial lights. Time lapse recording has already been used successfully by the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge in Florida for a variety of purposes. In this session, we will present a series of time lapse videos of nesting loggerhead turtles in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos that were recorded during the 2013 and 2014 nesting seasons. Applications concerning their potential use in education, conservation and research are also discussed. The presentation will provide several benefits for children and young people. Time lapse recordings form an entertaining way of learning the nesting process of sea turtles and their general behaviour on the beach. Since the video will also exhibit the work of ARCHELON volunteers during night surveys (tagging), it will form an excellent way to promote sea turtle conservation.

Presenter: Kostas Papafitsoros (Symposium participant)

Location: Zakynthos island, Greece

Web links of sample videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuqZTdW3B04>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onH-rsDKtjk>

Format of video: QT movie (but other formats can be also available if needed)

Duration: Around 10 minutes

Narration: Still frames with written narration in English

Intended audience: Broad audience

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