



Solomon Islands National Plan of Action for Marine Turtles 2023-2027

1 The Solomon Islands National Plan of Action for Marine Turtles 2023 - 2027 was formally launched on 17 July 2024. The NPOA will support the maintenance of healthy populations of marine turtles that nest and forage in Solomon Islands, for the benefit of Solomon Islanders. All species of marine turtles are threatened with extinction, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species.

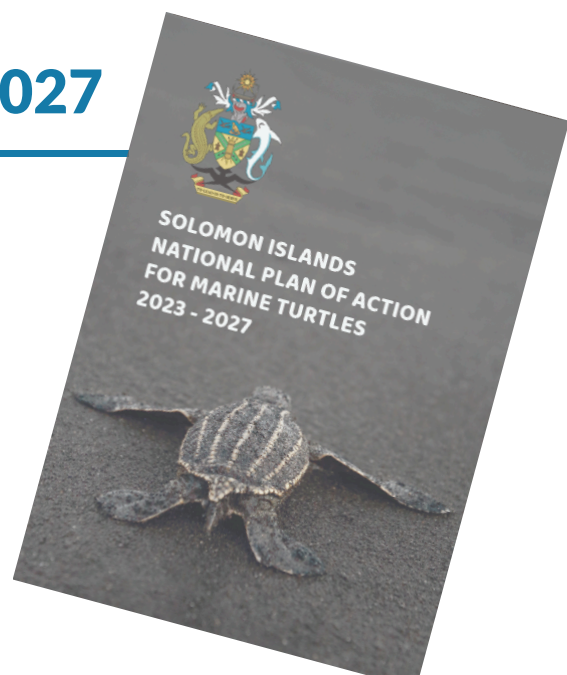
2 Solomon Islands is a key foraging and nesting site for the critically endangered hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), the endangered green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), the critically endangered population of Pacific leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*), the endangered South Pacific subpopulation of loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*), and vulnerable olive ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*).

3 The NPOA outlines measures for improving the sustainable management of marine turtles in Solomon Island waters. These include supporting implementation of legislation; education and awareness; research and monitoring; capacity building; and sustainable financing for the protection, management, research and monitoring initiatives.

It recognises the need to continue building capacity within Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources and Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology to deliver and implement activities through partnership and empowerment of local stakeholders & communities.

4 The NPOA demonstrates the Solomon Islands Government's commitment to conservation of marine turtles in the region and to fulfilling its obligations under regional and international agreements, relating to the conservation of marine turtles.

5 Solomon Islands is a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). CITES is an international agreement designed to ensure that international trade in animals and plants does not threaten their survival in the wild. All species of marine turtle appear in the CITES appendix I, which means that international trade of that species is banned. A species can be taken off the Appendix if it can be shown that its populations have reached sustainable numbers in the wild and that sustainable use can be achieved. Monitoring and understanding species populations is therefore imperative.



Female leatherback turtle/Canva Stock

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