

Jennifer Schultz - NOAA Federal

From: Jennifer Schultz - NOAA Federal
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 9:52 AM
To: craig.gorsuch.ctr@us.af.mil; AnnMarie Lauritsen; kristen.rex.ctr@us.af.mil
Subject: Green turtle critical habitat

Hi Craig and Kristen,

My name is Jenny Schultz, and I work for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Together with US Fish and Wildlife Service, we are starting the critical habitat designation process for green sea turtles (we just proposed 11 DPSs for listing under the Endangered Species Act).

The Pacific Islands Regional Office of NMFS gave me your names as contacts who may have spatial information on green turtles: for example, where they nest, forage, or migrate. Also, I was wondering if you may know of any Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMPs) that include green turtles. Under the Endangered Species Act, the Services do not designate critical habitat on DoD areas where we conclude that an INRMP provides a benefit to the species:

(B)(i) The Secretary shall not designate as critical habitat any lands or other geographical areas owned or controlled by the Department of Defense, or designated for its use, that are subject to an integrated natural resources management plan prepared under section 101 of the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C. 670a), if the Secretary determines in writing that such plan provides a benefit to the species for which critical habitat is proposed for designation (16 U.S.C. 1533(a)(3)(B)(i)).

Please let me know if you have any data or INRMPs that we should consider when identifying areas important to green turtles.

Thank you,

Jenny
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