

CONSERVATION & SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER



FREGATE ISLAND PRIVATE
SEYCHELLES

OCTOBER 2020

The Hawksbill turtles are back!

During the month of October we counted 50 visits of turtles along our beaches (tracks found) and 20 successful nests.

Here is the current total since the beginning of the nesting season:

Number of tracks counted: 63

Number of nests: 40



During this month, 'confused' Hawksbill turtles were found in strange locations...

Clever boy

Our repeater guest, Mr. SCA8737, was found multiple times on Grande Anse beach resting. The team thought that the turtle was in trouble, so after a quick examination he was released in the water. Now our friend is coming back every two weeks, same location and same time. We think he has learnt how to rest outside of the water, clever turtle...



How do we know that it is a male?
It has a very long tail

She thought she was a tortoise

Hawksbill turtle found roaming along airstrip. The Hawksbill turtle was found in the middle of airstrip and after checking her health status we accompanied her back to the sea using our buggy as a turtle taxi...



Training is always on-going in the Conservation and Sustainability department. There is always something new to learn and this month we concentrated on making sure that all the members of the team knew what to do during an encounter with a nesting turtle. The training was on managing a nesting turtle, how to understand and recognize the different nesting stages, how to measure and tag a turtle. Guest interaction and involvement was a focus of our training too. Now the new members of the team are able to guide a nature walk, a night walk and manage guests while a turtle is nesting. That's what we love doing, passing the knowledge and information to the new generations, empowering them and making them confident and able to manage the work independently.



October was the month for our marine survey and BRUVs (Baited Remote Underwater Video) deployment. A team of researcher came on Fregate Island to collect data for the SeyCCAT funded project in collaboration with GIF (Green Island Foundation), the University of Seychelles and Coralive for the ***'Marine Biodiversity Baseline assessment around Fregate Island, the eastern most Seychelles 'Inner' granitic island'***.

We collected data on the marine environment around Fregate Island and even if the weather and sea conditions weren't the best we managed to complete our data collection successfully.

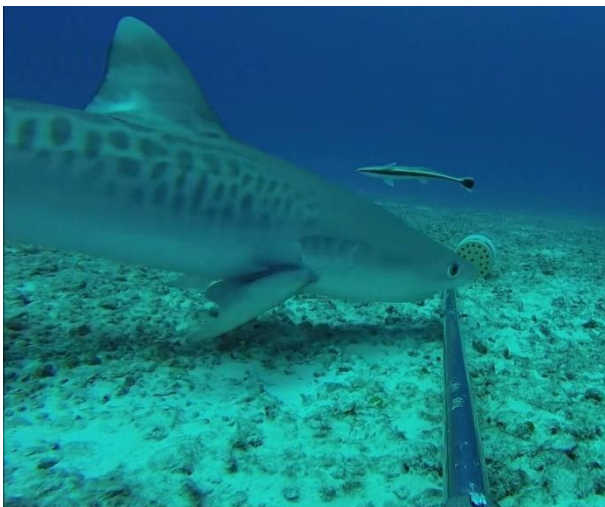




Bowmouth guitarfish - Gitar/Pantouf - Critically Endangered



Whitespotted wedgefish - Vyolon - Critically Endangered



And some other species of sharks

Some pictures from the BRUVs (Baited Remote Underwater Video) deployment. There were really special discoveries here around Fregate Island Private which make our island even more important from an ecological point of view as we have found two Critically endangered species of Guitar shark living around the island.

Our traditional baby tortoise release for the month of October has happened and it was very successful with the release of 9 baby tortoises who gained freedom on Fregate Island Private. The baby tortoises were first prepared and got ready by all the children present on the island and then transported to the spa area where we organized a fun 'tortoise race'.



The collaboration between Abalobi and Fregate Island Private is always looking for new ideas and ways to implement the 'hook to cook' philosophy into our daily operations. We have developed brochures and posters to inform our guests and staff about the collaboration and the initiative. At the same time more fishermen are getting on board by creating their own profile in our fishermen app.



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RETHINKING THE WAY WE EAT FISH

FREGATE ISLAND PRIVATE
SEYCHELLES

FREGATE ISLAND PRIVATE IS COMMITTED
TO SUPPORTING SMALL-SCALE FISHING
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RETHINKING THE WAY WE EAT FISH



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TRANSFORMATION OF THE
SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES SECTOR

F R O M H O O K T O C O O K



Our *Nephrosperma vanhoutteanum* are doing well and growing nicely .

Verschaffeltia splendida another of our endemic palm trees of Seychelles. We finally managed to have one seed to sprout and we are so happy to see how well it is doing.





‘The question is, are we happy to suppose that our grandchildren may never be able to see an elephant except in a picture book?’

Sir David Attenborough