SWOT Team Member Spotlight

Annette Broderick (United Kingdom)
Except for my first assignment researching leatherback turtles in Trinidad and Tobago in 1991, I have remained principally in the Mediterranean studying green and loggerhead populations. After completing my Ph.D. on sea turtles in Cyprus, I was appointed Lecturer at the University of Exeter Centre for Ecology and Conservation, where I work today. Although my research and outreach work began with sea turtle conservation, it has since grown to include research on the effects of human activities on marine biodiversity. *SWOT Report* provides an invaluable reservoir of data that help scientists like me better understand how to reconcile the needs of priority sea turtle populations with those of humans.

Alfredo Mate (Mozambique)
Five sea turtle species are found in Mozambique, where I live and work. As a data analyst for the World Wildlife Fund, I study the pressures on Mozambique’s sea turtle populations, and I work with conservationists like those on the SWOT Team to develop sound conservation practices. Although I collect data and do research on many marine species, I focus mostly on sea turtles because of their iconic status as flagship species for the protection and health of the oceans. I hope that the data I collect and submit to *SWOT Report* will help move forward the global effort for sea turtle and ocean conservation.

Kei Okamoto (Japan)
I have been studying sea turtles in Japan since 2005, when I was an undergraduate student at Mie University and a member of its sea turtle research and conservation club. For the past two years, I have been completing my graduate degree at Tokyo University and working for the Sea Turtle Association of Japan, and I will soon begin working toward a Ph.D. I am currently studying the taxonomy of green and black turtles in Japan and was excited to learn about the “green turtle photo project” (page 34) in this issue of *SWOT Report*, because it gives a global perspective to green turtle taxonomy that is not available elsewhere. I like *SWOT Report* because it contains information about unique turtle populations and projects all over the world that helps me gain a better understanding of sea turtle status globally.

Doug Perrine (United States)
I have always been fascinated by the ocean. Since I first used a Nikonos camera while working for the Marine Resources Division in Pohnpei, Micronesia, I have been photographically documenting life below the water’s surface. My work has been published in thousands of publications, including National Geographic Magazine, and in 2004, I was awarded the title of Wildlife Photographer of the Year by BBC Wildlife magazine and London’s Natural History Museum. I have written several books on marine wildlife and continue to work regularly on photographic and writing assignments. I contribute my photos to *SWOT Report* because I am inspired by its mission to tell meaningful and widely accessible stories of ocean conservation through the perspective of sea turtles.

Jeffrey Seminoff (United States)
I am the program leader of the Marine Turtle Ecology and Assessment Program at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Southwest Fisheries Science Center and the current president of the International Sea Turtle Society. I am also an active member of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and was the assessor for the most recent green turtle IUCN Red List Assessment. I am primarily a researcher, and my studies focus on understanding the movements and foraging ecology of sea turtles using an array of tools, particularly satellite telemetry and stable isotope analyses. My work has taken me around the world, especially throughout Latin America, where much of my research has taken place. I am continually impressed with the SWOT Team’s ability to assemble sea turtle research from around the world, creating one global effort for sea turtle conservation and truly using sea turtles as flagship species for the ocean.