



Sea Turtle Management Project

Worksheet to Accompany the Abridged
PhotoDocumentary by Rachel Teller

1. Thousands of people across the world volunteer their time to help ensure the survival of sea turtle species. What kinds of jobs do they do? _____

2. In South Carolina, the Department of _____ is in charge of coordinating the volunteer activities that affect sea turtles and their nests.

3. T/F: If it is raining, the volunteers wait until it stops before they patrol the beach for tracks.

4. A _____ is when the female comes out of the water, but does not lay a nest. Why do you think this happens sometimes? _____

5. What does it mean to leave a nest *in situ*? _____

6. Volunteers study the _____, like broken vegetation and where the sand was thrown, to infer the nest location within the body pit.

7. T/F: Volunteers probe the sand to allow air to get to the nest chamber.

8. A nest is always left _____ if the eggs have a chance to survive. A nest is left in its original place if it is...

> above the _____ line

> on the _____ side of the sand dune

> in an area with little _____

9. T/F: Nests are relocated as often as possible so volunteers can monitor them.

10. When relocation is necessary, volunteers must be very careful because rotating the eggs or moving them abruptly can cause _____ - _____ mortality, which means the embryo inside dies.

11. What criteria constitute a good alternative nest site?

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12. A _____ is a place where the eggs can incubate with limited threats from erosion and predators.

13. What is an exception to the rule that a nest must be moved within 12 hours? _____

14. How do the volunteers know when to expect the hatchlings to emerge? _____

15. Why do you think the volunteers wait a few days after the nest has boiled before they excavate it for an inventory? _____

16. _____ provide information about the reproductive health of the local sea turtle population.

17. T/F: After it boils, there are only empty shells left in the nest cavity.

18. T/F: The volunteers' work is finished once all of the nests have been inventoried.

19. Why do we need to have a management plan for sea turtles? Why can't the species recover on its own? _____

20. Now that you have learned about what others do, what are some things you could do to help ensure the survival of these marine reptiles?
