

# Marine Turtle Newsletter

## Loggerhead Sea Turtle Tagged in Brazil Caught by a Trawler in Waters of the Common Argentinian-Uruguayan Fishing Area

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On March 22, 2002 the trawler Besugo II incidentally caught an adult female loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in waters of the common Argentinian-Uruguayan Fishing Area (3610'S and 5605'W), near Rouen Bank, southwest of Montevideo. The turtle was dead when the net was hauled and it had only one tag with the number BR12309 (Monel 681 tag, National Band Co., Newport, KY, USA). The turtle was tagged on October 21, 1995 at one of Projeto TAMAR's stations in Arembepe, Bahia (12o45'S 38o10'W), and had not been observed in the seven intervening years. At the time of tagging, the turtle measured 107.5 cm CCLn-t. and 95.5 cm CCW. Measurements taken by the Karumbé Project seven years later were identical. Both projects use the measurement methods outlined by Bolten (1999).

This is the first loggerhead turtle tagged in Bahia and then recaptured by an Uruguayan fishing vessel. Almeida et al. (2000) registered a case in which a loggerhead sea turtle tagged in the Brazilian state of Espírito Santo, was found stranded in Uruguay. Together these data suggest that some Brazilian loggerhead sea turtles may migrate to Uruguayan waters to feed.

Currently, TAMAR and Karumbé are developing an "Action Plan for the Reduction of Incidental Sea Turtle Capture in Fisheries". The cooperation between both projects is extremely important to achieve success in the conservation of sea turtles in Brazil, Uruguay and elsewhere.

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ALMEIDA, A.P, C. BAPTISTOTTE & J.A. SCHNEIDER. 2000. Loggerhead turtle tagged in

Brazil found in Uruguay. [Marine Turtle Newsletter 87:10](#).

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