



MEDASSET
Mediterranean Association
to Save the Sea Turtles

Agenda Item 5.3:

Follow-up of Recommendation No. 95 (2002) on the conservation of marine turtles in Kazanlı (Turkey)

Survey September 2017

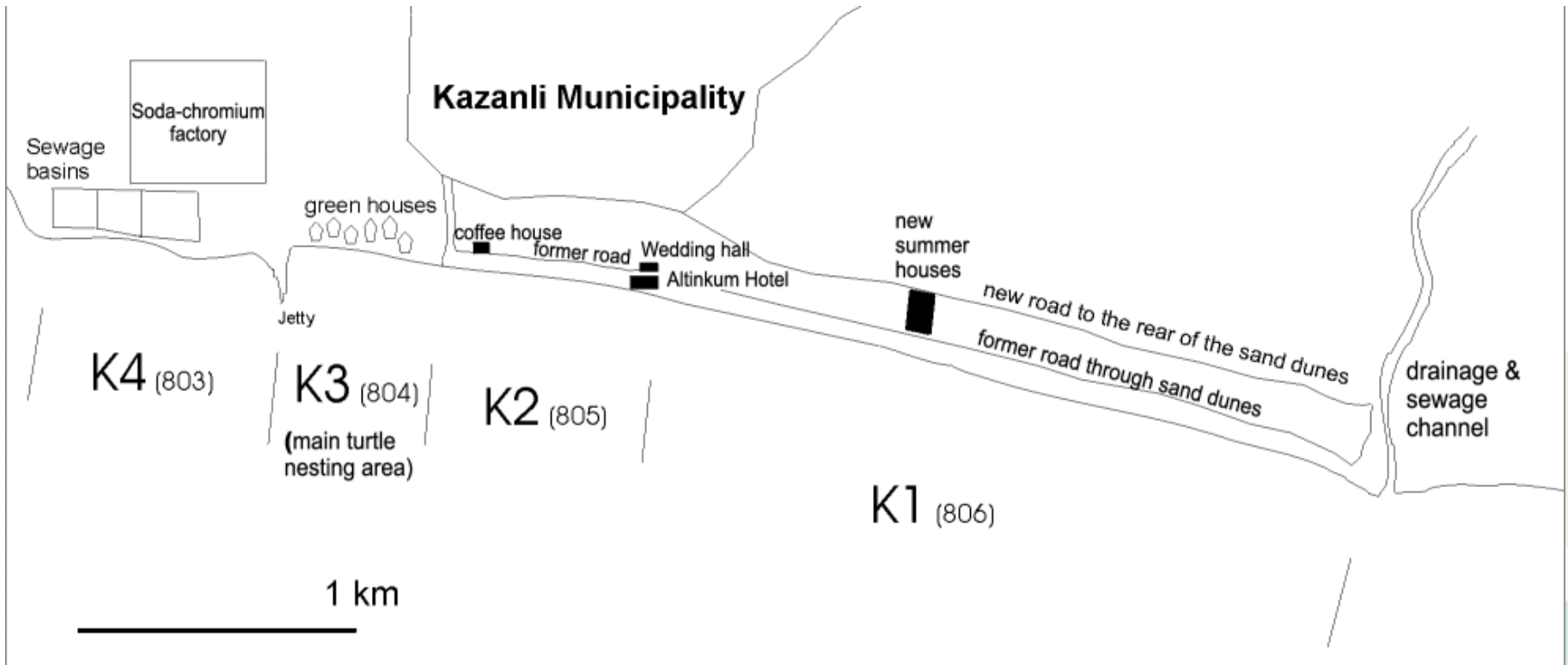
37th Meeting of the Standing Committee
Bern Convention

Wednesday 6 December 2017

Main green turtle nesting beaches in the Mediterranean & Location of Kazanli



Map of Kazanli green turtle nesting beach



THREATS

- ✓ Erosion
- ✓ Toxic waste pollution
- ✓ Litter, sewage & agriculture runoff
- ✓ Light pollution
- ✓ **Greenhouses & buildings**
- ✓ **Sand extraction**
- ✓ **Coastal fishing**
- ✓ **Low public awareness**

Measure N° 3:

Periodically removing the plastic debris from the beach

Marine debris was observed along the entire coast.



Garbage collected but not removed from the beach



Discarded greenhouse nets

Measure N° 12:

Applying appropriate treatment to sewage waters from Kazanlı, so as to free the back of the beach from pollution

The government's Kurumsal website is not functional.

Poor waste management observed. No environmental information available

Measure N° 4:

Screening the lights of the municipality of Kazanlı and the Soda-Chrome factory so as to avoid photo-pollution on the beach

Photo-pollution on the beach is clearly evident. No light screening has been installed.



Artificial light from the football court (K2 section)



Soda-Chrome factory at night (K4 section)



Artificial light from the wedding hall (K2 section)

Measure N° 6:

Setting in place a monitoring of beach erosion, so as to take remedial measures as needed:

Coastline erosion has progressed rapidly and disastrously over the years.

The beach front at area K3 has decreased dramatically and can no longer sustain any turtle nests.

Effective remedial measures need to be applied as a matter of great urgency.



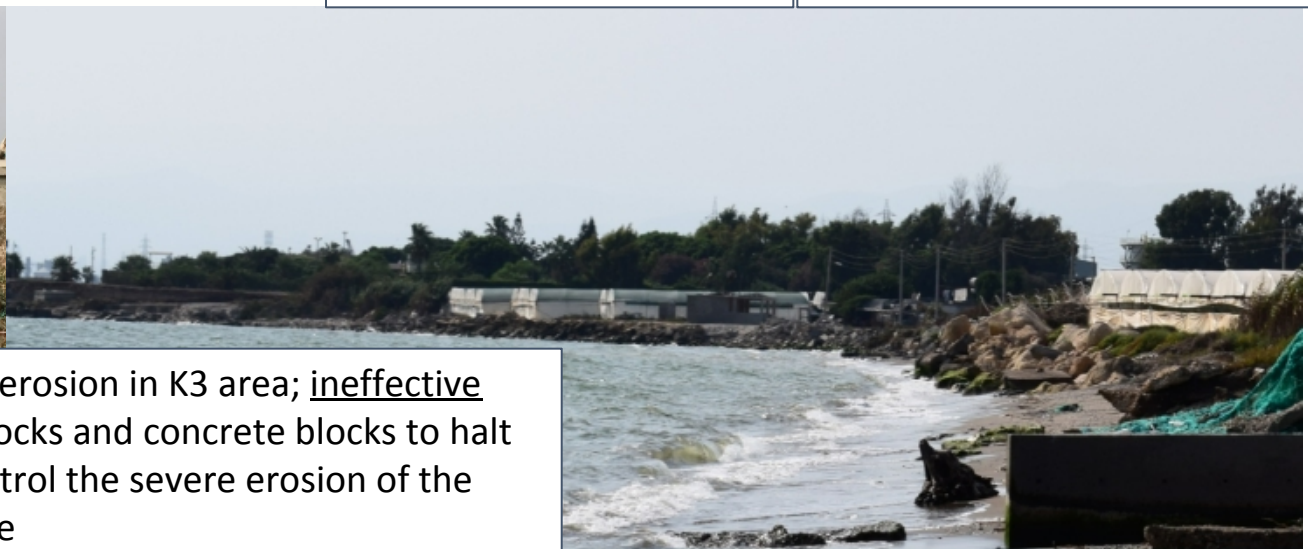
Effects of severe coastal erosion



Erosion of the coastline affecting the concrete wall of the local school yard



Coastal erosion in K3 area; ineffective use of rocks and concrete blocks to halt and control the severe erosion of the coastline



Measure N° 10:

Removing as appropriate the hazardous waste accumulated over the years close to the beach as a result of industrial activities

Soda chrome factory:

1.5 million tons of hazardous toxic waste covered with plastic sheeting have been deposited and remain right beside Kazanli nesting beach.

Little progress



View of the toxic waste slopes in 2015



View of the toxic waste slopes in 2017



Nesting green turtles are encrusted with calcium carbonate compounds due to the factory's discharges into the sea.

Recommendation No. 95 (2002) 2002-2017: little or no progress

Survey September 2017

- (Rec. No1) remove greenhouses : **not implemented**
- (Rec. No2) moving the taxi parking area : **implemented**
- (Rec. No3) remove plastic debris: **partially implemented**
- (Rec.No4) light screening : **partially implemented**
- (Rec.No6) monitoring beach erosion : **not addressed- erosion has increased**
- (Rec. No7) public awareness: **partially implemented**
- (Rec. No9) remove illegal building: **not implemented**
- (Rec. No10) remove hazardous waste: **waste remains**
- (Rec. No11) remove wedding hall: **not implemented**
- (Rec. No12) chemical analysis of discharges at sea: **no information**
- (Rec. No13) remove houses on beach: **not implemented**

Recommendation No. 95 (2002)

MEDASSET wishes to emphasise its concern about lack of implementation of:

Measure No. 6 for **erosion control** which continues at an appalling speed and represents a major threat which can undermine all other conservation efforts. Significant loss of beach calls for urgent and drastic measures that have yet to be taken.

Measure No. 10 for the **removal of the 1.7 million tons of highly toxic solid waste** located right next to Kazanli's green turtle nesting beach, posing a severe hazard for the habitat, the sea turtle nesting population, human health and the entire Mediterranean.

MEDASSET

calls upon the Turkish authorities:

- **To provide full progress report**
- **To urgently implement Recommendation No. 95 (2002)**

and

Urges the Standing Committee to keep this case file open, keeping Recommendation No 95 on the agenda for follow up, especially as with regard to the implementation of **effective erosion control and **toxic waste removal**.**



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Thank you for your kind attention!