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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

43<sup>rd</sup> meeting

Strasbourg, 27 November - 1 December 2023

**Open case-file: 2012/09**  
**Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara**  
**SPAs (Türkiye)**

**- GOVERNMENT REPORT -**

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**REPUBLIC OF TURKEY****Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry & Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change****25.10.2023****Government Report on Follow-up of Recommendations No. 182 and 183 (2015) on Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs (Turkey)****Background Information:**

Two different complaints, one about the degradation of the habitats of sea turtle nesting beaches in Fethiye and the other about that in Patara were submitted to the Secretariat in 2012 and 2013 respectively. The Bureau decided to address these two complaints in conjunction. In the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Standing committee, a casefile was opened for both of the complaints. In 2014, the Committee decided on conducting an on-the-spot appraisal to the relevant sites. In 2015, two recommendations, Recommendations No. 182 (2015) and No.183 (2015) were prepared following the on-the-spot appraisal. In the following years, the Standing Committee decided to keep the case file open, while urging the Turkish authorities to step up their current efforts and ensuring that both Recommendations [No. 182 (2015) and No. 183 (2015)] are fully implemented from that on.

**FETHIYE-GÖCEK SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREA AND THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND PLANNED TO BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION NO. 183 (2015)****1- Determination of Sea Turtles Nesting Areas and Beach Zoning on Fethiye Beach by Placing Wooden Posts**

After the nesting zone determination study prepared by analysing the data obtained from 20 years of work on Fethiye beach, nesting zones were determined and in line with this information, the boundaries of the nesting zone were drawn with wooden barriers on the entire Fethiye beach in 2021. Thus, physical interventions affecting the number of nests were prevented. These wooden barriers were actively used by the research team both in 2022 and 2023.

With this study, no human activity is allowed in this area. (Including beach furniture such as umbrellas, sunbeds and pavilions). Beach furniture is located behind the wooden barriers that determine the nesting zone. In areas where the beach is narrow, sunbeds are collected so that nesting activities are not affected. (Photos 1.1.1-1.1.3)

**2- Information and Warning Signs:**

New warning and awareness signs placed on Fethiye beach in 2022 are actively used. (Photos 1.2.1-1.2.2)

**3- Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Studies:**

The Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change has provided a budget to support the scientific team carrying out sea turtle conservation and monitoring activities for Fethiye beach. Sea turtle conservation and monitoring activities in Fethiye beach are carried out by Dr Doğan SÖZBİLEN (Biologist). In this context, protection activities such as 24-hour monitoring of the area, warning and raising awareness of beach users, and taking nests under protection continue in 2023. In addition to the indexed nesting beach, the research team also monitors nesting activity on surrounding beaches. The photo in Appendix 3.1 shows a nest detected on Inlice Beach in 2023. (Photos 1.3.1-1.3.4)

**4- Actions Against Predation:**

In order to protect the nests against predation, new prism cages (for raising awareness) and grid cages (against predation) of the same standards were built to be used on Fethiye beaches (Photos 1.4.1-1.4.3)

**5- Conservation Management Plan Studies for Fethiye-Göcek Special Environmental Protection Area:**

Fethiye Special Environmental Protection Area has been declared as a protected area in line with the international conventions to which our country is a party (such as the Bern Convention), and in order to ensure the protection and sustainability of the entire area, management plans for special protection purposes were initiated in 2022 with the participation of different stakeholders such as official institutions, non-governmental organisations, universities and local people. In the management plan, special studies are being carried out in line with the Recommendation No.183 of the Bern Convention for Fethiye and the management plan studies are aimed to be completed by the end of 2023. (Photos 1.5.1-1.5.3)

**6- Actions on Tourism Buildings, Roads, Shipyard, Pier etc. on Fethiye Beach:**

Our response to this issue is given in previous reports. After the beach area of Fethiye region was declared as a protected area for sea turtles (1985), no new areas were opened for development, especially on the coastline. Some of the tourism enterprises built after this date are legal enterprises that benefit from the property rights they had before the region was declared a protected area. However, while establishing these enterprises, they have to accept all the conditions imposed for the protection of sea turtles.

There have been requests for a shipyard and a pier to be built in one part of Fethiye beach. However, this request was rejected as it would affect the turtle breeding beach.

**7- Actions to Remove All Structures on Fethiye Beach (Wooden Roads, Wooden Cafes, Bars, Platforms, Showers, Carpets, Terraces, etc.):**

This is an ongoing process and our responses to this have been reported previously. The area on the Fethiye beach where the complaints and problems were raised is seen in one third of the beach. Since the beach area in this region was included in the property of the people living there, there was not enough intervention in this region.

In order to solve this problem, the judicial process was initiated in previous years and towards the end of 2021, the property rights on the beach were cancelled by judicial decision.

In 2023, in line with this judicial decision, necessary instructions were given to local public institutions to remove all occupations in the Fethiye beach area.

**8- Sand Extraction:**

As stated in previous reports, the use of sea sand in constructions has been banned in Türkiye since 2010. Therefore, strict inspections are carried out on the purchase of sea sand all along the coastline of our country. Penal action is taken against those who illegally purchase sand.

**9- Remove Planted Vegetation, Acacia in Particular, With a View to Restore the Remaining Sandy Beach:**

This is an action that is still ongoing. The aforementioned trees were planted by the property owners in the above-mentioned areas, whose title deeds extend into the sea, in areas that have remained in their ownership for many years. Since the judicial process has been completed, local organisations have been instructed to remove the trees in these beach areas.

**10- Light Pollution:**

All street lighting along Fethiye beach, especially on Calis beach, is in the form of screens and the light is not reflected on the beach.

Our work against light pollution caused by businesses along the Fethiye beach continues continuously, and the teams carrying out the protection and monitoring of sea turtles in the area constantly carry out inspections, provide trainings on this subject, and give certificates to businesses that apply the rules.

Inspections in the area are being carried out strictly, however, the conservation activities to be carried out in this beach area in the following years will be determined by the management plan.

In addition, the research team conducting the monitoring and conservation study commissioned by the ministry has made preliminary discussions with the regional electricity distribution company, scientifically based justifications have been conveyed, and it is planned to carry out a pilot application to change the lighting poles visible from the beach to red light in Fethiye nesting beaches during the 2023 nesting season. (Photos 1.10.1)

**11- Construction of Permanent Barriers to Prevent Vehicle Entry to the Beach:**

In previous years, barriers were constructed to prevent vehicles from entering the beach and thanks to these barriers, the entrance of vehicles to the beaches was prevented as much as possible. (Photos 1.11.1)

**12- Marine Traffic:**

Within the scope of the circular numbered 2009/10 for the protection of sea turtles, water sports are prohibited within 1 mile from the shore towards the sea, and if there is a watercraft within this area, the speed per hour will be below 8 miles per hour.

Our law enforcement officers working in our seas continue to carry out strict inspections in this regard, and criminal proceedings are carried out against those who violate the prohibitions.

**13- Beach Clean Up:**

There are garbage containers on the beach and these containers are emptied regularly every day by the local authorities and disposed of in accordance with the Waste Management Regulation. In addition, cleaning activities are carried out at regular intervals for all beaches.

**14- Marine Spatial Planning**

Within the scope of the Barcelona Convention, legal infrastructure studies have been initiated for spatial planning studies in all Mediterranean waters of Türkiye, especially in protected marine areas.

**PATARA SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREA AND THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND PLANNED TO BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION NO. 182 (2015)****1- Legal regulations for the protection of Beach Area of Patara Special Environmental Protection Area**

A total of 197.1 km<sup>2</sup> (marine and coastal zone) area, including Patara beach, was declared as a Special Environmental Protection Area within the scope of law no: 383 in 1990. The region is also protected as a natural protected area and an archaeological protected area within the scope of law no: 2863 (Photos.1.1.1-1.1.1)

**-Conservation Management Plan Studies for Patara Special Environmental Protection Area**

Patara Special Environmental Protection Area has been declared as protection areas in line with international conventions (such as the Bern Convention) to which our country is a party, and with the participation of different stakeholders such as official institutions, non-governmental organizations, universities and local people in order to protect the region and ensure its sustainability for all areas. Purposeful management plans studies were initiated in 2022 and still

continue in 2023. In the management plan, special studies are carried out in line with the recommendations made specifically for Patara by the Bern Secretariat.

The biodiversity study, which is the base of the management plans, has been completed. Management plan studies continue rapidly with the participation of non-governmental organizations, local people, public institutions and organizations in order to improve the current situation further in the next 5 years by revealing the ecological, social and cultural values of the region, especially the loss of biodiversity and climate change (**Photos.1.1.1-1.1.2**)

**2- Prohibit further construction (including buildings, structures, roads) on the beach, remove illegal abandoned facilities, and ensure restoration of dunes during the nesting/hatching season.**

Within the scope of the above-mentioned laws of Türkiye, no construction is allowed in the Patara beach area. The rules on this issue are strict and the implementation is in this direction. The closest settlement to the sea turtle nesting beach is 1.6 km away using air distance, and all kinds of construction is prohibited within this area (**Photos.1.2.1-1.2.2**)

**3- Situation of beach furniture on the beach, regulating their use and ensuring that items are removed from the nesting area at night**

- There is a business on Patara beach to fulfilment of needs people who visit the area, such as eating and drinking. The furniture -such as umbrellas, sun beds- that in front of this business is located in a 250 m area on the 12,000 m long beach.
- This business is open between 08:00 am and 20:00 pm, It does not provide service except of these hours.
- In addition, the business removes its furniture from the area designated for turtles after 20:00 pm.
- Against to consisted erosion on the beach during the winter season , necessary arrangements are made before spawning in May (**Photos.1.3.1-1.3.1**)

**4-Placing Barriers to Prevent Vehicle Entry to the Beach**

- Before the 2021 breeding season, barriers and warning signs to prevent vehicle entry were made on the beach at vehicle entry points, including the sand dunes. In 2022, additional barriers and signs were built. In 2023, no vehicle entrances were detected in the beach (**Photos.1.4.1-1.4.2**)

**5-Prohibit lighting of the beach**

Since the nearest settlement to the beach is 1.6 km away, there is no light source reaching the beach from these settlements.

In addition, since the all human activities on the beach is closed after 20:00 pm, there is no light pollution.

## **6-Prohibition of Fishing Activities by the Coastal Zone**

Within the scope of the Fisheries law no. 1380 all kinds of fishing activities are prohibited within 1 mile of the marine area in front of sea turtle nesting beaches. In this context, fishing is prohibited at this distance in the Patara marine area.

## **7-Prohibiting camping on the beach and on riverbanks overlooking the beach**

- Camping is not allowed at any location on Patara beach, campers are removed from the area by security guard and gendarmerie (**Photos.1.7.1-1.7.1**)

## **8-Prohibiting horse riding and 4x4 vehicle safaris on nesting beaches**

If people are spotted wandering around by riding horses at the beach, they are removed from the area by security officers. Since the vehicle entrances to the beach were closed with barriers, no vehicle entrances were detected in the beach in 2023.

## **9-Administrative sanctions and imposed penalties for non-compliance with the above regulations**

The laws of the Republic of Türkiye contain significant penalties in this regard. Environmental Law No. 2872 is specifically regulated concerning this issue. Penalties for those who damage biodiversity and ecosystems are regulated by this law.

## **10-Ensuring that sufficient financial and human resources are allocated for control, management and enforcement of regulations**

The Republic of Türkiye allocates a budget for the protection of sea turtle nesting beaches, such as renewing the existing information and warning signs in the area, ensuring regular cleaning of the area, purchasing cages for the protection of turtle nests, as well as for the protection and monitoring of sea turtles every year.

## **11-Ensure that litter is periodically removed from the beach and dunes**

The areas where high human presence is seen are cleaned daily by the municipality, and the entire beach is cleaned weekly. So as to increase awareness, the beach is also cleaned with the participation of locals and daily visitors and non-governmental organizations.

## **12-Continue to Prevent Uncontrolled Human Settlement Behind the nesting area of Patara Beach.**

There is no construction right behind the beach, and new constructions are not allowed to built. Patara beach is protected from human affects, as it is completely closed to human activities during the nesting hours of sea turtles, and human activities are limited during the day. In this context, Patara beach is one of the best conservation nesting beach in Türkiye.

**Note: Video demonstration**

## **13-Ensuring that all nests in populated areas are protected with appropriate equipment to protect them from being crushed by human activities and beach furniture.**

- In order to protect the sea turtle nests against especially predation, human-induced damage and other factors cages (prism-shaped above-ground cages and flat-shaped underground cages) are made every year (**Photos.1.13.1-1.13.2**)

## **14-Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Studies**

- Sea turtle monitoring and conservation studies have been conducted by Prof. Dr. Eyup BAŞKALE (Biologist) and their research team on Patara Beach for several years. The Project designed by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change to support the scientific team that carries out the activities for monitoring and conservation of sea turtles. In this context, conservation activities such as 24-hour monitoring (between 15<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> September) of the beach, raising awareness of beach users, and nest protection have been carried out (**Photos.1.14.1-1.14.1**)

## **15-Public awareness, sharing information with stakeholders and warning Signs**

Warning and information signs have been placed on Patara beach before the 2022 breeding season. The old signs have been renewed and 50 new information signs also have been placed on the beach. In this way it was ensured that visitors were informed about how to use beach, and awareness has been gained about the protection of sea turtle breeding grounds and nests.

- In addition, the Project team provides continuous training to visitors, business owners and other area users, especially local people, about the importance of protecting the area and about sea turtles (**Photos.1.15.1-1.15.8**)



### **16-Determination of Sea Turtles Nesting Areas and Beach Zoning on Patara Beach by Placing Wooden Posts**

- The borders of the nesting zone on the whole beach of Patara were drawn with wooden posts by the study carried out in 2021. Thus, physical factors that affect the number of nests are prevented. Human activities are restricted (no sunbathing, digging sand etc.) and beach furnitures (including sunbeds, umbrellas, pavilions) are not allowed in the nesting zone **(Photos.1.16.1-1.16.2)**

### **17-Smoke-free airzone and zero waste Project**

- In order to protect the dune habitat, the area has been declared as a smoke-free air area, and zero waste implementation has also been carried out in the region **(Photos.1.17.1-1.17.3)**

[Photos](#)

**REPUBLIC OF TURKEY****Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry & Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change****15.08.2023****Government Report on Follow-up of Recommendations No. 182 and 183 (2015) on Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye and Patara SPAs (Turkey)****Background Information:**

Two different complaints, one about the degradation of the habitats of sea turtle nesting beaches in Fethiye and the other about that in Patara were submitted to the Secretariat in 2012 and 2013 respectively. The Bureau decided to address these two complaints in conjunction. In the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Standing committee, a casefile was opened for both of the complaints. In 2014, the Committee decided on conducting an on-the-spot appraisal to the relevant sites. In 2015, two recommendations, Recommendations No. 182 (2015) and No.183 (2015) were prepared following the on-the-spot appraisal. In the following years, the Standing Committee decided to keep the case file open, while urging the Turkish authorities to step up their current efforts and ensuring that both Recommendations [No. 182 (2015) and No. 183 (2015)] are fully implemented from that on.

**FETHİYE-GÖCEK SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREA AND THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND PLANNED TO BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION NO. 183 (2015)****1- Determination of Sea Turtles Nesting Areas and Beach Zoning on Fethiye Beach by Placing Wooden Posts**

After the nesting zone determination study prepared by analysing the data obtained from 20 years of work on Fethiye beach, nesting zones were determined and in line with this information, the boundaries of the nesting zone were drawn with wooden barriers on the entire Fethiye beach in 2021. Thus, physical interventions affecting the number of nests were prevented. These wooden barriers were actively used by the research team both in 2022 and 2023.

With this study, no human activity is allowed in this area. (Including beach furniture such as umbrellas, sunbeds and pavilions). Beach furniture is located behind the wooden barriers that determine the nesting zone. In areas where the beach is narrow, sunbeds are collected so that nesting activities are not affected. (Photos 1.1.1-1.1.3)

**2- Information and Warning Signs:**

New warning and awareness signs placed on Fethiye beach in 2022 are actively used. (Photos 1.2.1-1.2.2)

**3- Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Studies:**

The Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change has provided a budget to support the scientific team carrying out sea turtle conservation and monitoring activities for Fethiye beach. Sea turtle conservation and monitoring activities in Fethiye beach are carried out by Dr Doğan SÖZBİLEN

(Biologist). In this context, protection activities such as 24-hour monitoring of the area, warning and raising awareness of beach users, and taking nests under protection continue in 2023. In addition to the indexed nesting beach, the research team also monitors nesting activity on surrounding beaches. The photo in Appendix 3.1 shows a nest detected on Inlice Beach in 2023. (Photos 1.3.1-1.3.4)

#### **4- Actions Against Predation:**

In order to protect the nests against predation, new prism cages (for raising awareness) and grid cages (against predation) of the same standards were built to be used on Fethiye beaches (Photos 1.4.1-1.4.3)

#### **5- Conservation Management Plan Studies for Fethiye-Göcek Special Environmental Protection Area:**

Fethiye Special Environmental Protection Area has been declared as a protected area in line with the international conventions to which our country is a party (such as the Bern Convention), and in order to ensure the protection and sustainability of the entire area, management plans for special protection purposes were initiated in 2022 with the participation of different stakeholders such as official institutions, non-governmental organisations, universities and local people. In the management plan, special studies are being carried out in line with the Recommendation No.183 of the Bern Convention for Fethiye and the management plan studies are aimed to be completed by the end of 2023. (Photos 1.5.1-1.5.3)

#### **6- Actions on Tourism Buildings, Roads, Shipyard, Pier etc. on Fethiye Beach:**

Our response to this issue is given in previous reports. After the beach area of Fethiye region was declared as a protected area for sea turtles (1985), no new areas were opened for development, especially on the coastline. Some of the tourism enterprises built after this date are legal enterprises that benefit from the property rights they had before the region was declared a protected area. However, while establishing these enterprises, they have to accept all the conditions imposed for the protection of sea turtles.

There have been requests for a shipyard and a pier to be built in one part of Fethiye beach. However, this request was rejected as it would affect the turtle breeding beach.

#### **7- Actions to Remove All Structures on Fethiye Beach (Wooden Roads, Wooden Cafes, Bars, Platforms, Showers, Carpets, Terraces, etc.):**

This is an ongoing process and our responses to this have been reported previously. The area on the Fethiye beach where the complaints and problems were raised is seen in one third of the beach. Since the beach area in this region was included in the property of the people living there, there was not enough intervention in this region.

In order to solve this problem, the judicial process was initiated in previous years and towards the end of 2021, the property rights on the beach were cancelled by judicial decision.

In 2023, in line with this judicial decision, necessary instructions were given to local public institutions to remove all occupations in the Fethiye beach area.

#### **8- Sand Extraction:**

As stated in previous reports, the use of sea sand in constructions has been banned in Türkiye since 2010. Therefore, strict inspections are carried out on the purchase of sea sand all along the coastline of our country. Penal action is taken against those who illegally purchase sand.

### **9- Remove Planted Vegetation, Acacia in Particular, With a View to Restore the Remaining Sandy Beach:**

This is an action that is still ongoing. The aforementioned trees were planted by the property owners in the above-mentioned areas, whose title deeds extend into the sea, in areas that have remained in their ownership for many years. Since the judicial process has been completed, local organisations have been instructed to remove the trees in these beach areas.

### **10- Light Pollution:**

All street lighting along Fethiye beach, especially on Calis beach, is in the form of screens and the light is not reflected on the beach.

Our work against light pollution caused by businesses along the Fethiye beach continues continuously, and the teams carrying out the protection and monitoring of sea turtles in the area constantly carry out inspections, provide trainings on this subject, and give certificates to businesses that apply the rules.

Inspections in the area are being carried out strictly, however, the conservation activities to be carried out in this beach area in the following years will be determined by the management plan.

In addition, the research team conducting the monitoring and conservation study commissioned by the ministry has made preliminary discussions with the regional electricity distribution company, scientifically based justifications have been conveyed, and it is planned to carry out a pilot application to change the lighting poles visible from the beach to red light in Fethiye nesting beaches during the 2023 nesting season. (Photo 1.10.1)

### **11- Construction of Permanent Barriers to Prevent Vehicle Entry to the Beach:**

In previous years, barriers were constructed to prevent vehicles from entering the beach and thanks to these barriers, the entrance of vehicles to the beaches was prevented as much as possible. (Photo 1.11.1)

### **12- Marine Traffic:**

Within the scope of the circular numbered 2009/10 for the protection of sea turtles, water sports are prohibited within 1 mile from the shore towards the sea, and if there is a watercraft within this area, the speed per hour will be below 8 miles per hour.

Our law enforcement officers working in our seas continue to carry out strict inspections in this regard, and criminal proceedings are carried out against those who violate the prohibitions.

### **13- Beach Clean Up:**

There are garbage containers on the beach and these containers are emptied regularly every day by the local authorities and disposed of in accordance with the Waste Management Regulation. In addition, cleaning activities are carried out at regular intervals for all beaches.

## **14- Marine Spatial Planning**

Within the scope of the Barcelona Convention, legal infrastructure studies have been initiated for spatial planning studies in all Mediterranean waters of Türkiye, especially in protected marine areas.

### **PATARA SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREA AND THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND PLANNED TO BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION NO. 182 (2015)**

#### **1- Determination of Sea Turtles Nesting Areas and Beach Zoning on Patara Beach by Placing Wooden Posts:**

Nesting zones were determined by using the coordinates of the nests on the Patara beach in line with approximately 20 years data. In the light of this information compiled, with the study carried out in 2021, the borders of the nesting zone were drawn with wooden posts on the whole beach of Patara. Thus, physical effects that affect the number of nests are prevented.

Human activities are restricted (no sunbathing, digging sand etc.) and beach furniture (including sunbeds, umbrellas, pavilions) are not allowed in the nesting zone. (Photos 2.1.1)

#### **2- Information and Warning Signs:**

Warning and information signs have been placed on Patara beach before the 2022 breeding season. The old signs have been renewed and 20 new information signs are underconstruction. The completed signs will be placed on the beach as soon as possible. In this way it was ensured that visitors were informed about the use of the beach, and awareness was raised about the protection of sea turtle breeding grounds and nests. (Photos 2.2.1-2.2.4)

### **3- Actions Against the Predation:**

In order to protect the sea turtle nests against predators and humans, new grid cages (against predation) and prism cages (for raising awareness) were made and will be used as in previous years. (Photos 2.3.1-2.3.3)

### **4- Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Studies:**

Sea turtle monitoring and conservation studies have been carried out by Prof. Dr. Eyup BAŞKALE (Biologist) and their research team on Patara Beach for many years. As in previous years, a budget was allocated by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change in 2022 to support the scientific team that carries out activities for monitoring and conservation of sea turtles. In this context, conservation activities such as 24-hour monitoring of the beach, raising awareness of beach users, and nest protection. (Photos 2.4.1-2.4.4)

### **5- Conservation Management Plan Studies for Patara Special Environmental Protection Area:**

Patara Special Environmental Protection Area has been declared in line with international agreements (such as the Bern Convention) to which our country is a party. In order to ensure the protection and sustainability of the region, studies on site-specific conservation management plans were initiated in 2022 with the participation of different stakeholders such as official institutions, non-governmental organizations, universities and local people. In the management plan, special studies are carried out in line with the recommendations made specifically for Patara by the Bern Convention, and the Biodiversity study, which is currently the base of the management plans, is about to be completed. After this study, the problems of the field and their solutions will be managed better.

### **6- Placing Barriers to Prevent Vehicle Entry to the Beach:**

Before the 2021 breeding season, barriers and warning signs to prevent vehicle entry were made on the beach at vehicle entry points, including the sand dunes. In 2022, additional barriers and signs were built. In 2022, no vehicle entrance was found on the beach. (Photos 2.6.1-2.6.4)

### **7- Light Pollution**

There is a small business at one point on the Patara beach, and there is no light pollution caused by the business. In 2021, a special light screening system was installed for the use of security-related lights. Since the Patara beach is very far from the residential areas, human-induced light does not reach the beach.

### **8- Prohibition of Fishing Activities by the Coastal Zone:**

Patara beach is not suitable for fishing activities. Amateur anglers are rarely seen, and they are also warned away. Likewise, net fishing is not allowed around the beach.

### **9. Continue to Prevent Uncontrolled Human Settlement Behind the Beach, Particularly Where These May Result in Making the Beaches Unsuitable For Turtle Nesting:**

There is no construction just behind the beach, and new constructions are not allowed.

Since the zoning and construction permits of the cooperatives, which are approximately 1.4 km from the beach, were taken before the region was taken under protection, and houses are built in a certain number. The opening of new zoning and construction areas is not allowed.

However, the construction of the aforementioned cooperatives has been stopped, and the cooperative, which has completed the legal process, continues its construction. For other cooperatives, the legal process continues.

Patara beach is protected from human pressure, as it is completely closed to human activities during the nesting hours of sea turtles, and human activities are restricted during the day. In this context, Patara beach is one of the good conservation examples in Türkiye. (Photo 2.9.1)

#### **10. Ensure that litter is periodically removed from the beach and dunes**

The areas where high human presence is seen are cleaned Daily by the municipality, and the entire beach is cleaned weekly. In addition, in order to increase awareness, the beach is also cleaned with the participation of local and daily visitors and non-governmental organizations. (Photos 2.10.1-2.10.3)

**APPENDICES**

**1- Determination of Sea Turtles Nesting Areas and Beach Zoning on Fethiye Beach by Placing Wooden Posts Photos 1.1.1-1.1.3**







## 2- Information and Warning Signs Photos 1.2.1-1.2.2



**3- Sea Turtle Protection and Monitoring Activities Photos 1.3.1-1.3.4**







**4- Activities Against Predation (Photos 1.4.1-1.4.3)**



**5- Conservation Management Plan Studies for Fethiye-Göcek Special Environmental Protection Area (Photos 1.5.1-1.5.3)**





10- Light Pollution (Photo 1.10.1)





**11- Construction of Permanent Barriers to Prevent Vehicle Entry to the Beach (Photo 1.11.1)**



**1- Determination of Sea Turtles Nesting Areas and Beach Zoning on Patara Beach by Placing Wooden Posts (Photo 2.1.1)**



**2- Information and Warning Signs (2.2.1-2.2.4)**







### 3- Actions Against the Predation (Photos 2.3.1-2.3.3)





**4- Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Studies (Photos 2.4.1-2.4.4)**







**6- Placing Barriers to Prevent Vehicle Entry to the Beach (Photos 2.6.1-2.6.4)**



**9. Continue to Prevent Uncontrolled Human Settlement Behind the Beach, Particularly Where These May Result in Making the Beaches Unsuitable For Turtle Nesting (Photo 2.9.1)**



**10. Ensure that litter is periodically removed from the beach and dunes (Photos 2.10.1-2.10.3)**

