

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS SEA TURTLE?



Photo taken by Mike Daines

Endangered leatherback sea turtles are feeding
on jellyfish along the California Coast!

Please contact us if you see one during your time offshore .

Contact Dr. Chris Pincetich, 415-663-8590 x102, chris@seaturtles.org

Sightings of these majestic creatures are extremely rare.

We hope to learn where you spotted a leatherback, share your story
seeing one, and receive any and all leatherback photos!

The Sea Turtle Restoration Project greatly appreciates your help.

www.seaturtles.org



Why They Are Here

Each year Pacific leatherback sea turtles journey 6,000 miles each way across the Pacific from nesting beaches on Indonesia to feeding grounds along the U.S. west coast. They feed on hundreds of jellyfish each day off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington. Leatherback sea turtles are the largest, deepest diving sea turtle species and can grow to be over 6 feet long and weigh 2,000 lbs.

What to do if You See One

Call Dr. Chris Pincetich of the Sea Turtle Restoration Project at 415-663-8590, ext. 102 or email at chris@tirn.net . If you have a camera, try to get a picture. We would like to hear where and when the sighting occurred, and use any pictures for our conservation work.

Why Leatherback Sea Turtles are Critically Endangered

Leatherbacks have existed on this planet for 100 million years, surviving the extinction of the dinosaurs. However, in the past 20 years leatherback populations have declined a drastic 95% in the Pacific Ocean. Leatherbacks are killed by pelagic longline fishing, drift gillnet fishing, ingestion of plastics thought to be jelly fish, and poaching of eggs and turtles. Leatherback conservation efforts led by the Sea Turtle Restoration Project have increased protection for these gentle giants.

To Learn More & Join Our Efforts go to www.seaturtles.org



Photo courtesy of www.seaturtlenet.com