

# Hawksbill turtle

Conservation status: **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**

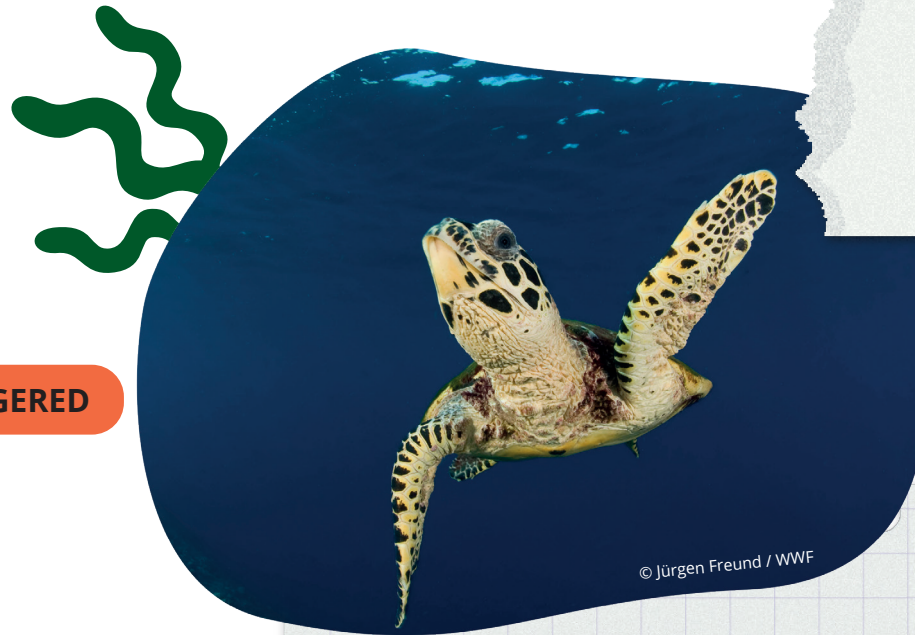
Marine turtles are brilliant navigators, swimming hundreds or thousands of kilometres between feeding and nesting grounds.

They help maintain the balance of reef ecosystems and promote coral health, which are crucial for the survival of many other creatures.

## Did you know?

Turtles were around **more than 100 million years ago**, living alongside dinosaurs.

There are **seven** species of marine turtle: hawksbill, loggerhead, leatherback, olive ridley, green, flatback and Kemp's ridley.



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## Key facts

- Hawksbill turtles can lay **up to 160 eggs per clutch**
- They mostly **eat sponges and other invertebrates**
- Turtles don't have teeth, instead using their beak-like mouth to grasp their food
- They can be **60-105cm** long and weigh around **45-75kg**
- Their shells are made of over **50** bones fused together
- They have light, spongy bones to help them float
- They also don't have vocal chords, but make sounds by forcing air in and out of their lungs