



United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Fisheries Science Center
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, FL 33149 USA

April 9, 2012

Dear CMTTP Participant,

We are writing to inform you of a change in the data policy for the CMTTP. Until now, we have required that all data be submitted as hard copies, even if electronic submissions were made. In the interest of efficiency, conservation, and obtaining as much data as possible to protect within the archive, we no longer will require that hard copies be submitted. We will now request that everyone submit data electronically.

We have found that although hard copies are the optimal archive, in order for NMFS to use the data for management purposes, we need the data in electronic form. Because most of you already have computer files of your data, the most efficient means to get those data into the CMTTP database is by transferring them electronically.

We ask that you work closely with the ACCSTR (Peter Eliazar; eliazar@ufl.edu) on the formatting of your electronic submissions. We have developed a list of required fields based on the standard CMTTP form (see attached).

Furthermore, if you have not sent us electronic data in the past, we will be contacting you in the near future to request electronic versions of the data for CMTTP tags for which you previously sent us hard copy data.

The new Data Policy will be posted on the CMTTP website and will appear as follows:

Submission of Data

All individuals receiving CMTTP tags must submit an annual report as an electronic database to the ACCSTR that gives the data for each turtle tagged. Electronic data must be submitted in a format that can be readily incorporated into the master database. The list of required fields is available on the CMTTP website.

Sincerely,

Sheryan Epperly, SEFSC
Sea Turtle Program Lead and
Technical monitor of
CMTTP contract to ACCSTR

cc: University of Florida, Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research