

**Wild Animals (Turtles) Protection Regulation**

*(11<sup>th</sup> July, 1994)*

Citation and Commencement      **1.**(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Wild Animals (Turtles) Protection) Regulations.

(2) These Regulations, other than regulation 5(2), shall come into force on the date of publication of these Regulations in the *Gazette*.

Interpretation      **2.** In these Regulations -

"calipee" includes the gelatinous membranes which connect the carapace to the plastron of a turtle;

"shell" includes the carapace, plastron or any part of a shell;

"turtle" includes the green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), hawksbil turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and any other

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turtle which from time to time may be found in the territorial waters of Seychelles.

Turtles  
protected. **3.** A turtle shall be a protected animal throughout Seychelles.

Prohibitions relating to turtles and turtle eggs. **4.**(1) No person shall disturb, catch, injure, fish for, kill, sell, purchase, receive or possess any turtle.  
(2) No person shall possess, disturb, sell, purchase, receive, take, remove or cause to be taken or removed any turtle egg either while it is being laid, or after it has been laid, by a female turtle.

Prohibitions relating to turtle shell, furnished product and meat. **5.**(1) Subject to regulation 6, no person shall possess, sell, expose for sale, purchase or receive any raw, worked or treated shell of a turtle.  
(2) No person shall sell, expose for sale, purchase or receive any product derived from any shell of a turtle.  
(3) No person shall possess, sell, expose for sale, purchase or receive any meat or any part of the flesh or calipee of a turtle.

Possession of turtle shell by permit holder. **6.**(1) Any person who, on the commencement of these Regulations, is in possession of any raw, worked or treated shell of a turtle shall, within 90 days after the commencement of these Regulations, furnish the particulars of such shell to the Department of Environment of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Planning and Environment or to any authority designated by the Minister in such form as may be provided by the Department or authority.

(2) The Department of Environment or the authority shall record in a register to be kept by the Department or authority

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(a) the name of each person who has furnished the particulars under subregulation (1);

(b) the particulars so provided; and  
issue a permit to each such person to possess the shell.

(3) Where the holder of a permit issued under subregulation (2) dies, any person who obtains possession of the turtle shell referred to in the permit by right of succession shall, within 90 days thereafter, surrender the permit of the deceased and furnish the particulars of such shell in the manner provided in subregulation (1) to the Department or authority referred to in that subregulation and the Department or authority shall record the name of the person in the register kept under that subregulation, cancel the permit issued to the deceased and issue the person a permit to possess the shell.

(4) A holder of a permit issued under subregulation (2) or subregulation (3), may, notwithstanding regulation 5, possess the turtle shell referred to in the permit.

Prohibition on import or export. **7.** No person shall export or import a turtle shell or any product of a turtle shell.

Offences. **8.** Any person who contravenes regulation 4 or regulation 5 or regulation 7 is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to the penalties provided under section 3 of the Act.

Institution of **9.** A prosecution for an offence under these Regulations may be

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proceedings.

instituted by the Attorney-General, a police officer or any person authorised by the Minister.

Scientific  
research for  
monitoring of  
turtles.

**10.** The Minister may grant permission to any person for carrying out in Seychelles scientific research on or monitoring of turtles and any person who pursuant to such permission does any act prohibited by these Regulations shall not be deemed to contravene these Regulations.