

## Project Update: September 2015

On 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015, the five LCGs, now around 75 guardians, started the activities of the 2015 nesting season. This season was considerably delayed due to the increasingly frequent alterations on the Amazon River hydric pulse, which is having a clear impact on the turtle's life cycles. The nesting events, although still low, are already more numerous than last year's, and the guardians are doing a great job in protecting the nests and nesting females: no nest or turtle has been poached to date.

We just received notice of that we got an Assistance Award from the USFWS as matching funds for this year's activities. We are working on a framework agreement with Corpoamazonia, the local environmental authority, and they are already applying for funding at a governmental level for the project for next year. The tourism industry still expresses interest on the project but have not concreted any support, which will probably require further lobbying.



Meeting of LCGs on the conservation beach prior to the nesting season



Turtle guardians patrolling the beach in the early morning