

Project Update: June 2010

On August 7th 2006 a satellite transmitter was attached to a sea turtle found on the beach that is located between Cliff dwellers and Mosquito Bay. The beach is known locally as Jacks Bay and is on the coastline due west of Miss June's Cuisine (in some literature this beach may be referred to as Jones Bay). This was part of an effort carried out by the Caribbean Conservation Corporation, the Four Seasons Resort, Nevis and the Nevis Turtle Group. The sea turtle was named Nevis. One day later a satellite transmitter was attached to another sea turtle named Mango. This was part of an effort to find out where sea turtles that nest on Nevis go to after they leave our beaches. While Mango headed off into the western Caribbean to its foraging grounds off the Miskito Cays of Nicaragua Nevis stayed close to home foraging in the area of Anguilla, St. Maarten and St. Barthelemy. Both sea turtles stopped transmitting after a period of about 8 months for Nevis to 2 years for Mango.

On the night of June 15th 2010 two members of the Nevis Turtle Group, Jevaunito Huggins and Lemuel Pemberton, were conducting a beach patrol at Jacks Bay. At about 9:45 PM they encountered a sea turtle nesting on the beach. On close examination they noticed that it had a satellite transmitter attached to its back. At first it was thought to be Ginger, a sea turtle tagged with a satellite transmitter in 2007 that was still transmitting and known to be offshore the island after leaving its foraging grounds off Montserrat. However, it proved to be Mango, seen for the first time nesting 4 years after it had been tagged. The transmitter was removed and will be refurbished and used again to track another sea turtle. This is further proof that hawksbill sea turtles are faithful to their nesting beaches.



