



41st International Sea Turtle Symposium

Workshop Proposal for ISTS41

Title of Proposed Workshop:

4th ISTS Drones and Turtles Workshop

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Suggested Duration of Workshop: Half Day (4 hours)

Description and Justification of the Workshop:

The four-hour session is intended to bring together sea turtle researchers that are experienced, novice and just interested in using UAVs or drones. The primary aims are to continue dialogue on the best use of UAVs for sea turtle studies and catalyse a network where technical advances and method development are shared.

The session would be divided into two interactive parts, where the attendees are encouraged to ask questions to the presenters and the group at large.

- 1) Brief introduction to UAVs and technology
 - a. Types of UAV, their general properties
 - b. Data capture and processing options
 - c. Review of current level of relevant peer-reviewed literature
- 2) Examples of UAV use
 - a. General outline of basic research topics
 - b. (hopefully) Brief demonstrations on some of the popular software used to control UAVs and process data
 - c. Brief presentations of UAV research undertaken by workshop participants

The workshop is envisaged to be repeated and developed over successive years/symposia so that the international sea turtle community are kept up-to-date with advances in UAV-based research and 'recruits' to the field have opportunity to learn from experienced practitioners first hand.

Expected Outcomes of the Workshop:

- The potential for sea turtle research and conservation oriented actions facilitated through use of UAVs will be shared with probable / potential practitioners
- Prospective UAV users will learn from the experiences of UAV users and hence avoid the financial and methodological pitfalls the pioneers have encountered.
- All attendees will be able to discuss best practice and hence software use, flight planning and analytical methods should be advanced within the sea turtle community.
- A global network of UAV-using sea turtle researchers will be consolidated.