



41st International Sea Turtle Symposium

Workshop Proposal for ISTS41

Title of Proposed Workshop:

Applications of sea turtle reference genomes for research and conservation
management

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Suggested Duration of Workshop: Half Day (4 hours)

Description and Justification of the Workshop:

Recent advances in sequencing technologies have facilitated the assembly and annotation of high-quality reference genomes for a number of sea turtle species. While reference genomes provide invaluable resources for studies into sea turtle conservation, ecology, morphology, and physiology (among others), their use uptake is hindered by gaps in understanding of how to effectively apply them. In this workshop, we will briefly introduce the process of genome assembly, followed by a primary focus on demonstrations of how they can be used to answer research questions in the context of sea turtles. The workshop will include presentations from participants that are currently utilizing reference genomes in their research, as well as presentations outlining more specific technical aspects of their use.

Expected Outcomes of the Workshop:

This workshop will provide participants with an overview of reference genome assemblies and their downstream applications for research. It will provide participants with a clear understanding of how they can apply these resources to their own study systems, how to access the existing resources, share knowledge between individuals, and answer questions that participants have for effective use of reference genomes. It is also expected that it will help consolidate and expand the Sea Turtle Genomics Group formed during Pandemics.