

Sunday, July 4, 2004, 00:00 by Alan Deidun

Turtles among deckchairs

Please take some time to visit the Website included below to sign a petition on the dire straits faced by loggerhead turtles in the Greek Islands. On the Greek island of Zakynthos, for instance, diversion of national funds from Nature Conservation to the Olympic Games has forced Greece's EC "Natura 2000" National Park on the island to remain unguarded at the start of the 2004 tourism season.

This leaves the nesting beaches of international importance for the loggerhead *Caretta caretta* sea turtle totally vulnerable during the nesting season. An international signature collection campaign in association with the German NGO Euronatur, requesting that the authorities guarantee yearly funding for all 25 national parks in Greece and provide them with the currently absent legal authority to enforce conservation laws within their boundaries is being thus embarked upon.

I call on the local Greek representatives to pile pressure on their country too.

www.medasset.gr/english_petition.htm