



How to maintain a "healthy ocean" through experience in Kochi and Cairns

Kochi Kokusai High School

Introduction

- Meaning of "healthy ocean"
Environment that is sustainable for life.
- My experience
Childhood : I was impressed by the energy of baby turtles.
→I want to protect them.
Junior High School : I made apron which recycled scraps of cloth, and it has messages about environmental problem.
→I tried to do good for the environment.
- Now
I'm interested in marine biology. Especially, turtles.
→Research about problems and solutions that sea turtles face.

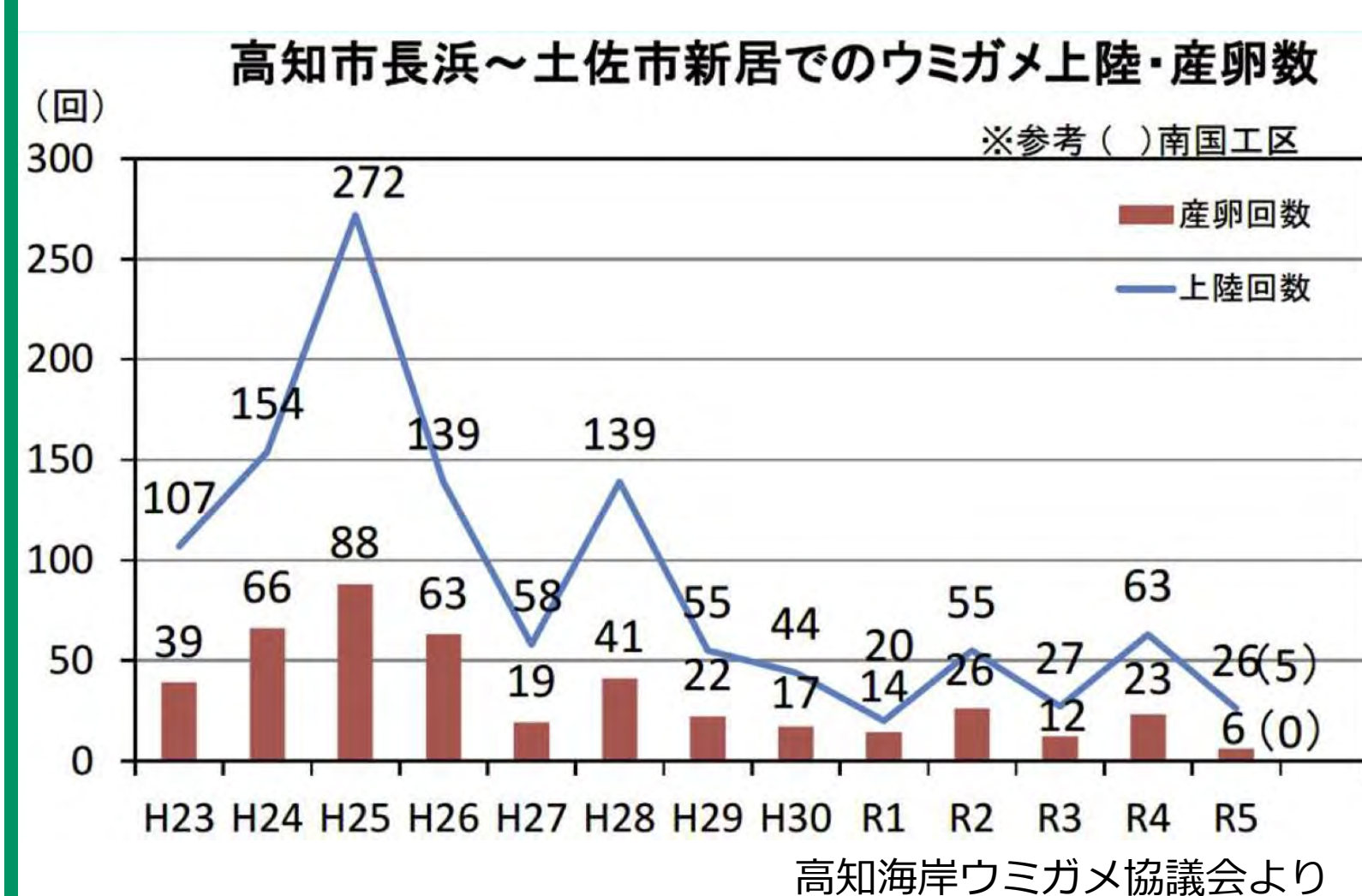
Research

Research 1 Katsurahama Aquarium in Kochi

Time: March 20th-31st, 2024
 • Food preparation, feeding, cleaning water tanks.
 • Slight changes in animals is very important
 Ex. Abnormal breathing or eating less food than usual
 →Noticing physical conditions is connected to helping turtles.



Current Situations



5 of the 7 types of sea turtles live in Japan.
 • Loggerhead sea turtles
 • Green sea turtles
 • Hawksbill sea turtles
 • Olive ridley sea turtles
 • Leatherback turtle
 →All of them are endangered species.

Problem & Purpose

Deterioration of sandy beaches

Bycatch

Captured for food

- Get hurt
 - Lose limbs
 - Can't sink
 - Infectious disease
- There are many types of problems

Find effective ways to rehabilitate sea turtles injured by bycatch

Research 2 Study Abroad to Cairns in Australia

Time: July 28th to August 20th, 2024
 I did these three :
 ①Join Cairns Aquarium Tour
 ②Join Sea Turtle Conservation Program
 ③Diving, Snorkeling
 • Behavior was different from Kochi's sea turtle
 →Because of the environment.
 • Each treatments differed depending on the situation
 →Each turtles in different situation or having different problems need different ways.



Methods

Research 1 Katsurahama Aquarium in Kochi

Purpose:
 • Acquire basic knowledge about marine life
 • Get first-hand experience
 • Develop powers of observation

Research 2 Study Abroad to Cairns in Australia

Purpose:
 • Utilize my knowledge and skills in a foreign situation
 • Keener powers of observation

Research 3 Interviewing a researcher

Purpose:
 • Gain advanced knowledge
 • Hear opinions of an expert
 • Learn different insights
 Organizations that cooperated:

高知県環境活動支援センター
えこらぼ
 Kochi Prefecture Environmental Support Center "Eco-Laboratory"

公益財団法人
黒潮生物研究所
 Public interest incorporated association, "Kuroshio Biological Research Institute"

Research 3 Interviewing a researcher

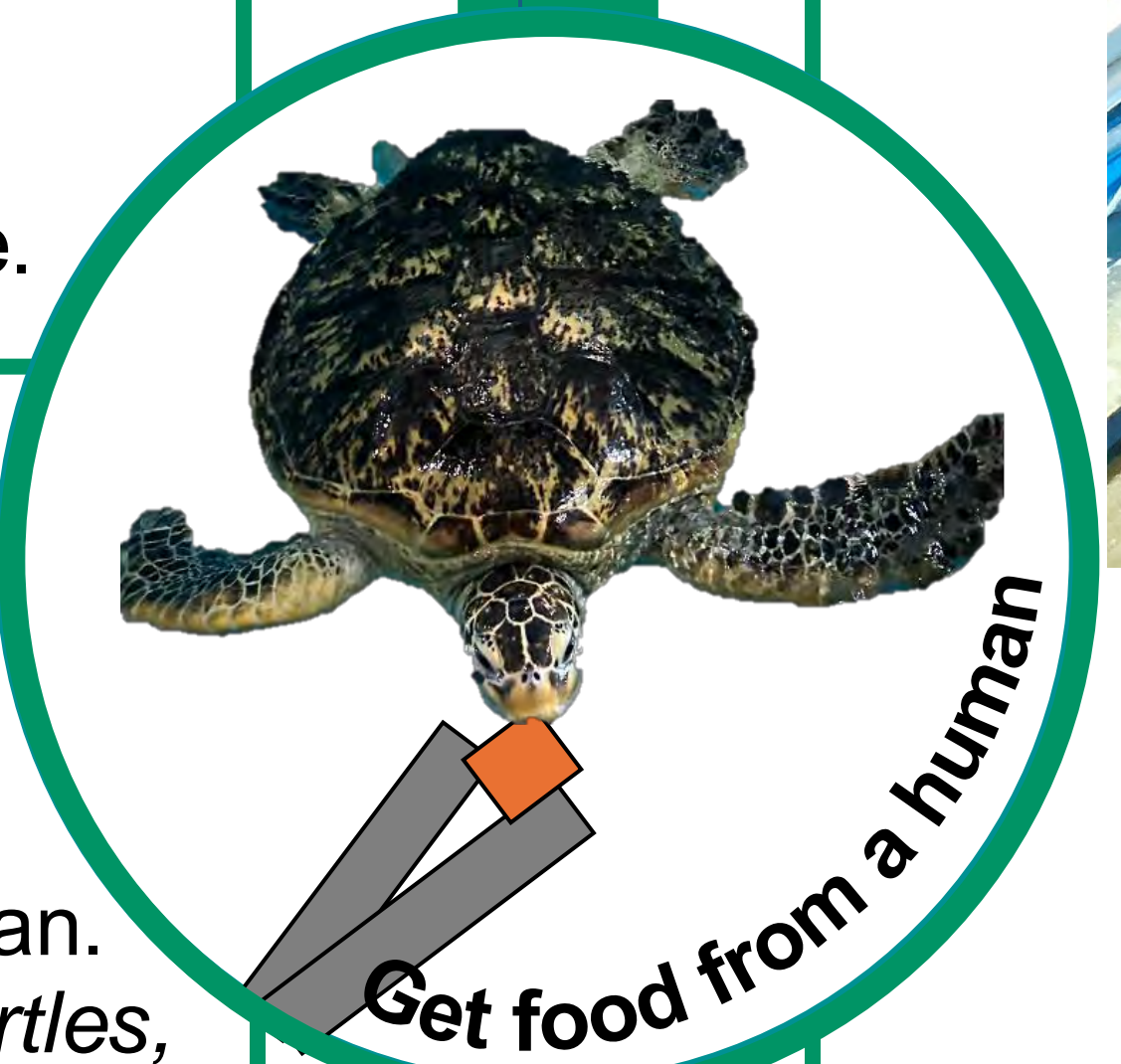
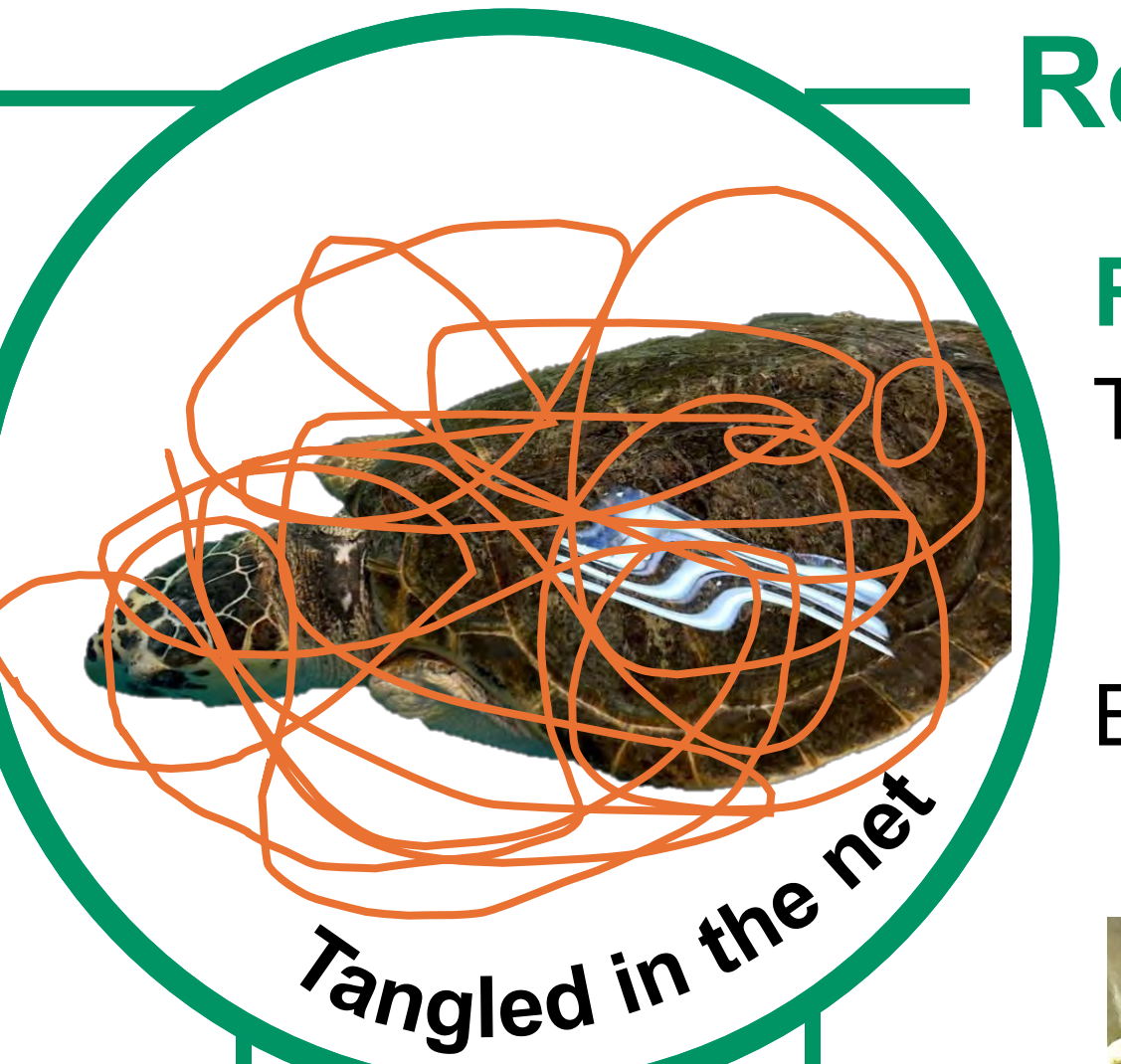
Time: November 8th, 2024
 • Online interview with researcher in Kochi
 • Observing is the most important things
 →Noticing physical conditions & Giving right support

Conclusion & Aspiration

To find ways to rehabilitate sea turtles injured by bycatch.....
 • Take appropriate measures based on the individual's personality and physical condition.
 • Continue caring and observing for a long time

What can I do now?

- Gain more knowledge about marine life
- Get more first-hand experience.



Reference
 高知海岸ウミガメ協会 (2023), 「令和5年度のウミガメ保護活動について」.
<https://www.skr.mlit.go.jp/kochi/umigame/2023/r5hogo.pdf>
 2024年11月28日閲覧.
 公益社団法人 桂浜水族館
 公益社団法人 黒潮生物研究所
 高知県環境活動支援センター えこらぼ
 Divers Den in Cairns Cairn Aquarium Crane Dance