

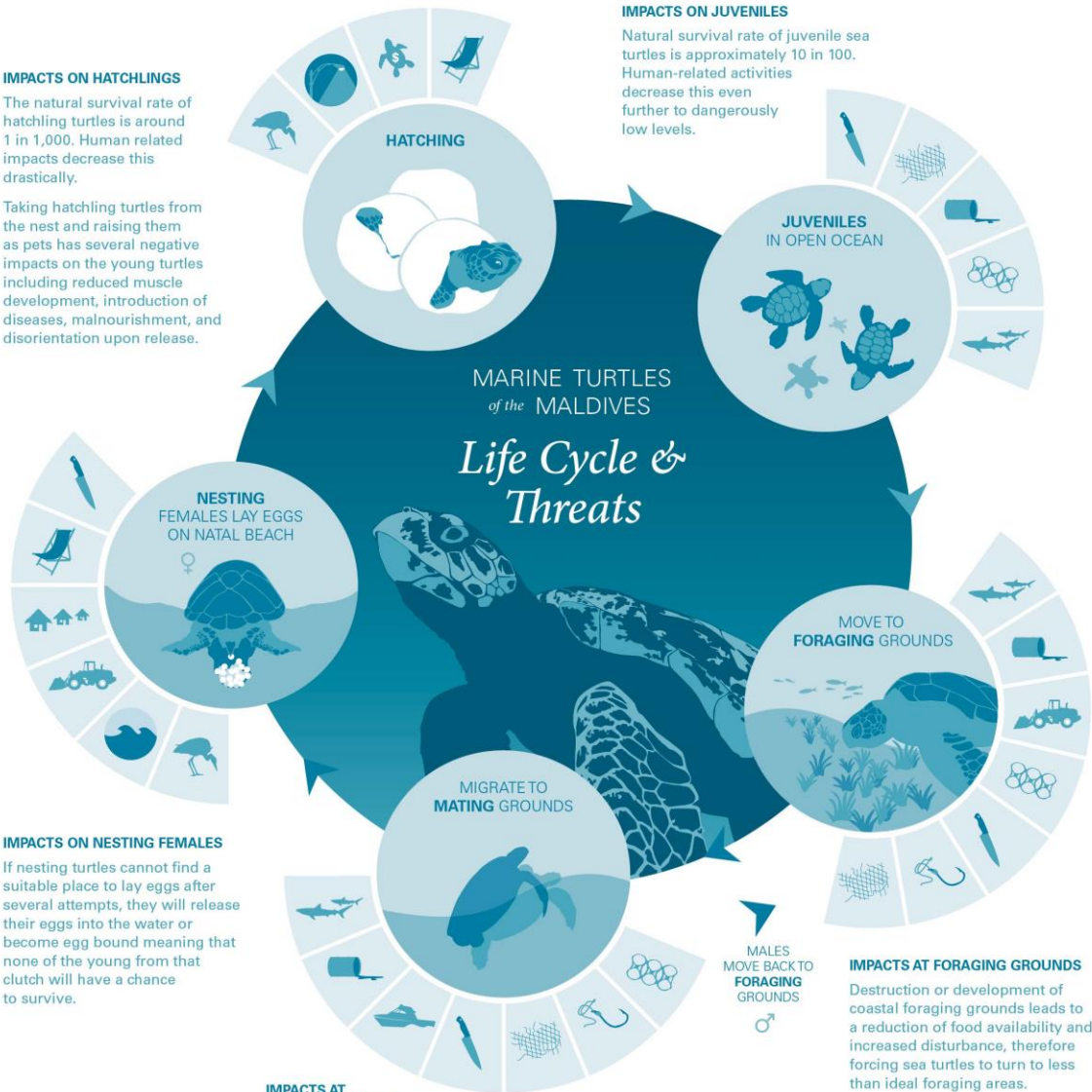
IMPACTS ON HATCHLINGS

The natural survival rate of hatchling turtles is around 1 in 1,000. Human related impacts decrease this drastically.

Taking hatchling turtles from the nest and raising them as pets has several negative impacts on the young turtles including reduced muscle development, introduction of diseases, malnourishment, and disorientation upon release.

IMPACTS ON JUVENILES

Natural survival rate of juvenile sea turtles is approximately 10 in 100. Human-related activities decrease this even further to dangerously low levels.



IMPACTS ON NESTING FEMALES

If nesting turtles cannot find a suitable place to lay eggs after several attempts, they will release their eggs into the water or become egg bound meaning that none of the young from that clutch will have a chance to survive.

IMPACTS AT MATING GROUNDS

Turtles reproduce infrequently (every 1-3 years) and their young have a naturally low survival rate; therefore, every mating and nesting attempt is incredibly important to the local population.

IMPACTS AT FORAGING GROUNDS

Destruction or development of coastal foraging grounds leads to a reduction of food availability and increased disturbance, therefore forcing sea turtles to turn to less than ideal foraging areas.



NATURAL THREATS		HUMAN THREATS			
	Predation at sea.		Bycatch in fishing gear.		Contamination (oil spills, chemical spills, etc).
	Predation on the beach.		Ingestion of plastic or other debris.		Entanglement in fishing gear and marine debris.
	Floods.		Direct harvest.		Boat strikes.
			Poaching of juveniles for pet trade (very common in Maldives).		Destruction or modification of foraging areas (i.e. removal of seagrass) and nesting grounds.
					Disturbance caused by increased human activities on beaches.
					Obstacles on the beach.
					Disorientation due to light pollution.