

Scott Benson

Stationed at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, Scott Benson is the lead investigator of the leatherback turtle ecology program at NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center and coordinates studies of the distribution, abundance, movement patterns, foraging ecology, and health of endangered western Pacific leatherback turtles along the U.S. West Coast and throughout the Pacific. His research integrates bio-telemetry, aerial surveys, vessel-based sampling, and satellite remote sensing to enhance understanding of how oceanographic processes influence the occurrence and behavior of this species, and to aid U.S. and international conservation and recovery efforts. Since 1986, Scott has been involved in ecological research and conservation of marine vertebrates in the Pacific Ocean, including integrated studies of marine mammals and seabirds along the U.S. West Coast. His education includes a B.A. from San Diego State University and an M.S. in Marine Science from San Jose State University.