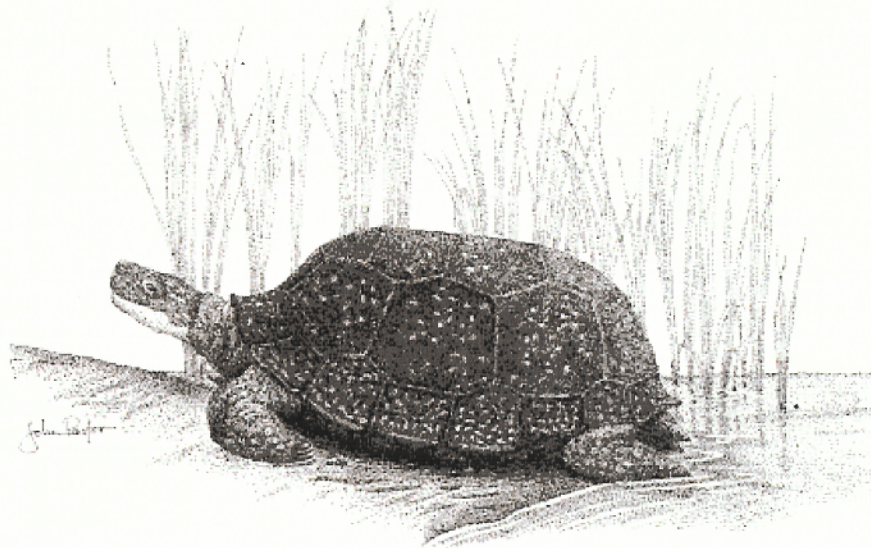


17th Annual Meeting of the
**Society for Conservation
Biology**

28 June - 2 July 2003 ; Duluth, Minnesota, USA

Book of Abstracts



Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingi*) - Drawing by Dr. John Pastor, 2002

Main Menu

Welcome to the Society for Conservation Biology Book of Abstracts CDROM!

Some of the documents on this CD were created using Adobe Acrobat v5.1. If you do not have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader web browser plug-in installed on this machine, you can find the latest version on the Adobe web site (<http://www.adobe.com>).

Schedule

- 2003 Annual Meeting Schedule ([PDF](#)) ([HTML](#))
Opens an indexed document that will display the conference schedule and link to the abstracts

Abstracts

file://D:\welcome.html

11/7/2003

P079 Romero, Aldemaro, and **JOEL CRESWELL**. Environmental Studies Program, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-1899, USA (romero@macalester.edu).

IN THE LAND OF THE MERMAID: HOW CULTURE, NOT ECOLOGY, INFLUENCED MARINE MAMMAL EXPLOITATION IN THE SOUTHEASTERN CARIBBEAN

Although some recent progress has been made in better understanding marine mammal utilization in the Southeastern Caribbean, no comparative analysis has been carried out to see how such practices originated, developed, and impacted the marine mammal populations in that region. We conducted studies for Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, Barbados, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Our results show that each one of those countries developed a different pattern of marine mammal exploitation when it came to whaling and dolphin fisheries, but similar patterns regarding manatees. Whaling was carried out by different people for different lengths of time and in different historical periods. Dolphin fisheries also developed differently in different countries. Most local populations of manatees in this area were depleted during colonial times. We conclude that these five neighboring countries, although sharing essentially the same marine mammal species, developed different exploitation practices in terms of species targeted, capture techniques, and time periods in which that exploitation took place due to historical, political, social, and economic circumstances.