

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN MARINE ANIMAL RESEARCH?



Dr Sabrina Fossette
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions



PROFESSIONAL

Day-to-day work and skills

I run conservation, research and monitoring projects on flatback turtles to better understand where they go, what they do and what they eat. I also assess where they might be at risk from human activities. Most of my time I am on a computer, writing and doing analyses. Throughout the year I also spend 2–3 months in the field, working on turtle-nesting beaches or on a boat at sea.

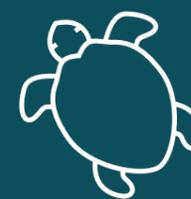
Top-level responsibilities

I work on projects that will make a difference in terms of protecting and conserving flatback turtles. This includes working as part of a team and with many different stakeholders to protect and conserve flatback turtles, achieving challenging project goals.

“WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO DO TO THIS CAREER?”

I wanted to travel, see wild places and rare species, but also wanted to make a difference and have a useful job.

PERSONAL



My interests and hobbies

I love discovering new places and cultures, wild camping, and watching wildlife. I also love sharing this experience with my friends and family.

I am passionate about...

I do not have a passion, exactly. But I am happy interacting with wildlife in wild, unspoiled places where very few people can go. Protecting those places and the animals that live there is what I am fighting for.

Current location or community

I was born in France but I have spent almost half of my life abroad. I enjoy living in Perth now with my husband and our 3-year-old daughter, and try to balance office work, field work and family life as best I can.



After my PhD I spent almost a year doing fieldwork in a remote Amerindian community in French Guiana (South America).

I was born in the north of France but grew up in Madagascar...

At a university in France I studied behavioural ecology, physiology and animal behaviour...

...before completing my PhD on the at-sea ecology of leatherback turtles.

I have worked on many different species during my career including marine turtles, humpback whales and jellyfish – researching their movements and behaviour.