ERETMOCHELYS IMBRICATA (Hawksbill Sea Turtle).

At least two species of marine turtles, including E. imbricata, are known to nest along the shoreline of Komodo National Park in Indonesia (Halim et al. 2001. Tigerpaper 28:10–18). At 0530 h on 8 November 2019, along the shore of Loh Liang on the south facing shore of Komodo Island (8.57393°E, 119.49683°S; WGS 84), the lead author observed an adult V. komodoensis actively hunting an adult nesting female E. imbricata. The turtle had just reached the shore, presumably to nest, and was captured along the water line. The V. komodoensis, ca. 2.5 m in total length, continued consuming the turtle until ca. 0940 h, when it was joined by a second, smaller (ca. 1.5 m in total length) V. komodoensis. The smaller individual was feeding on the hindquarter (Fig. 1). The turtle’s eggs and stomach were consumed through an opened wound in the back-left leg. By 1000 h, the larger V. komodoensis lifted the carcass onto the berm and finished consuming the remaining internal organs of the turtle, leaving only the carapace.


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