



NOMINATION APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Applicant Details:

Name: Manjula Tiwari

Date: 02/11/2025 15:17:30

Email address: manjula.tiwari@oceaneology.org

Nominated position: Secretary (1 x Open Position)

Professional affiliations: President, Ocean Ecology Network

Country of residence: USA

Geographic area of work: Global

Section 2: Applicant Response:

How would you describe your work with sea turtles?

Conservation scientist

How many years have you worked with sea turtles?

35

Which Annual Sea Turtle Symposia, or Annual Workshops have you attended?

All since 1994

Have you been involved with any Symposium activities?

As Secretary since 2004, Nominations Committee member & Chair, Session Chair, Regional Meeting Chair, Grassroots Awards Committee member

What would you like the Nominating Committee, Board of Directors, and membership to know about you as a candidate for your nominated position? In what ways would you like to contribute to the Symposium/ International Sea Turtle Society?

I have been the Secretary of the ISTS since 2004 and held other positions within the annual Symposia since 1994. I have an in-depth institutional memory and understanding of the workings of the ISTS. This is very valuable for the future of the ISTS as we move towards hiring an Executive Director.

How do you envision using the Symposium to advance sea turtle biology and promote conservation?

The Symposium is the best and biggest opportunity to meet and learn from people working on sea turtle biology and conservation around the world, and to improve my projects and efforts to conserve sea turtles.

Why is the ISTS as an organization important to you, professionally and personally? What is your vision for the ISTS over the next 5 to 10 years?

For me, the ISTS' s annual Symposium is an incredible opportunity to learn and be inspired by the people doing sea turtle science and conservation around the world. My vision for the ISTS over the next 5 to 10 years is to see it become more than a Symposium and play a bigger role in global sea turtle conservation.

Please include a 250-word bio

Manjula is a Conservation Scientist and a National Geographic Society Explorer with 35 years of experience in developing holistic conservation strategies in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the Western Pacific. Her projects cover a wide range of issues from marine turtle nesting beach ecology, to the impact of fisheries on sea turtle populations, and the socio-economic welfare of coastal communities. The local communities in the Turtle Islands of Sierra Leone have named a beach “Manjula Beach” in recognition of her efforts to conserve their sea turtles.

She was affiliated with the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA’s) Marine Turtle Ecology and Assessment Program in La Jolla,

California, for 20 years, and served as a Scientific and Technical Advisor to international sea turtle projects funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for 17 years.

Photo:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1SajCcFnQ3-khWYIKcr3tMHS4JMYJFquT>

Section 3: Declaration

Circle your response to the below statements:

I am a current member of ISTS Yes

I have read and understand the ISTS by-laws and constitution Yes

I have read and understand the terms of reference for the position which I am nominating for: Yes

For Board of Directors nominees, I understand that the Annual Board Retreat is usually in the 3rd week of August: undefined

For Board of Directors nominees: Please read the following statement and add your initials below to confirm you understand the workload involved:

The Board is a working Board. All members of the Board are expected to carry the workload, share the responsibility of assigned tasks, and respond to written communications – this can typically be 40+ hours per year in addition to the Board meeting at the Symposium and the Board Retreat. If a Board member does not maintain their ISTS membership and demonstrate a high level of commitment to the ISTS as described in the Board members' TORs, they will be asked to resign from the Board. High level of commitment is defined as a Board member physically attending a minimum of three mid year retreats during their 4-year Board term, attending online Board meetings consistently, serving annually on multiple Committees, completing assigned tasks, and being responsive to online communications and requests.

The 2025 Board retreat is 10th to 15th August 2025 in Washington DC.

MT