



Photo: Romano Losado



WILDCOAST is the leading coastal conservation group working in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Since 2012, we have operated our southernmost office out of Huatulco where we have two full time staff (just northwest of Barra de la Cruz).

The coastline surrounding Barra de la Cruz is rich with natural beauty and wonder as the dry tropical rainforest meets the ocean at wide sandy beaches and bays. These forest-fringed, white sand beaches and bays are home to some of the most climate resilient coral reefs in the world, as well as the 29,000-acre Bahias de Huatulco National Park.

They are also home to humpback whales, giant manta rays and the planet's most important sea turtle nesting beaches. Every year, hundreds of thousands of olive ridley turtles lay eggs on these beaches in mass nestings called arribadas, one of the most impressive wildlife phenomena on Earth. Barra de la Cruz is also a globally important nesting beach for critically endangered Leatherback sea turtles.

WILDCOAST conservation actions to date include the following:

- Protected more than 60 miles of coastline, including the beach of Barra de la Cruz, through conservation concessions with Mexico's National Protected Area Commission (CONANP);
- Installed mooring buoys on the coral reefs of Bahia de Huatulco National Park so anchoring dive and other tourist boats don't destroy coral reefs;
- Trained outfitters and park staff on best management practices for coral conservation;
- Providing key support to protect and monitor turtle nesting beaches;
- Carried out successful campaigns to halt sea turtle poaching reported on by National Geographic, New York Times, BBC, and media outlets worldwide;
- Carried out innovative work with the Mexican federal government to protect watersheds and wetlands from Huatulco south to Barra de la Cruz; and
- Worked with local indigenous communities to respond to and clean up after an extensive oil spill in 2012.



PHOTO: CLAUDIO CONTRERAS KOOB

WILDCOAST is an international team that conserves coastal and marine ecosystems and addresses climate change through natural solutions. Founded in 2000 and with offices in California and Mexico, WILDCOAST is conserving 37 million acres of coastal and marine ecosystems.



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