



# Role Model Environmental Activists

## Captain June

Let us think Green Project

Dalyan Meeting 22-28 October 2023

Dalyan- Ortaca-Muğla

# Captain June and Sea Turtles

(*Role Model Environmentalalist for Coming Generation*)



# Captain June and Sea Turtles

- **June Haimoff - Captain June**  
(27 December 1922 – 23 April 2022- Dalyan)  
She was an Role Model English [environmentalist](#)  
In the period from 1984 to 1988 she and fellow-environmentalists launched a successful campaign to preserve [İztuzu Beach](#) as a habitat for the endangered [loggerhead turtle](#) (*Caretta caretta*).
- **İztuzu beach** is one of the main nesting places of the species of [loggerhead turtle](#) in Türkiye and the Mediterranean



# Captain June and Sea Turtles



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## Conservation campaign

- **Captain June** visited southwestern Turkiye for the first time in July 1975, when the region was still outside the usual tracks of international tourism, by means of a boat (*Bouboulina*) purchased in [Greece](#).
- **Between 1975 and 1981** she occasionally stopped at İztuzu Beach and Dalyan on her boat trips and was therefore called "Kaptan June" (***Captain June***) by the locals.
- In 1984 she settled in Dalyan in her own baraka ([beach hut](#)) on İztuzu Beach.
- **When** it became clear that there were plans to exploit the beach for mass tourism, she started a campaign to preserve İztuzu Beach as a breeding habitat for the loggerhead turtle, which is on the [IUCN Red List](#).

# Captain June and Sea Turtles

- **In April 1987** building started on an 1800-bed hotel complex by the name of *Kaunos Beach Hotel*. This caused a storm of protests world-wide. There were protests from the [IUCN](#), [Greenpeace](#), the [World Wildlife Fund](#) and the *Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt*.
- **Particularly** in the former Federal Republic of Germany the building caused a major uproar, because the German DEG (Deutsche Finanzierungsgesellschaft für Beteiligungen in Entwicklungsländern) wanted to use an amount equivalent to 5 million euros from public means under the pretense of [development aid](#).



# Captain June and Sea Turtles



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- **June Haimoff –Captain June** approached the WWF and consequently [Prince Philip](#)—then President—asked the Turkish Prime Minister [Turgut Özal](#) for a moratorium, while awaiting the outcome of an [Environmental Impact Assessment](#).
- **In the meantime** the German Federal Government had forbidden DEG to invest development aid money for the building of the Kaunos Beach Hotel.
- **The project** was stopped in September 1987 and in 1988 the Turkish government decided to forbid future building at the beach. The Köyceğiz-Dalyan region then obtained the status of [Special Environmental Protection Area](#) (SEPA).
- **Afterwards**, June Haimoff dedicated her efforts to assure conservation of the site as well as for attracting international attention to the fate of the turtles



# Captain June and Sea Turtles

**DENİZ KAPLUMBAĞALARI ARAŞTIRMA KURTARMA VE REHABİLİTASYON MERKEZİ**  
**SEA TURTLE RESEARCH RESCUE AND REHABILITATION CENTER**

**YUVALAMA KUMSALINDA DİKKAT EDİLMESİ GEREKENLER**  
**THE CODE OF CONDUCT AT A NESTING BEACH**

- 1 ASLA ELLE BESLEMİYİNİZ  
NEVER FEED TURTLES BY HAND
- 2 ASLA DOKUNMAYINIZ  
UZAKTAN İZLEYİNİZ  
PLEASE KEEP YOUR DISTANCE
- 3 KIMSALDA KAPLUMBAĞA GÖRÜŞENİZ YAKLAŞMAYINIZ  
ÖNÜNDE DURMAYINIZ  
DON'T WALK AND STAND IN FRONT OF THE TURTLE
- 4 ÇÖPLERİNİZİ DOĞAYA ATMAYINIZ  
DON'T THROW LITTER TO THE NATURE
- 5 YAVRULARA DOKUNMAYINIZ  
DON'T TOUCH HATCHLINGS
- 6 EĞER YÖNÜNÜ ŞAŞIRMIS YAVRU GÖRÜŞENİZ DENİZE YÖNELDİRİN VE BİZİ ARAYINIZ  
HATCHLINGS HEADING TOWARDS INLAND, ROTATE THE HATCHLINGS TO FACE THE SEA AND CALL DEKAMER
- 7 YUVALAMA KUMSALINDA ŞEMSİYE YA DA PLAJ MOBİLYASI KULLANMAYINIZ  
DON'T PLACE YOUR UMBRELLA AND BEACH FURNITURE IN THE NESTING ZONE
- 8 KIMSALA ARAC İLE GİRMİYİNİZ  
DO NOT ENTER TO THE BEACH WITH A VEHICLE
- 9 KUMSALDAN GÖRÜLECEK IŞIKLARI KAPATINIZ VE PERDELEMELERİNİZİ KAPATINIZ  
TURN OFF THE LIGHTS THAT CAN BE VISIBLE FROM THE BEACH AND SCREEN YOUR LIGHT SOURCES
- 10 KIMSALDA ATEŞ YAKMAYINIZ VE FENERİLE DOĞULMAYINIZ  
DON'T BUILD BONFIRE DON'T USE TORCH ON THE BEACH
- 11 FLAŞLI FOTOĞRAF ÇEKMEYİNİZ  
NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY
- 12 GÜRÜLTÜ YAPMAYINIZ  
KACININIZ  
AVOID LOUD NOISES
- 13 YUVALAMA ALANINDA ÇUKUR KAZMAYINIZ  
KAZILAN ÇUKURLARI KAPATINIZ  
DON'T DIG HOLES IN THE NESTING ZONE AND PLEASE CLOSE ALL HOLES BEFORE SUNSET
- 14 YARALI VEYA ÖLÜ KAPLUMBAĞA GÖRÜŞENİZ DEKAMER İ ARAYINIZ  
- IF YOU FIND AN INJURED OR DEAD TURTLE, CALL DEKAMER
- 15 YUVALAMA KUMSALINA KÖPEK SOĞMAYINIZ  
DON'T LET DOGS TO THE NESTING BEACHES
- 16 YUVALAMA KUMSALI YAKINLARINDA AĞ ATMAYINIZ, OKTALARINIZ DENİZDE BİRAKMAYINIZ  
DON'T USE THE FISHING NETS IN A BAY OF NESTING BEACHES AND NEVER LEAVE YOUR FISHING EQUIPMENTS IN THE SEA

**DEKAMER**  
DENİZ KAPLUMBAĞALARI ARAŞTIRMA KURTARMA VE REHABİLİTASYON MERKEZİ

**Temmuz-Eylül Yavru Çıkışı**  
July-September Hatching

**25-30 Yıl Erginleşme**  
25-30 Years to Sexu Maturity

**Nisan - Çiftleşme**  
April - Mating

**Yaklaşık 2 Ay Kuluçka**  
2 Months Incubation

**Mayıs-Temmuz Yumurtlama**  
May-July Nesting

**Caretta caretta**  
İribaş Deniz Kaplumbağası  
Loggerhead Turtle

**Dermochelys coriacea**  
Deri Sırtlı Deniz Kaplumbağası  
Leatherback Turtle

**Chelonia mydas**  
Yeşil Deniz Kaplumbağası  
Green Turtle

**AKUT**  
24 RESCUE ASSOCIATION  
www.akut.org.tr

**TUI CARE FOUNDATION**  
**MAVA**  
**UN**  
**WWF**  
**REHABERİ**  
**btc**

**MED TURTLES**

# Captain June and Sea Turtles

- She herself related the struggle and the victory for the preservation of the turtle species in her book titled "*Kaptan June and the Turtles*" published for the first time in 1997.
- A second edition published in 2002 and titled, this time, "*Kaptan June and the Dalyan Turtles*", featuring a new prologue, two additional chapters, bringing the story up to date, and an index.
- Lately June Haimoff pursued her efforts in a wider frame, and was also concerned with the preservation of the nature in a more general sense with focus on the unique flora and fauna of the [Köyceğiz-Dalyan Special Environmental Protection Area](#).
- She was particularly concerned for the protection of the soft-shelled [Nile Turtle](#) and the [Oriental Sweetgum](#) trees (*Liquidambar orientalis*), another endemic species proper to the region.

# Captain June and Sea Turtles

- **Turtle Conservation Foundation**
- In 2009 June Haimoff took an exam to obtain Turkish citizenship to start a foundation to protect the habitat of the loggerhead turtle.
- The *Kaptan June Sea Turtle Conservation Foundation* was officially established in February 2011 and has its Information Centre and Museum in Kaptan June's Hut at the minibus side of the beach, overlooking the place where the building of the Kaunos Beach Hotel started in April 1987.
- Her work has been recognised by Queen [Elizabeth II](#) in the 2011 British New Year's Honors List.
- June Haimoff lived until her death in Dalyan in a traditional Turkish house, named "The Peaceable Kingdom". She lived a very active life, supported by many friends and surrounded by her many dogs and cats.



# Captain June and Sea Turtles

- Captain June is a role model environmentalist for future generations with her environmental sensitivity and activism. Therefore, she is a very important person.
- She is a person identified with Sea Turtles and Dalyan. While doing an environmental activity related to Dalyan and Iztuzu, Captain June had to be involved in the project work and that is what we did.
- We thank Captain June and her friends for their struggle to protect Iztuzu beach, Sea Turtles and the green and clean environment.

# Captain June and Sea Turtles

- References
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/June\\_Haimoff](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/June_Haimoff)
- <https://dalyanturtles.com/> ( Web site of Foundation)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=El2rXoyypjQ>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l0t8GSHmMMw>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MeBinl\\_LOZA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MeBinl_LOZA)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IB-7SGY6qZM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijT5PKCz6sQ>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNDVVrB2b-k>

# Captain June and Sea Turtles

**CAPTAIN JUNE**

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