

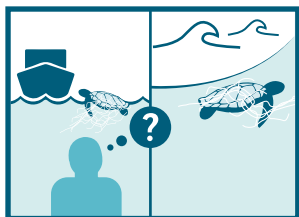
Finding an Entangled Sea Turtle

A step-by-step guide on what to do when you find an entangled sea turtle.



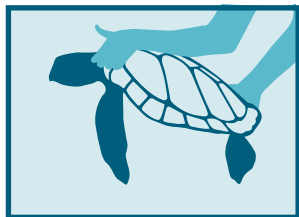
OLIVE RIDLEY
PROJECT

1



Stop, think and assess the situation. If the sea turtle is in the water, carefully retrieve it onto boat or dry land.

2



Do not pick up the sea turtle by the debris, but place one hand over the shoulder of one flipper/behind the head and the other hand between the back flippers above the tail.

3



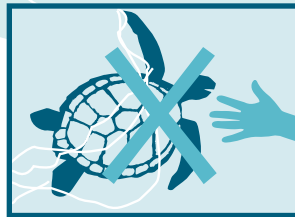
Lift the debris along with the sea turtle, so that it does not weigh the sea turtle down.

4



If the debris is attached to the reef, use a knife to cut it loose.

5



Be careful to keep fingers away from their beak, their bite is very painful!

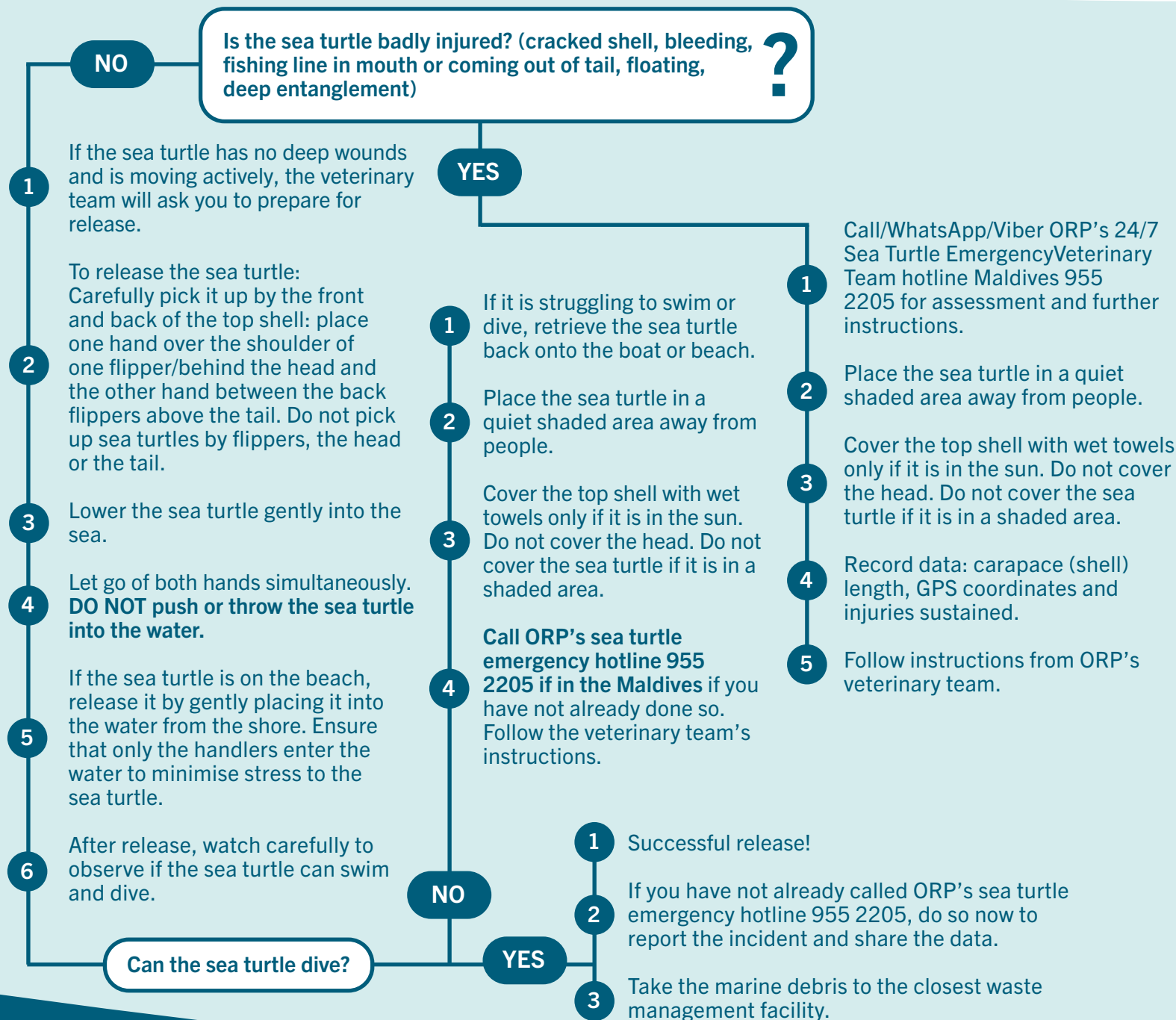
Once in a dry, ideally shaded, area, keep the sea turtle flat on its bottom shell. **NEVER place the sea turtle on its back.** Clear objects near the sea turtle so it does not injure itself.

Photograph/video the sea turtle including from above, both sides of its head, its injuries and the debris.

Carefully remove the debris from the sea turtle. **Do not remove anything that is cutting deeply into the skin or coming out from the sea turtle's tail or mouth;** these may extend far inside the body and must be removed by a veterinarian.

Maldives: **Call/WhatsApp/Viber ORP's 24/7 sea turtle veterinary hotline 955 2205** to consult our veterinary team who will do a video assessment of the situation and give further instructions.

Assess the injuries:



If the sea turtle needs medical assistance, it must be transported to one of ORP's sea turtle clinical facilities, Maldives. The veterinary team will provide instructions and arrange transfer.

A transportation box of appropriate dimensions will be needed for the transport. The veterinary team will give you details about the box requirements.

DO NOT add any other items to the box. **DO NOT** cover the sea turtle with a towel.