

Cooperative Marine Turtle Tagging Program

Annual Report
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In April 1999, the management of the Cooperative Marine Turtle Tagging Program (CMTTP) was transferred from the Miami Laboratory of the Southeast Fisheries Science Center to the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research (ACCSTR) at the University of Florida. This report describes the activities and accomplishments of the CMTTP from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the funding agency.

Annual Activities of the CMTTP

1. We have maintained a web site for the CMTTP [<http://accstr.ufl.edu/cmttp.html>]. The web site includes instructions on how to obtain tags and applicators and all of the CMTTP documents:

CMTTP New Policy [request for payment and new tag return address and offer of reward]

CMTTP Requesting Tags and Data Policy

CMTTP Protocols for Handling, Tagging, and Measuring Marine Turtles

Recommendations for Activities Involving Brief Captivity with Non-Invasive or Minimally Invasive Procedures by L. H. Herbst and E. R. Jacobson

The web site also has the following two documents in Adobe Acrobat pdf format:

CMTTP Tag Request Form

CMTTP Tagging Data Form

2. We have continued this year to invest substantial time in cleaning up the computer files transferred to us. In particular, the NEWTAG database continues to require significant effort. We are still filling in gaps in the database as a result of substantial correspondence with CMTTP participants. We continue to discover, and correct, many errors in the database.
3. From 1 April 2007 through 31 March 2008, we purchased 12,000 Inconel tags (style 681) and 40 applicators from National Band and Tag Company. All the tags have a UF return address and offer of a reward. Tag series purchased were YYL000-999, YYM000-999, YYN000-999, YYP000-999, YYR000-999, YYS000-999, YYT000-999, YYV000-999, YYW000-999, YYX000-999, YYY000-999, and YYZ000-999.
4. From 1 April 2007 through 31 March 2008, we distributed a total of 8800 style 681 tags, 900 plastic rototags, 100 style 893 tags (small monel tags), and 43 applicators (Table 1). We recorded the value of the plastic tags and style 893 tags as \$0 in Table 1, because these tags were left over from the original inventory we received from NMFS in 1999 and will not be replaced. We received all required permits and project descriptions from each of these programs.
5. From 1 April 2007 through 31 March 2008, we received a total of \$3650 in payment for tags and applicators, and an additional \$772 is promised (Table 1). These funds have been deposited in the University of Florida Foundation / CMTTP account that we maintain to receive payments for tags and applicators.

6. Table 2 shows the responses that we have received from participants on the allowable use of tagging data by NMFS. If no "Allowable Use" category is checked by the CMTTP collaborator, we assume that these are "No additional use without permission" as stated in the CMTTP Requesting Tags and Data Policy.
7. From 1 April 2007 through 31 March 2008, we received recapture reports for 1848 sea turtles. We entered 2535 records into the NEWTAG database, both the 1848 recapture reports and 687 original tagging reports. Data were entered into the NEWTAG database, original taggers of the turtles were notified, and the individual reporting the tag was sent tagging information on the turtle and, if appropriate, a reward of \$5.00 per tag.
8. We continue to receive electronic tagging data files from some programs, e.g., St. Lucie Power Plant, Juno Marinelife Center, Buck Island NWR, USVI, St. Croix, USVI, NOAA Beaufort Lab, NOAA Galveston Lab, and East Coast Observers, Inc. These files have been converted to Access, and files from each locality for each project have been combined into one file.
9. Beginning in January 2007, we developed an additional database to track original tagging records received. This database serves as a log for the number of records received by the CMTTP program. From 1 April 2007 through 31 March 2008, we received 5716 records for the CMTTP files (3984 electronic and 2560 on paper; some programs send both electronic and paper records).
10. We reviewed individually all hard copy data sheets that were submitted without an electronic file and entered all recaptures into NEWTAG. All original tagging records were filed after their numbers were entered into FINDTAG and/or PITTAG. The number of tagging programs that only submit hard copy data sheets is still significant. We will continue to encourage these CMTTP collaborators to submit their data electronically, as well as hard copies, to lessen the work involved in managing CMTTP databases.
11. We store all CMTTP paperwork in fireproof filing cabinets. Two cabinets were transferred to us from NMFS in 1999 when the ACCSTR assumed responsibility for managing CMTTP. We purchased a third fireproof filing cabinet during 2003 with funds from the University of Florida Foundation / CMTTP account.
12. The importance of the CMTTP for preserving tagging records was highlighted this year. We received requests from three participating programs for copies of records they submitted in the past. The Georgia Sea Turtle Center took over the Jekyll Island Authority tagging program. However, all past data records were missing. The CMTTP was able to provide over 800 records to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center of past nestings on Jekyll Island and recaptures of their turtles. The Mote Marine Lab also contacted us that they were unable to locate their 1996 Manasota Key tagging forms. Again, we were able to provide them with about 300 copies from the CMTTP files. We were also contacted about supplying missing tagging data for the Camp Lejeune project, but this request has not been finalized.

Table 1. Number of tags and applicators distributed from 1 April 2007 through 31 March 2008 with cost-recovery information. See Table 3 for organization codes.

Organization	# Tags	# Applicators	Cost	No funds available	Check Promised	Check Received	Issue Date
MIAM	900	0	\$630			X	4/3/07
CITP	200	5	\$230	X			4/5/07
AVES	200	0	\$140	X			4/11/07
MMLB	100	1	\$88			X	4/19/07
GSTC	500	7	\$476			X	4/24/07
JUNO	200	0	\$140			X	5/7/07
FCOM	100	2	\$106	X			5/9/07
CINC	100	0	\$70	X			5/9/07
HOND	100	0	\$70	X			5/9/07
TXAM	100	0	\$70			X	6/4/07
BUIS	400	4	\$352			X	6/4/07
AVES	200	0	\$140	X			6/29/07
PASC	100	0	\$70			X	7/23/07
GALV	300	0	\$210			X	7/23/07
CWLD	100	0	\$70			X	8/6/07
SCTY	200	0	\$140			X	8/9/07
HOND	200	0	\$140	X			8/13/07
VIMS	100	2	\$106		X		8/20/07
NCMF	100	1	\$88	X			8/30/07
AVES	200	0	\$140	X			9/27/07
SCNR	100	1 (Style 893)	\$0 (Style 893 tags)	X			9/27/07
TOFD	200	0	\$140			X	10/9/07
STCB	200	0	\$0 (Plastic Rototags)	X			10/24/07
CULE	200	0	\$0 (Plastic Rototags)	X			11/8/07
HHMP	100	0	\$70			X	11/13/07
PMSC	100	1	\$88	X			11/19/07
FFAR	100	1	\$88			X	12/18/07
AVES	700	0	\$490	X			1/16/08
MPAA	0	5	\$90			X	1/18/08
CFBC	200	2	\$176	X			2/5/08
CULE	500	0	\$0 (Plastic Rototags)	X			2/11/08
CULE	200	0	\$140			X	2/11/08
SCNR-SEAMAP	100	0	\$70			X	2/12/08
SCNR-MRD	700	0	\$490			X	2/12/08
SLSTCP	100	4	\$142	X			2/12/08

MIAM	300	0	\$210			X	2/15/08
WIMR	400	0	\$280	X			2/18/08
UALG	200	4	\$212	X			2/27/08
MMLB	200	0	\$140		X		3/17/08
JUNO	100	2	\$106			X	3/17/08
GALV	600	0	\$420		X		3/26/08
UNTX	100	2	\$106		X		3/31/08

Table 2. List of allowable use of data approved by CMTTP participants, 1999 - 2008. See Table 3 for organization codes.

Name	Organization	No Additional Use without Permission	Presentation/ Publication of any Data	Present/Publ Of my turtles recaptured elsewhere	Present/Publ of my recapture data of turtles tagged elsewhere
Manjula Tiwari	ANGL	X			
Tara George	ASSH	X			
Vincent Vera	AVES	X			
George Baird	BBIO		X	X	X
Linda Searle	BELZ				
Gilbert Powell	BHIC		X	X	X
Melissa Hedges	BHIC	X			
Joanne McNeill	BOFT	X			
Larisa Avens	BOFT	X			
Zandy Hillis-Starr	BUIS	X			
Jonathan Aiken	CAYM				
Vivian Paez	CHIBIQUI		X	X	X
Peter Pritchard	CHRI	X			
David Addison	CINC	X			
Rebecca Bell	CITP	X			
Scott Brewer	CLMC		X	X	X
Glenn Harman	CMSC		X	X	X
Christopher Slay	COCO			X	X
Rodrigo Villate	COLB		X		
P. J. Deitschel	CROW		X		
Ray Carthy/ Erin McMichael	CSBL	X			
Ray Carthy/Meg Lamont	CSBL	X			
Ray Carthy/ Russell Scarpino	CSBL	X			
Carlos Diez	CULE	X			
John Kerivan	CWLD				
Yolanda Leon	DMRP		X		
Karen Holloway-Adkins	ECBI	X			
Trish Bargo	ECOI		X	X	X
Conrad Litz III	EPCT				
Ilze Berzins	FLAQ		X	X	X
Ben Higgins	GALV	X			
David Rostal	GASU		X		
Mark Dodd	GDNR	X			
Phil Allman	GHANA		X	X	X
Sara McNulty	GLOU	X			
Anne Rudloe	GSML		X	X	X
Kevin Bleck	HBSP		X		
Richie Moretti	HHMP		X	X	X
Stephen Dunbar	HOND	X			
Michael Bresette	IRLS	X			

Juan A. Caminas	IEOM	X			
Jan Caton	JISL				
Chris Johnson	JUNO	X			
Alejandro Fallabrino	KARU	X			
Andres Estrades	KARU	X			
Cindy Driscoll	MDNR	X			
Tricia Kimmel	MDNR	X			
Sheryan Epperly	MIAM		X		
Dennis Lee	MIAM			X	
Brad Dawe	MLCC		X	X	X
Jerris Foote	MMLB	X			
Tony Tucker	MMLB		X	X	X
Manjula Tiwari	MORC	X			
Mariel Labrana	MPAA				
David Schofield	NAIB	X			
Red Munden	NCMF		X	X	X
Ruth Boettcher	NCWR		X	X	X
Wendy Cluse	NCWR		X		
Josh Sheldon	OCLI		X		
Scott Heppell	ORSU				
Terry Henwood	PASC		X		
Jose Luis di Paola	PEYU	X			
Donna Shaver	PINS	X			
Michelle Bauer	PMSC		X		
Hector Horta	PRNR				
Eduardo Cuevas	PRON	X			
Jonathan Gorham	QURI		X		
Michael Bresette	QURI	X			
Trish Bargo	REMS		X	X	X
Kim Durham	RVHD	X			
Kennard Watson	SABM		X	X	X
Sally Hopkins-Murphy	SCNR	X			
Bruce Stender - MRD	SCNR	X			
Pearse Webster - SEAMAP	SCNR		X		
Kenya Leonard	SCTY		X		
Jerris Foote	SCTY	X			
Claudia Lombard	SCVI	X			
Edward Aruna-Manjula Tiwari	SLSTCP				
Kris Williams	SVAN	X			
Andre Landry	TAMU	X			
Thane Wibbels	UNAB				
Jim Richardson	UNGA	X			
Rogério Ferreira	UNIDA			X	
Anthony Amos	UNTX		X	X	X
Amber Von Harten	USCB		X	X	X
Herman Von	USCB		X	X	X

Harten					
William Coles	USVI	X			
Kemit-Amon Lewis	USVI		X	X	
Kate Mansfield	VIMS	X			
Mark Swingle	VMSM	X			
Cheryl Ryder	WHOL				
Heather Haas	WHOL		X		
Steve Garner	WIMR	X			
Ross Witham	WTHM	X			

Table 3. The 4-letter codes for the CMTTP collaborators. These codes are maintained in the database "WHOTAGGED".

ABIO:	Applied Biology, Inc.
ACEN:	US Army Corps of Engineers
ANGL:	Chevron-Angola
ANMA:	Anna Maria Turtle Watch Group
AQAM:	Aquarium of the Americas
ASSH:	Ascension Island - St. Helena Hawksbill Project
AVES:	Ministry of Environment, Venezuela (Aves Island Project)
BAHA:	Bahamas, Ministry of Agriculture and Fish (Colin Higgs)
BBIO:	CP&L Brunswick Biology Laboratory
BBIS:	Blackbeard Island NWR, GA
BCAS:	Broward County Audubon Society
BELZ:	Symbios, Belize
BERMUDA:	Bermuda Project – Anne & Peter Meylan
BHIC:	Bald Head Island Conservancy
BOFT:	NMFS Beaufort Laboratory
BUIS:	Buck Island National Monument
CAYM:	Cayman Islands Dept. of Environment
CCC:	Caribbean Conservation Corporation
CCNS:	Cape Canaveral National Seashore
CFBC:	Chi’K’Ak’Nab Foundation for Biodiversity Conservation, Yucatan
CFRA:	Cape Florida State Recreation Area
CHNS:	Cape Hatteras National Seashore
CHRI:	Chelonian Research Institute (Peter Pritchard)
CHWK:	Eddie Chadwick, <u>Mickey Anne</u>
CINC:	The Conservancy, Inc.
CINS:	Cumberland Island National Seashore
CITP:	Little Cumberland Island Turtle Project
CLMC:	Camp LeJeune Marine Corps Base
CLNS:	Cape Lookout National Seashore
CMSC:	Clearwater Marine Science Center
CNWR:	Culebra Island National Wildlife Refuge
COCO:	Coastwise Consulting, Inc.
COLB:	Colombia (Islas del Rosario)
CRCH:	Caretta Research (Charles LeBuff)
CROW:	Clinic for Rehabilitation of Wildlife (Sanibel, FL)
CSBL:	Cape San Blas, Gulf Co., FL (Ray Carthy)
CULE:	Culebra Island, Puerto Rico (Carlos Diez)
CWLD:	SeaWorld of Florida
DALH:	Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada (Mike James)
DEFW:	Delaware Fish & Wildlife
DMRP:	Dominican Republic (Yolanda Leon)
DSCM:	Discovery Center Museum
ECBI:	East Coast Biologists

ECOI: ECO, Inc. (Trish Bargo)
 ENPK: Everglades National Park
 EPCT: Living Seas, EPCOT
 FCOM: Fundacion Colombia Marina (Tayrona N.P.)
 FDEP: Florida Dept.of Environmental Protection & Florida Marine Research Institute
 FDNR: Florida Department of Natural Resources & Florida Marine Research Institute
 FFAR: Fundacion Fauna Argentina
 FWCC: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission & FMRI
 FGBS: Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary
 FLAQ: Florida Aquarium, Tampa
 FLPS: Florida Park Service/ Save A Turtle
 FPCR: Florida Power, Crystal River Energy Complex
 GALH: Galveston Headstart Program
 GALV: NMFS Galveston Laboratory non-headstart studies
 GASU: Georgia Southern University (David Rostal)
 GDNR: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
 GHANA: Phil Allman, Ohio Univ.
 GINS: Gulf Islands National Seashore
 GLOU: NMFS Gloucester Lab, MA
 GLPZ: Gladys Porter Zoo
 GREF: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary
 GSAF: Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation
 GSML: Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory (= PANA)
 GSTC: Georgia Sea Turtle Center (Bill Irwin)
 GUCB: Golfo de Uraba, Caribbean Colombia
 GULF: Gulfarium
 HBSP: Hammocks Beach State Park
 HHMP: Hidden Harbor Marine Environment Project & Turtle Hospital
 HIRT: Harold Hirth - Costa Rica (= UTAH)
 HISP: Huntington Island State Park
 HOND: Honduras Project – Steve Dunbar, Loma Linda University
 HSTR: Halderman Creek Sea Turtle Research/ H.C. Fish House
 IEOM: Instituto Espanol de Oceanografia Malaga Centre
 INMA: Institute of Marine Affairs
 INMS: Institute of Marine Science, Moorehead City
 INPM: INP - Mexico
 IWRG: Inwater Research Group (Michael Bresette)
 JCWS: Johnson Controls World Services
 JISL: Jekyll Island Authority
 JSCH: Jeff Schmid, NMFS-Miami
 JUNO: Marinelife Center of Juno Beach
 KARU: Proyecto Karumbe, Uruguay
 KSCF: Kennedy Space Center, Florida (Mario Mota)
 KWAQ: Key West Aquarium/ Florida Marine Conservancy
 LAAZ: Louisiana Audubon Zoological Park & Gardens
 LTIP: Little Talbot Island State Park

MASS: Massachusetts Audubon Society
 MDNR: Maryland Department of Natural Resources
 MEDC: Marine Education Ctr/Bureau of Marine Resources: Marine Life Oceanarium
 MERR: Marine Education, Research & Rehabilitation Institute, Delaware
 MIAM: NMFS Miami Laboratory
 MLFL: Marineland of Florida
 MMLB: Mote Marine Laboratory
 MMSC: Marine Mammal Stranding Center
 MONA: Mona Island Turtle Project
 MORC: Morocco Project (Manjula Tiwari)
 MPAA: Mar del Plata Aquarium, Argentina
 NAIB: National Aquarium in Baltimore
 NBLS: National Biological Service, Gainesville, FL
 NCAQ: All aquariums in North Carolina
 NCCE: Wilmington (NC) District, Corps of Engineers
 NCMF: North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
 NCWR: North Carolina Wildlife & Resources Commission
 NEAQ: New England Aquarium
 NMLC: National Marine Life Center, Buzzards Bay, MA
 NOVA: Nova Southeastern University, Oceanographic Center
 OLCI: Oceanlife Consulting, Inc.
 OORF: Okeanos Ocean Research Foundation (OORF/RVHD)
 ORSU: Oregon State University, Dept. of Fisheries & Wildlife
 OWFL: OceanWorld of Florida
 PANA: Panacea Institute of Marine Science
 PANC: NMFS Panama City Laboratory
 PASC: NMFS Pascagoula Laboratory
 PAUN: Pan American University
 PEYU: Proyecto Peyu, Argentina
 PINS: Padre Island National Seashore
 PMSC: Ponce Inlet Marine Science Center, Volusia Co., FL
 PRON: ProNatura Peninsula de Yucatan, Mexico
 PRNR: Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources
 PSEG: Public Service Electric & Gas
 QURI: Quantum Resources Inc.
 REMS: Research, Environmental & Management Support, VA
 RSMS: Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science (University of Miami)
 SABM: St. Andrew Bay Resource Management Association
 SADV: Sam Sadove
 SANA: Caretta Research/Sanibel Island
 SCCP: St. Croix Marine Turtle Conservation Project
 SCNR: SC Department of Natural Resources/ SC Wildlife & Marine Resources
 SCTY: Sarasota County of Natural Resources
 SCVI: USFWS, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
 SEAQ: Miami Seaquarium
 SERO: NMFS Southeast Regional Office

SIRA: Sebastian Inlet State Recreation Area
SJPP: St. Joseph Peninsula State Park
SLCC: Shoreline Consulting Co.
SLSTCP: Sierra Leone Sea Turtle Conservation Project
SMEC: J. L. Scott Marine Education Center
STCB: Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire
STIP: Sea Turtle, Inc., South Padre Island, Texas
STPS: Sea Turtle Preservation Society
SVAN: Savannah Science Museum, Inc.
TOFD: Taras Oceanographic Foundation (Larry Wood)
TOPS: Topsail, NC
TXAM: Texas A & M University, Institute of Marine Life Sciences
TXPW: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Sea Rim State Park & USFWS
UALG: University of Algarve, Portugal
UNAB: University of Alabama at Birmingham
UNCCH: University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (Ken Lohmann)
UNCF: University of Central Florida
UNCW: University of North Carolina Wilmington
UNFL: University of Florida
UNGA: University of Georgia
UNIDA: Sao Tome e Principe (Rogerio Ferreira)
UNKN: Unknown datasource
UNNH: University of New Hampshire (Molly Lutcavage)
UNRI: University of Rhode Island
UNTX: University of Texas at Austin, Marine Science Institute
USCB: Univ. of South Carolina Beaufort, Pritchards Island Project
USVI: U. S. Virgin Islands, Department of Wildlife
UTAH: University of Utah
UWFL: University of West Florida
VATC: Virginia Polytechnic Institute
VIMS: Virginia Institute of Marine Science
VMMS: Virginia Marine Science Museum
WHOL: NMFS/NEFC Woods Hole Laboratory
WIMR: WIMARCS, St. Croix, USVI
WTHM: Ross Witham Headstart (FDNR) Program
WWDL: World Wildlife Fund