

Updates on Terrapin Research in Texas

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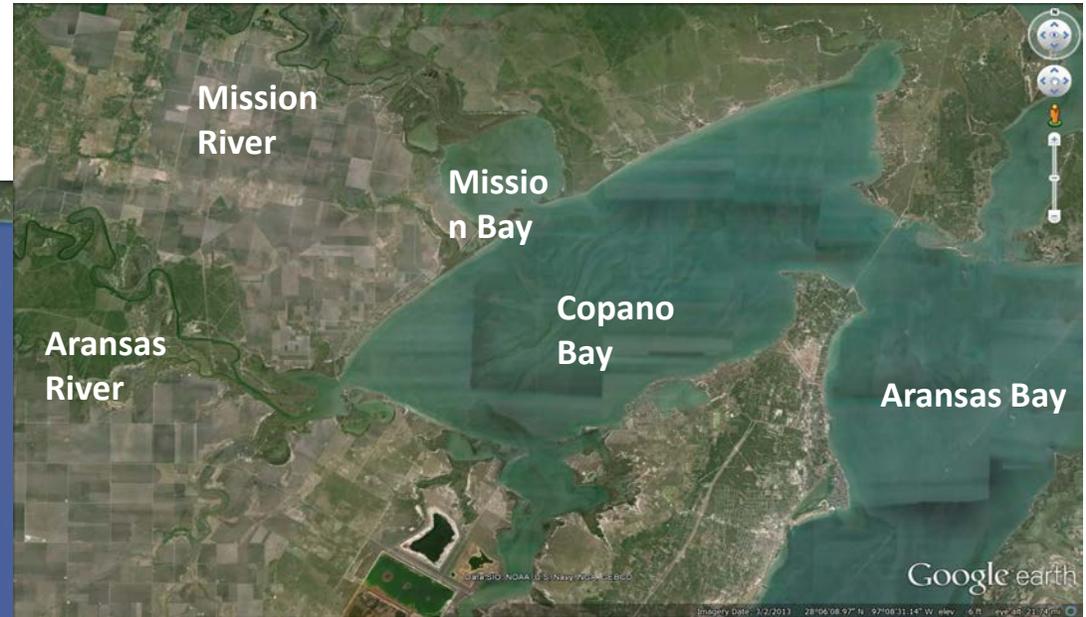
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Study Areas - TAMUCC



Past Terrapin Research at Center for Coastal Studies (Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi)

- Population Surveys
 - Nueces, Copano, Oso Bays
- Bycatch Reduction Studies
 - Nueces and Mission-Aransas Estuaries
- Physiological Stressors Study
 - Affects of salinity on stress
 - Nueces, Copano, Oso Bays
- Nesting Beach Identification Studies
 - Nueces and Mission-Aransas Estuaries
- Cold Weather Behavioral Study
 - Movements during winter months
 - Nueces Bay



Current/Future Terrapin Research at Center for Coastal Studies

- Continued population surveys
 - When funding/time permits
 - Limited sampling events of the past several years due to these restraints
- eDNA Study
 - Funded by Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program
 - Sampling to begin Spring 2021
 - Seeks to development an eDNA assay for detection of terrapins in Texas Coastal Bend.



Partners

Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program



Mission-Aransas National Estuarine
Research Reserve



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department



Texas Turtles

UHCL-EIH Terrapin Monitoring Program

- Entering 14th year (2008-present)
- Covers 9 counties & 5 major bay systems
- Over 1,000 marked turtles state-wide
- 6 grant funded studies (2008-2015; 2016-2017)
 - Population Study on Deer Island (HZA 2008)
 - Mid-Coast Complex Surveys (USFWS 2009)
 - Population Status & Demographics (Sea Grant 2010-2012)
 - By-Catch Study (TPWD & USFWS 2012-2014)
 - Mid- & Upper Texas Coast Surveys (TPWD SWG 2014)
 - Continued Monitoring (THS 2016-2017)



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- 6 grant funded studies (2008-2015; 2016-2017)
- 5 graduate theses (2011-2015)
 - Abundance & Movement (Haskett [Ondracek] 2011)
 - Activity & Habitat Selection (Clarkson 2012)
 - Genetic Variation (Glenos [Gynego] 2013)
 - Nesting Ecology (George 2014)
 - Diet, Habitat, & Prey Availability (Alleman 2015)



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UHCL-EIH Terrapin Monitoring Program

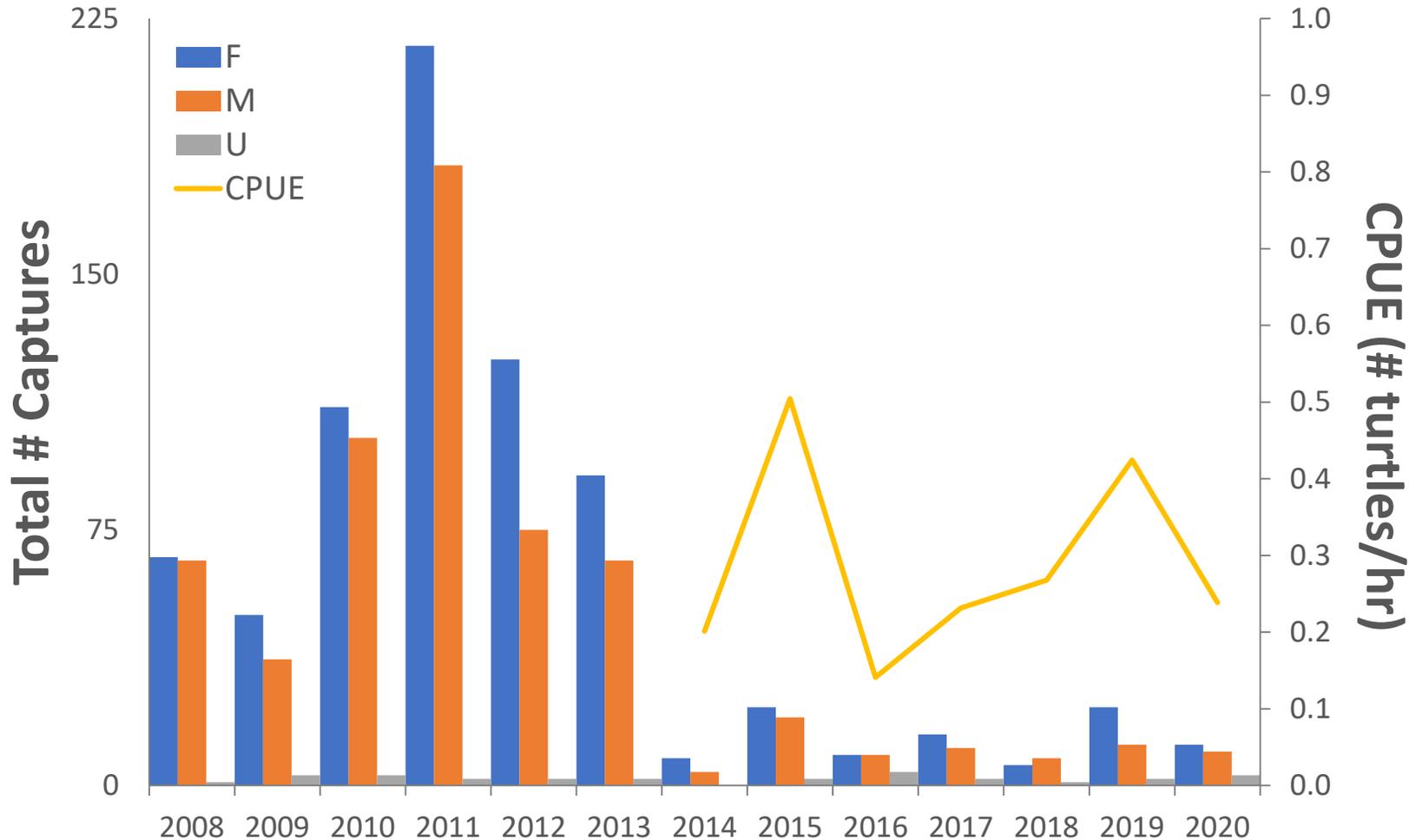
- Entering 14th year (2008-present)
- Covers 9 counties & 5 major bay systems
- Over 1,000 marked turtles state-wide
- 6 grant funded studies (2008-2015; 2016-2017)
- 5 graduate theses (2011-2015)
- Future Plans
 - Continued population monitoring (unfunded)
 - Potential nesting beach surveys (unfunded)
 - Continued compilation of anecdotal and citizen science based reports (unfunded)

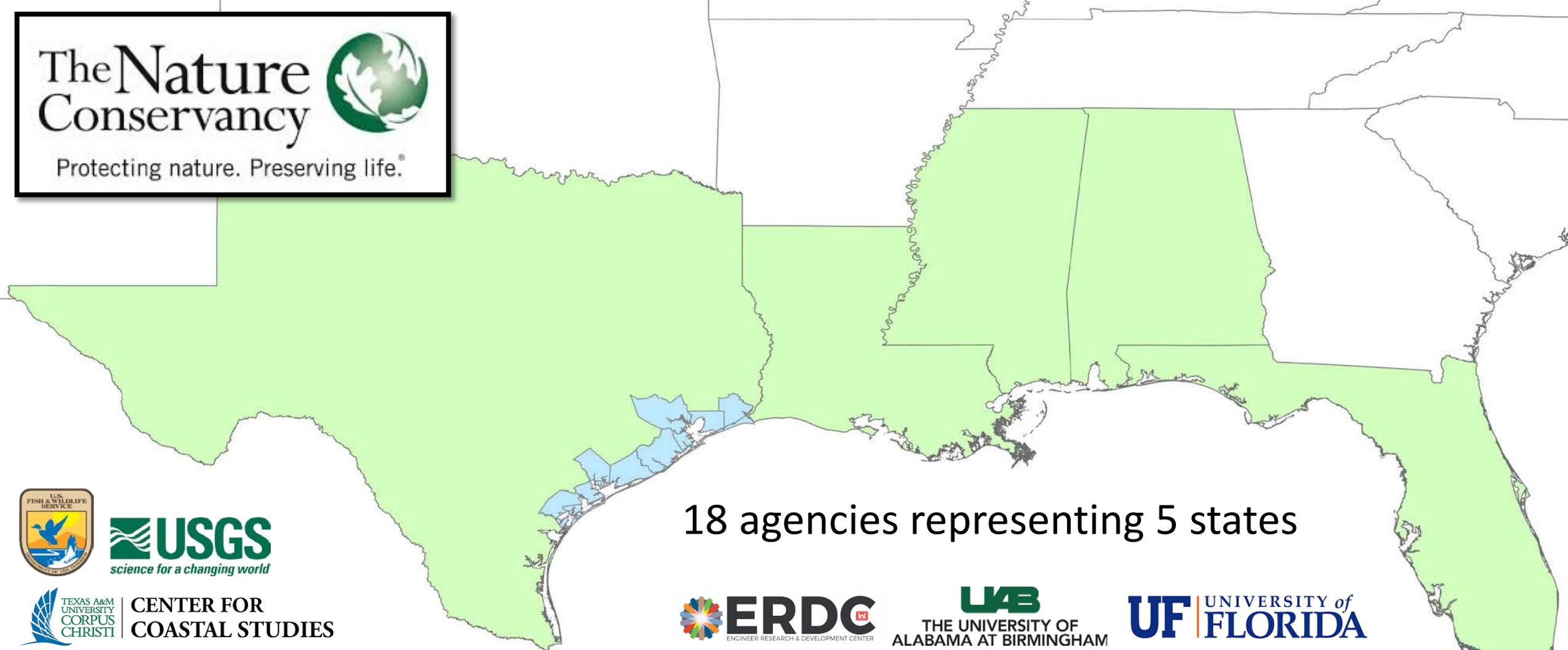


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Current and Historic Capture Rates

Random Terrapin Captures (2008-2020)
and Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE; 2014-2020)





18 agencies representing 5 states



Gulf Coast-Wide Terrapin Conservation Action Plan

Thank You!

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