

NOAA



Using time-specific samples to assess shifts in species distribution

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Thank You!

Turtle Eco

SC

G

DE LAS CALIFORNIAS

Larisa Avens, Lisa Goshe, Dana Briscoe, Larry Crowder, Juan Manuel Rodriguez-Barón, Victor de la Toba, Chuy Lucero, Erin LaCasella, Brenna Groom, Gaby Serra-Valente, Joel Schumacher







Population assessment



Life history

- Life span
- Age-at-settlement
- Age at 1st reproduction

Distribution

R

Key habitats Migration patterns Residency duration

Survival

- Habitat specific
- Life stage specific
- Risk assessment

Important to determine

Differential threats



Nearshore *i.e. Trawl, gillnet, dredge*



Complex life history

- Long-lived
- Migratory
- Occupy remote regions



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My research priorities

- Demographic vital rates
 - Age
 - Growth
- Residency duration
 - High-risk habitats
 - Changes over time







Habitat use \rightarrow Satellite telemetry

Satellite telemetry \rightarrow few years Life span \rightarrow 50+ years

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ Ralph Pace NMFS Permit 060213

Eastern Pacific foraging hotspot

~ 43,000 loggerheads (Seminoff et al. 2014)





Long-term patterns and changes?



Moratorium Protection Act: 2015 Negative Certification

2016 Certified



~1,000 mortalities annually



Track individual turtles for multiple years

Use stranded animals, inherently focus on at-risk populations and critical habitats

- What ages are found here?
- What is the residency duration?
- Is there variability in duration?

What's the mechanism bringing turtles to this habitat?

Is this distribution shifting?



☐ Skeletochronology



Stable Isotope Analysis

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Skeletochronology: Multi-year demographic data



Backcalculate size (Snover et al. 2007); Estimate Age (Avens et al. 2012)

Spend ~20 years in high-bycatch area



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(Turner Tomaszewicz et al. 2015 Bio Con)

Is there variation in residency duration?



Skeletochronology + Stable Isotopes TIME in each LOCATION



(Turner Tomaszewicz et al. 2015 RCMS; 2016 MEE, 2017 JAE, 2018 MEPS)

Isotopically distinct habitats





Recruitment timing \rightarrow Mechanism?



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(Turner Tomaszewicz et al.2017, Journal Animal Ecology)

Habitat use by juveniles

1997-2006, n = 186



⁽Kobayashi et al. 2008)





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(Abecassis et al. 2013)





Fidelity to thermal gradients



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(Howell et al. 2015)

Fidelity to thermal gradients



From Briscoe et al. 2016 ISTS Presentation POTENTIAL CORRIDOR CONNECTS CENTRAL NORTH PACIFIC LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLES TO BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO Dana K Briscoe^{1*}, Turner-Tomaszewicz C.², Balazs G.³, Bograd S.⁴, Hazen E.⁴, Kurita M.⁵, Kurle, C.², Okamoto H.⁵, Parker D.⁶, Polovina J.³, Rice M.⁷, Saito T.⁸, Scales K^{4,9}, Seminoff J.⁴, Crowder L.B.¹

Also off the coast of Southern California!



Southern California, USA







Thermal corridor facilitates recruitment May 2005 to August 2008 Month 5 : 2005 30 50"N 25 40" Latitude SS 15 East Pacific 30°N 10 Barrier - 5 20°N 0 140"E 140 W 160'E 180" 160°W 120"W Longitude

From Briscoe et al. 2016 ISTS Presentation

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Thank you

Jeffrey Seminoff Tomo Eguchi Erin LaCasella, **Robin LeRoux Garrett Lemons**, **Joel Schumacher** Gaby Serra-Valente Hoyt Peckham, Victor de la Toba, Chuy Lucero, **Catherine Hart**, Francis Kinney, Alex Gaos & more with Grupo Tortuguero











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