Continental Shelf Characterization, Assessment, and Mapping Project

Assessing Sea Turtle Populations With a Towed Camera System

The C-BASS (Camera-Based Assessment Survey System) was designed with the intention of providing a non-lethal surveying option for observing and characterizing the population and habitat of reef fishes and endangered sea turtles on the West Florida Shelf.

Real-time, *in-situ* observations of sea turtles can be used to collect data such as:

- Use of marine habitats
- Associated environmental data
- Distribution
- Sex determination
- Size estimates and life stage determination
- Behavior

This project collected *in-situ* data on 80 individual sea turtles between 2014 and 2019, most of which were Loggerheads but also included Green and Kemp's ridley sea turtles. this information is beneficial for the conservation and management of these endangered species by better understanding their populations and habitat use throughout the West Florida Shelf.

C-SCAMP

WWW.MARINE.USF.EDU/SCAMP
CSCAMPDATA@USF.EDU

PUBLICATIONS

Broadbent, H.A., Grasty, S.E., Hardy, R., Lamont, M.M., Hart, K.M., Lembke, C., Brizzolara, J.L., and Murawski, S. (2020) "West Florida Shelf Pipeline Serves as Benthic Habitat for Sea Turtles." *Aquatic Biology*. Accepted November 2019.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
College of MARINE SCIENCE

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

@CSCAMPscience

C-SCAMP Videos

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