

Lionfish Update – Fall 2010

Pam Schofield



James Morris



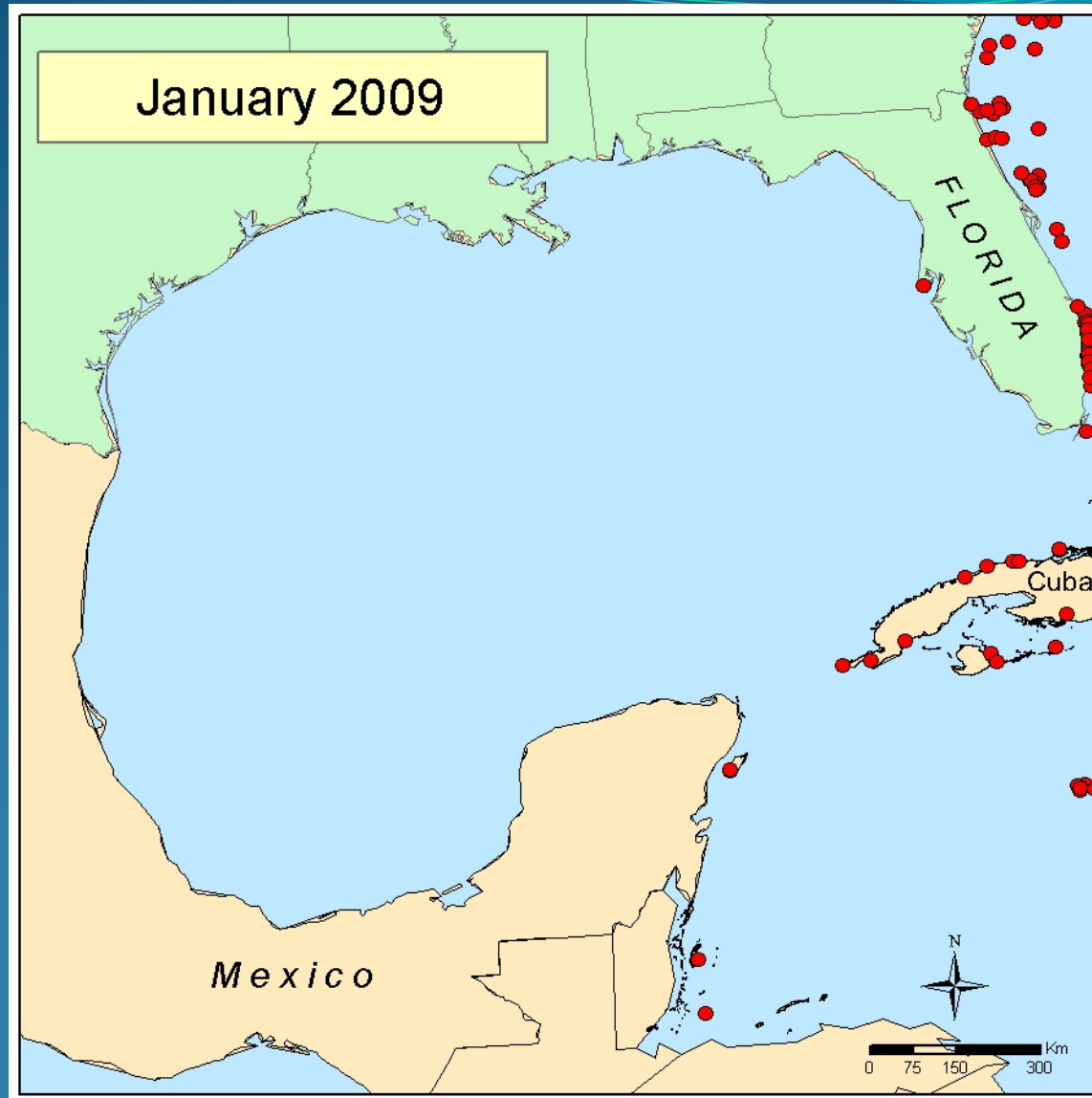
Lad Akins



Presented to: Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, St. Petersburg, Florida. October 2010

- Update on expansion of lionfish
(Gulf of Mexico)
- Lionfish derbies in Keys
- Update from NOAA
- Something new . . .

Lionfish expansion in the Gulf of Mexico



Only one
point in keys
(upper)

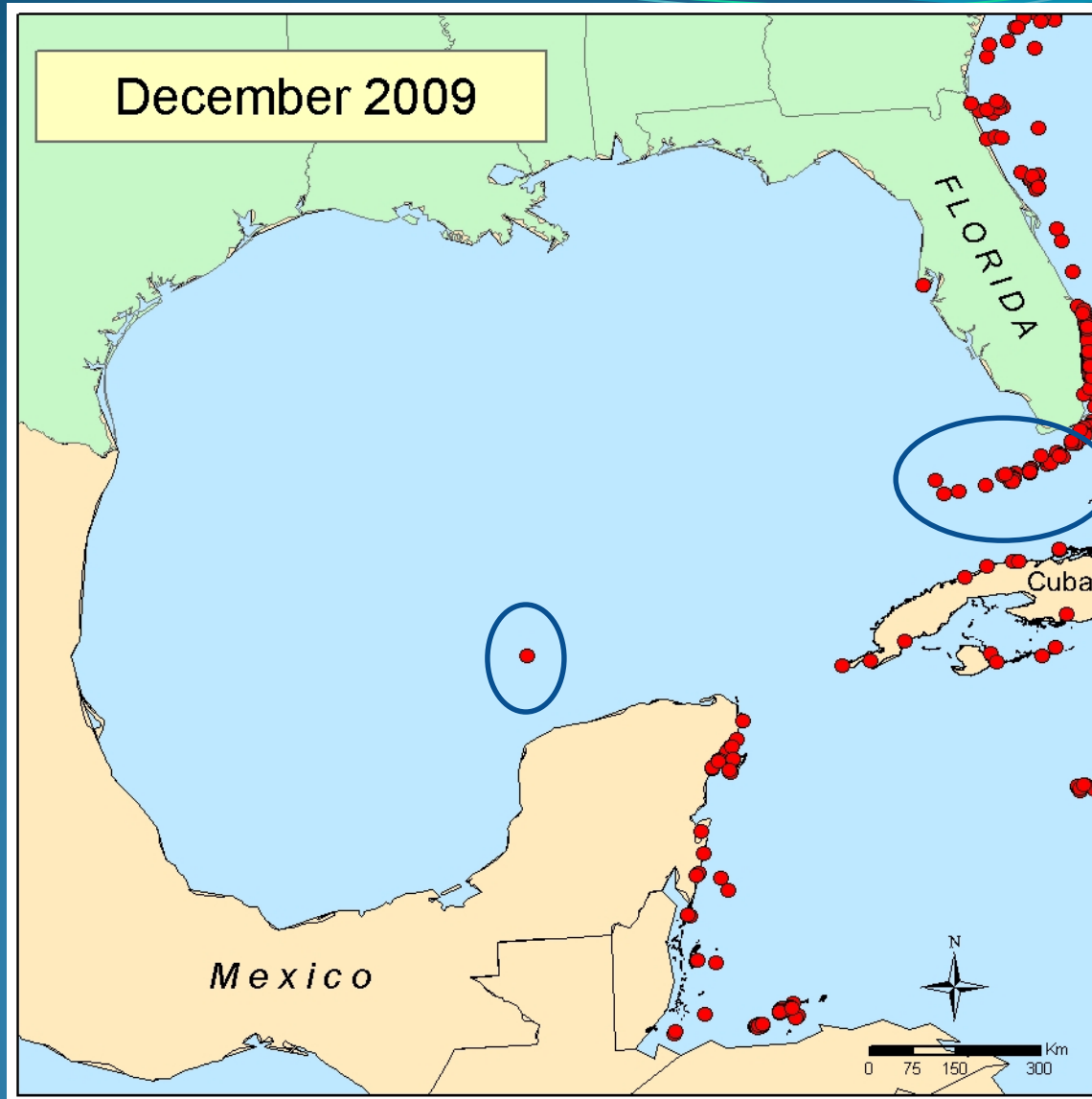
2006 one fish
off St. Pete

No other fish
in GOM

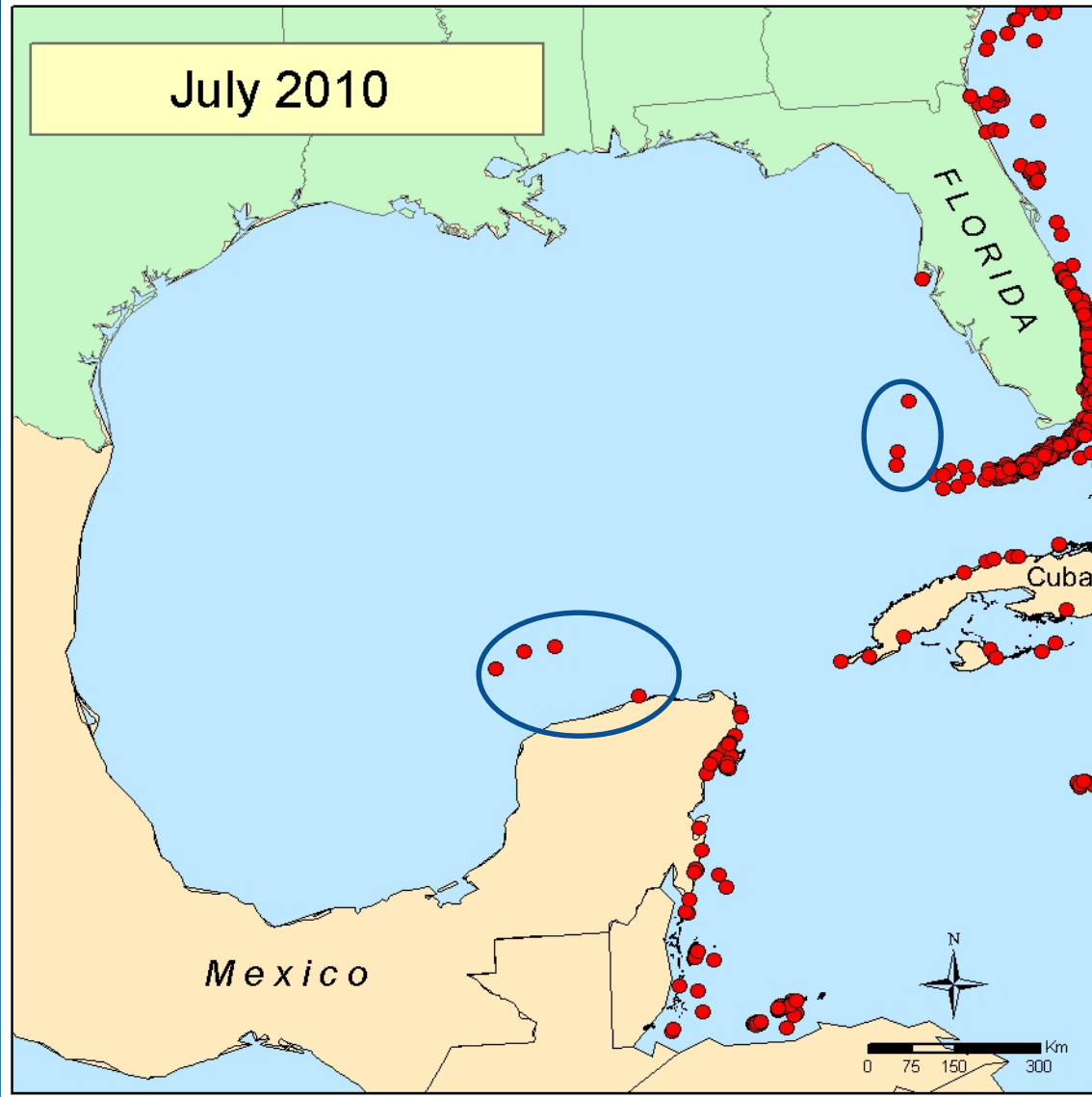
December 2009

FL Key
inundated

Two fish (one
location) off N
coast
Yucatan



July 2010



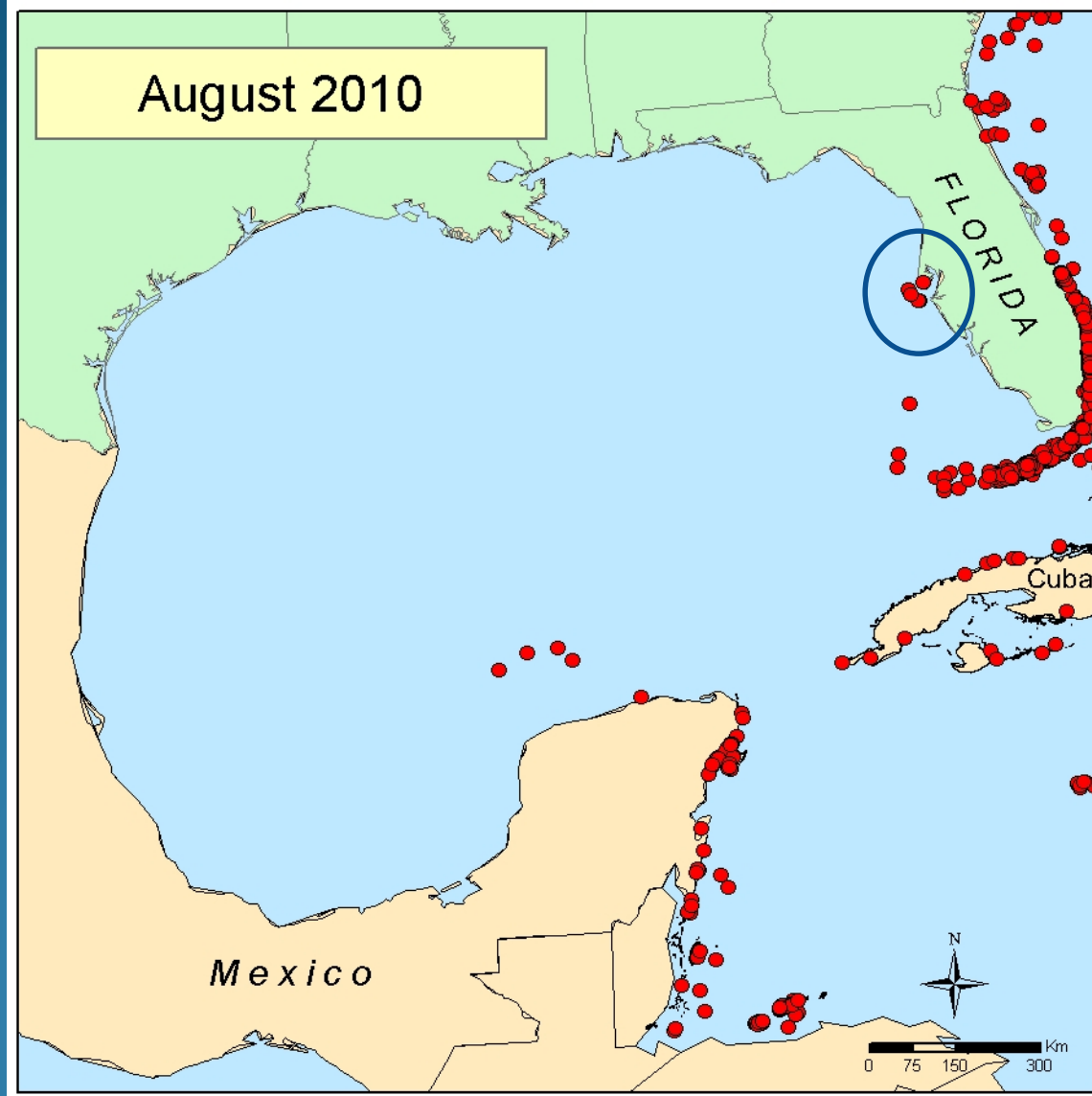
3 fish
photographed
(2 collected) N
of Tortugas

3 more fish (3
locations)
collected off N
coast Yucatan;
most by
fishermen
(Alfonso
Aguilar-Perera
at UADY)

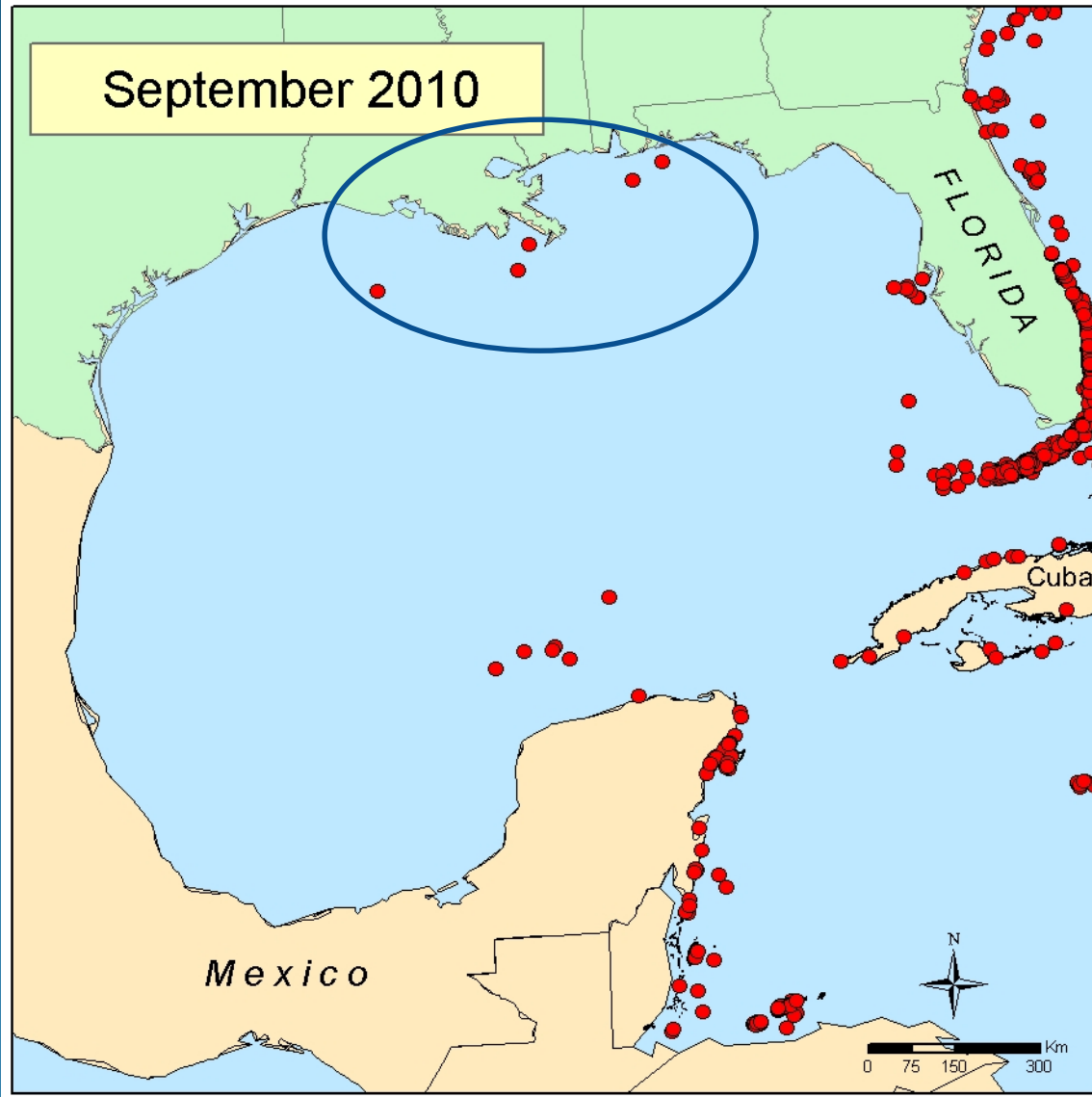
August 2010

Two fish (2 locations) off Manatee County; one fish off Pinellas county

Unsubstantiated report of fish off oil/gas platform S Timbalier



September 2010



Two more
fish off
Pinellas
County

Eleven more
fish off N side
Yucatan

8 fish in North
GOM

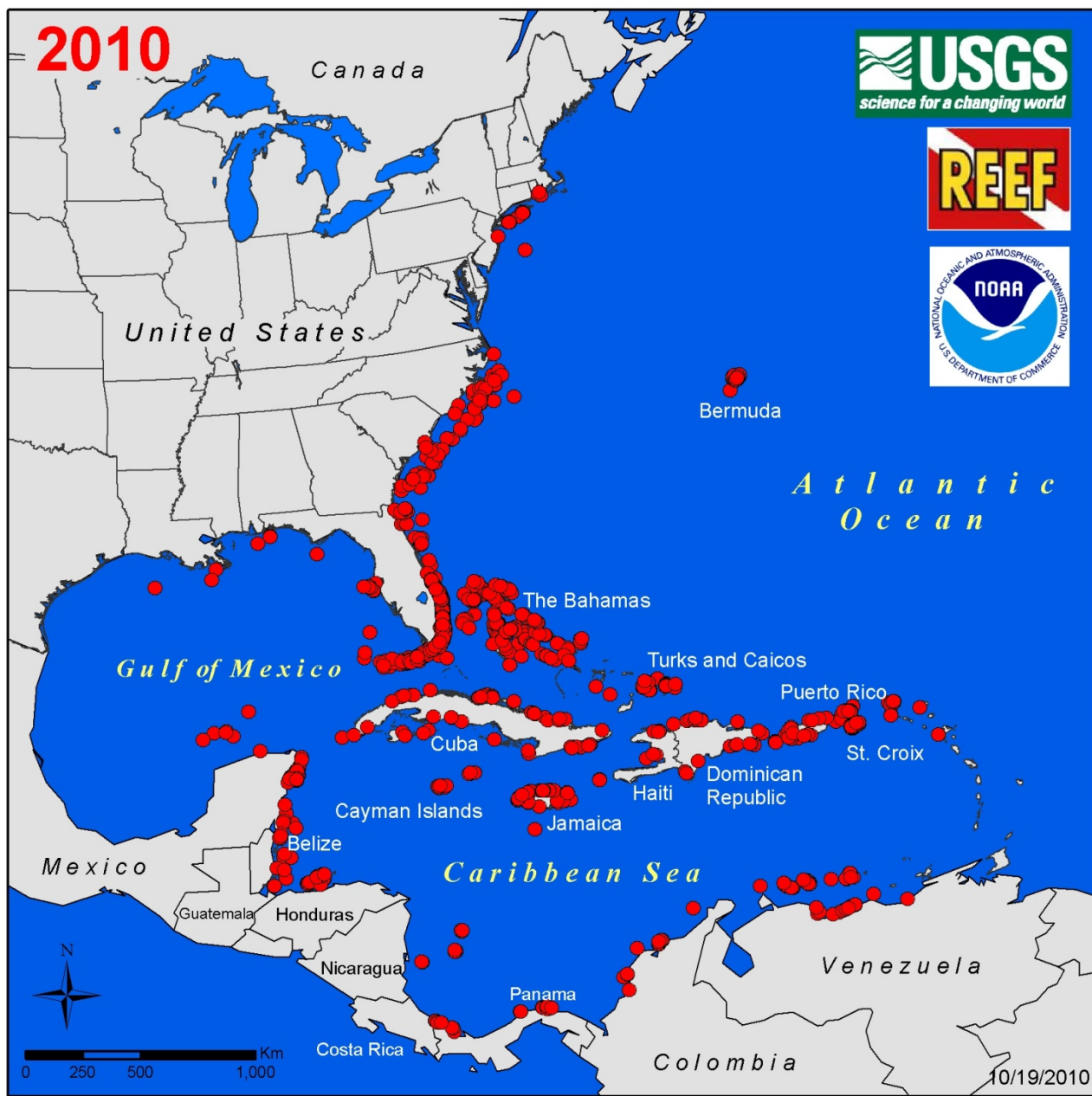
- 1 on reef
balls off
Pensacola
- 1 on Army
tank SSE
Dauphin
Island
- 4 off oil/gas
platform S of
Louisiana
- 2 off Sonnier
Bank
(researchers)



More fish in
North GOM

-1 off
Apalachicola

2010



Current range (as of October 2010)

Leeward Islands south to Guadeloupe

S. America east to Mochima NP, Venezuela

About 460 miles between Guadeloupe and Venezuela

Could extend to Uruguay?

Florida Keys lionfish derbies

September 2010 – Key Largo

October 2010 – Marathon

November 2010 – Key West

For more info:

<http://www.reef.org/lionfish/derbies>



WANTED

★ ★ ★ LIONFISH HUNTERS ★ ★ ★

FLORIDA KEYS LIONFISH DERBY

Saturday, September 11th • Upper Keys @ Coconuts - Key Largo
Saturday, October 16th • Middle Keys @ Keys Fisheries - Marathon
Saturday, November 13th • Lower Keys @ Hurricane Hole - Key West

Over \$10,000 in cash and prizes! Help control the Lionfish population.

For Information or registration, go to www.reef.org/lionfish or call 305-852-0030

REEF
www.reef.org

**NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARIES
FLORIDA KEYS**



**FLORIDA KEYS
LIONFISH
DERBY**



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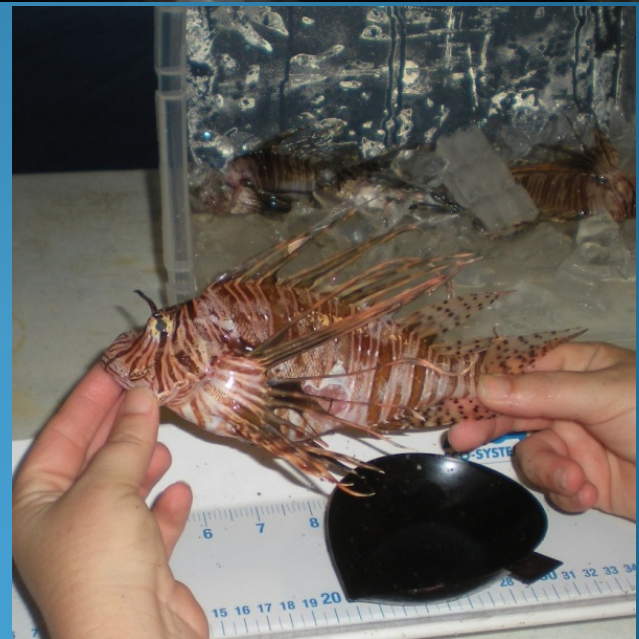
Key Largo lionfish rodeo, September 2010

21 teams - 534 total lionfish - Winning team = 111 lionfish











Marathon lionfish rodeo, October 2010

3 teams - <30 total lionfish





News from James Morris/NOAA:

- NOAA formed a Lionfish Working Group last month with reps from all line offices
- James is working closely with Dept. of State on international issues on lionfish
- First international workshop on lionfish took place in Aug in Cancun and established a framework for lionfish best management practices (manual is in progress and is being coordinated by James)
- The NOAA Eat Lionfish Campaign is bringing increased attention to the issue domestically.

And now for something
completely different . . .

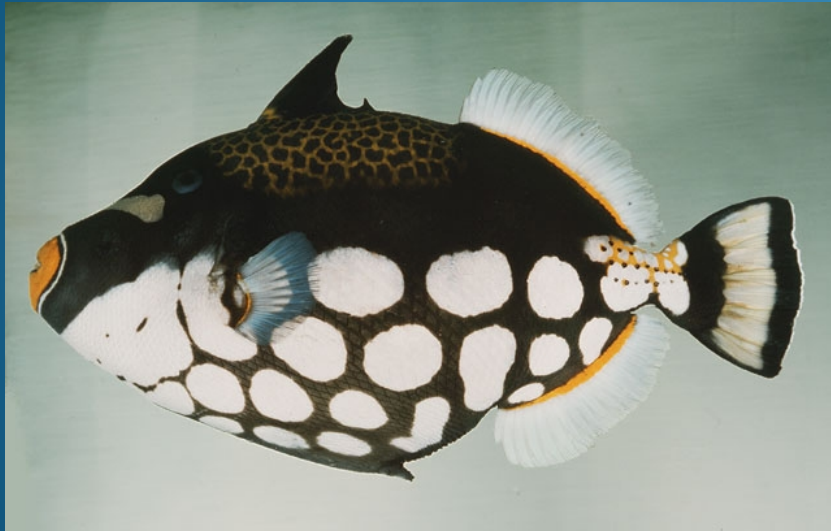


Two new species have been documented in SE Florida

clown triggerfish

Balistoides conspicillum

Off Boca Raton; Sept 2010



White-streaked grouper

Epinephelus ongus

Off Boca Raton, August 2010

