

Asian Swamp Eels in Florida

Nick Trippel, Noah Peterson, Ted Lange,
Mary Brown, Rob Robins



Swamp eels are NOT eels!



True Eels have:

- Fins!
- Skeletal features
- Mostly marine



Swamp Eels

- NO fins!*
- “Typical” larval development
- Air breathers
- Fresh water



Gill opening confluent in a narrow slit

Synbranchiformes

Diet

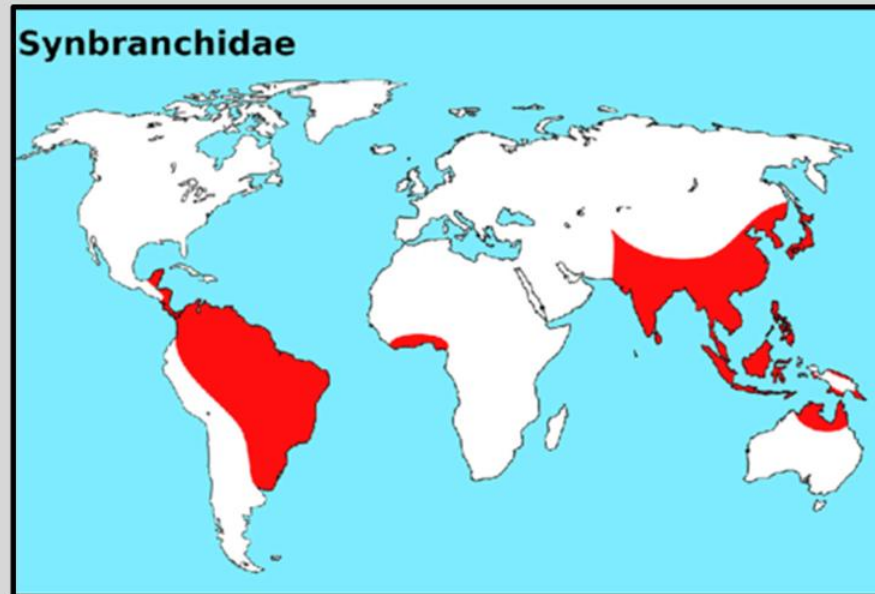


Opportunistic Predators of invertebrates and vertebrates

Prey for...



Synbranchiiformes



Disjunct distribution



MJS REPTILES

Indian Tulip Eel (*Monopterus cuchia*)

\$55.00 USD Sold out

Shipping calculated at checkout.

Size

Large (Approx. 24"-30"+)

Medium (Approx. 15"-24")

XL (Approx. 36")

Quantity

- 1 +

Sold out

Buy with **shop** Pay

More payment options

Freshwater mud eels (*Monopterusuchia*),
sometimes referred to as "Indian tulip eels" in





Beware the (apparently delicious) Asian swamp eel

By [Jessica Bryce Young](#) on Tue, Mar 18, 2014 at 5:33 pm

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In this week's [Tip Jar](#), our own [Faiyaz Kara](#) reports that a [U.S. Geological Survey](#) study finds consumption of Asian swamp eel can cause a parasitic infection known as [gnathostomiasis](#). "Warning to shoppers at our local ethnic markets

Scientists found the worms in eels collected from markets in NYC, Atlanta and, yes, Orlando."



Don't eat me...

Don't eat me...



...because I am full of this.

because I am full of this.

So, word to the wise, if you've been buying SWAMP EEL (yum) locally,

don't. Its Latin name is *alba fluta*, which, I mean, it's been roughly eight decades since I

TRENDING



The Mongolorian closes; South East Asian barbecue joint DZÔ! BBQ will take its place

By [Faiyaz Kara](#) Aug 20, 2024



City Food Hall set to bring new eateries to Ivanhoe Village in September

By [Chloe Greenberg](#) Aug 16, 2024

NEWSLETTERS

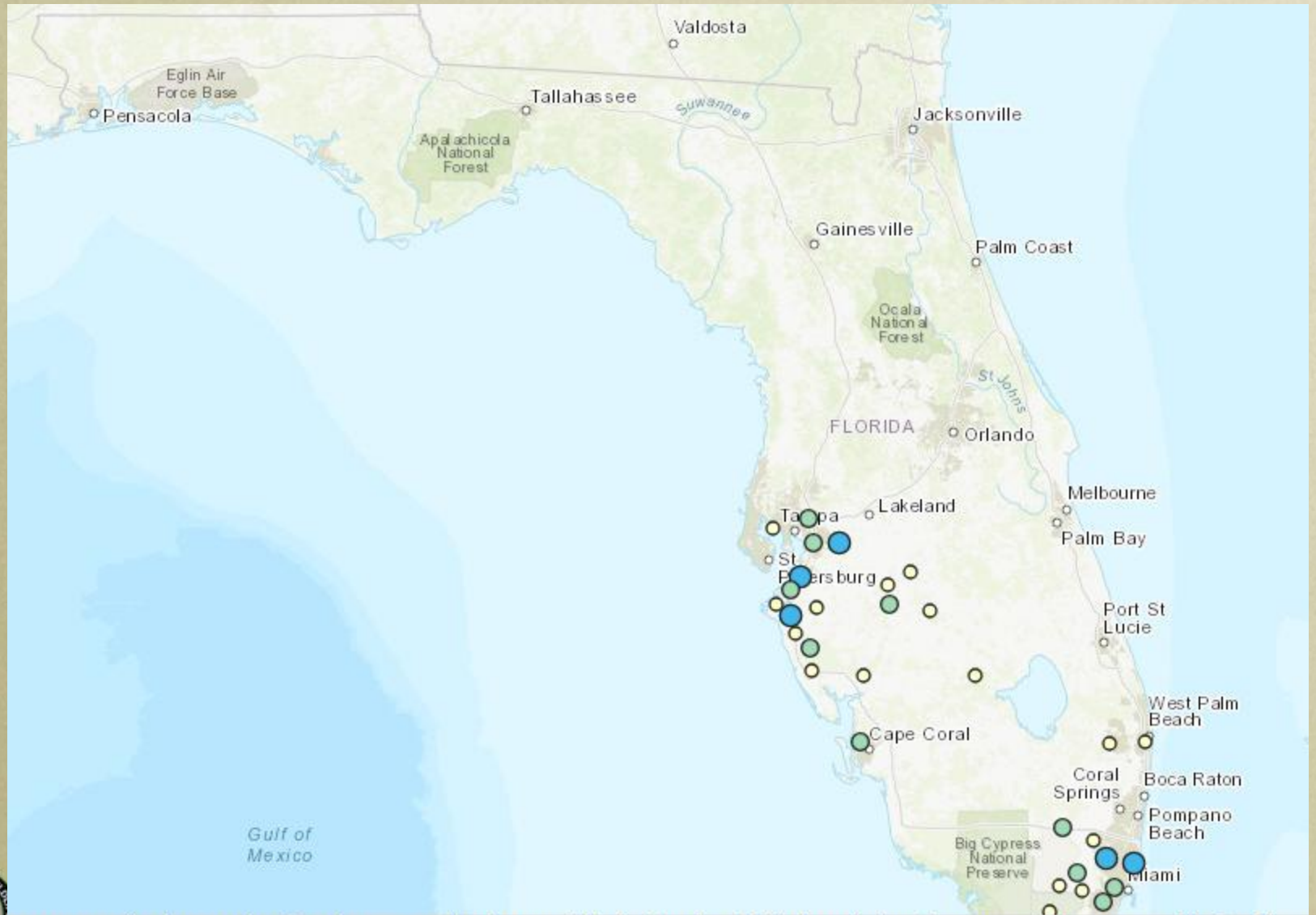
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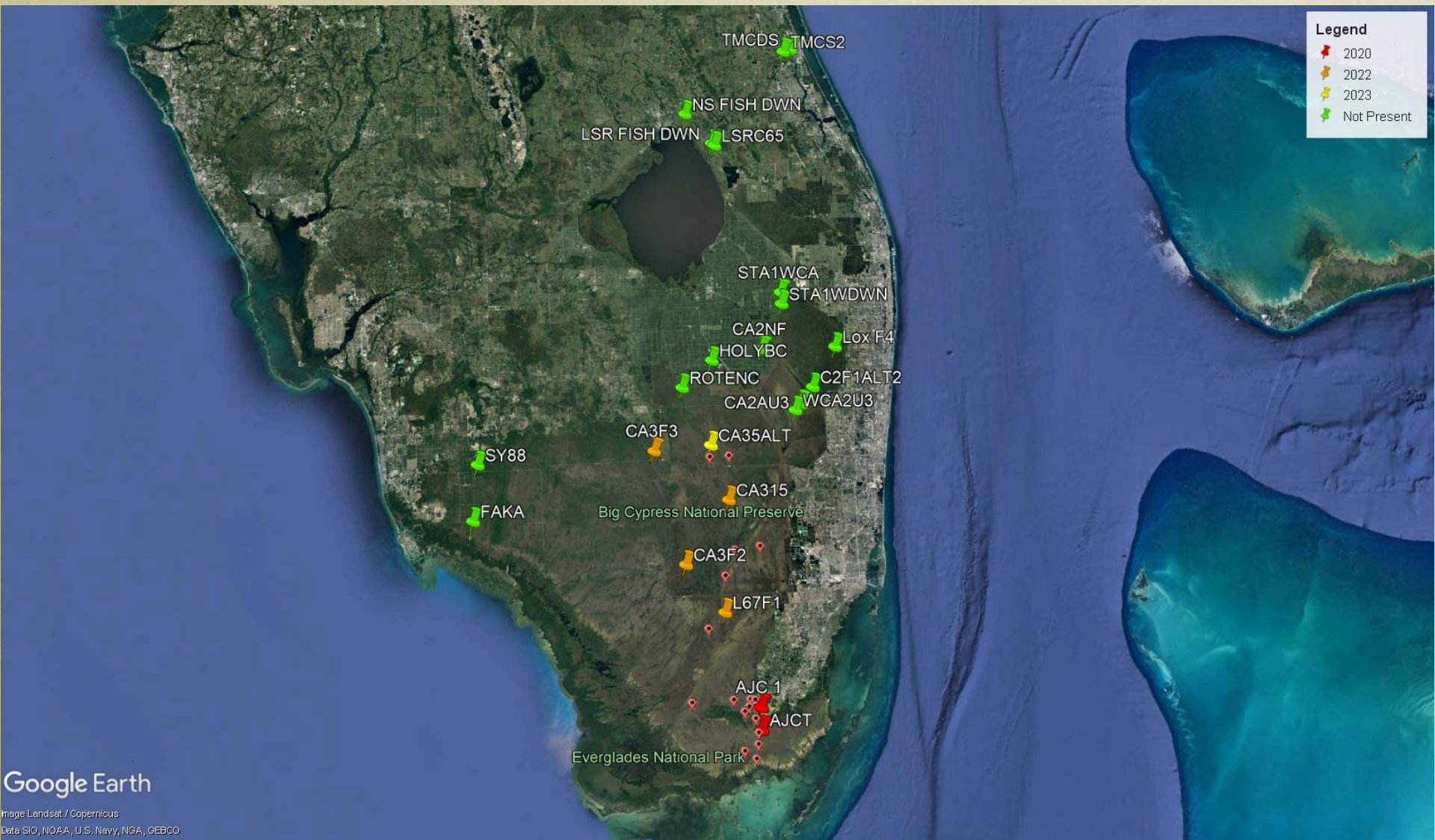



Previous Invasions



represent collection records only and may not reflect the actual distribution of established populations. Recommended browsers are Firefox, Chrome





Google Earth

Image Landsat / Copernicus
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO





Contrasting invasion histories and effects of three non-native fishes observed with long-term monitoring data

Matthew R. Pinter · Nathan J. Dorn ·
Jeffrey L. Kline · Joel C. Trexler

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Abstract Boom-bust population dynamics are long-recognized phenomena during species invasions, but few studies documented impacts of these dynamic changes. The Florida Everglades is the largest wetland in the United States, is undergoing a multi-decade hydro-restoration effort, and has been invaded by several tropical freshwater fishes. We used a 26-year dataset of small native marsh fishes and decapods to assess potential effects of African Jewelfish (*Hemichromis letourneuxi*) invasion and compared their effects to those of a more recently invading species, Asian Swamp Eels (*Monopterus albus/javanensis*), and a long-established non-native species, Mayan Cichlids (*Mayaheros urophthalmus*). Unlike boom-bust dynamics of jewelfish, swamp eel abundance

increased and stabilized over the course of this study. After accounting for effects of hydrologic variation, the densities of several native species were more reduced by either jewelfish or swamp eels than by native fish predators, while effects of Mayan Cichlids were similar to those of native fish predators. Impacts of the jewelfish boom in Shark River Slough were smaller (density reductions $\leq 50\%$) and more temporally limited than those of swamp eels, which produced near-complete loss of four species in Taylor Slough. Following the jewelfish bust, the density of affected species approximated pre-invasion predictions based on hydrology, but their recovery is now threatened by the subsequent invasion of swamp eels in Shark River Slough. Long-term monitoring data provide opportunities to probe for population-level effects at field scales, and indicate that impacts of non-native species can be context-dependent and vary across ecosystems and temporal scales.

Supplementary Information The online version contains supplementary material available at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-023-03146-9>.

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Keywords Boom-bust · Ecosystem resilience ·
Invasion time · Invasive species · Population
declines · Top-down effects

Introduction

Populations of non-native species often grow rapidly before collapsing, either in a single, solitary boom or repeated boom-bust cycles (Williamson 1996). These boom-bust population dynamics are a foundational



Central Florida Concerns



April 2022



Howell Creek at Mead Botanical Gardens



Winter Park Area
Write a description for your map.

Legend

Feature 1

Feature 2

Feature 3

Feature 4

Feature 5

Grills Lakeside Seafood Deck & Tiki Bar

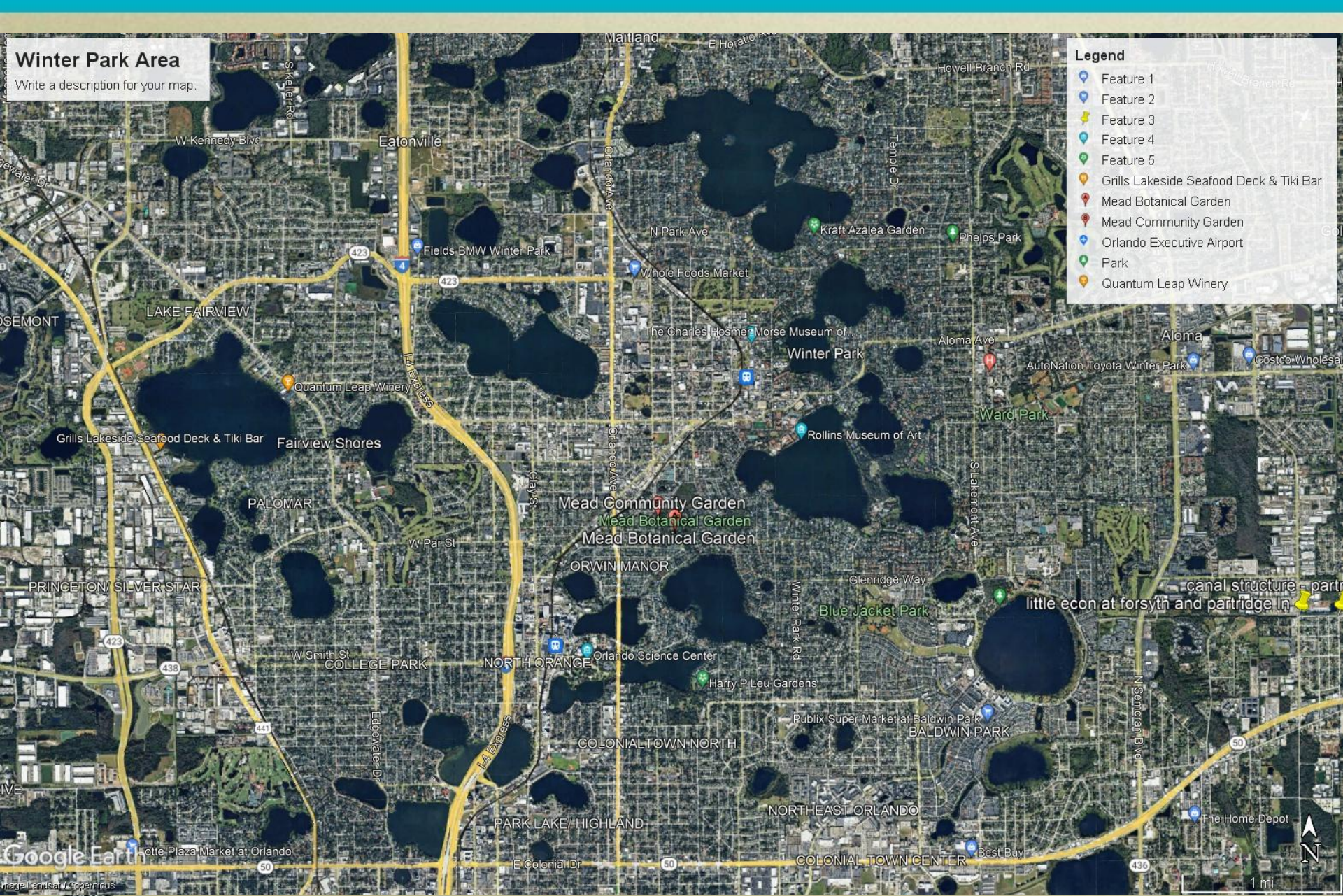
Mead Botanical Garden

Mead Community Garden

Orlando Executive Airport

Park

Quantum Leap Winery

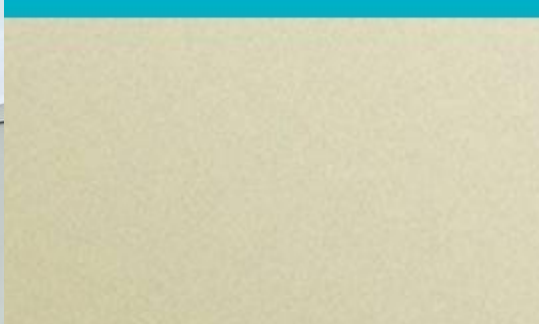


What Have We Been Doing:



Fish Slams





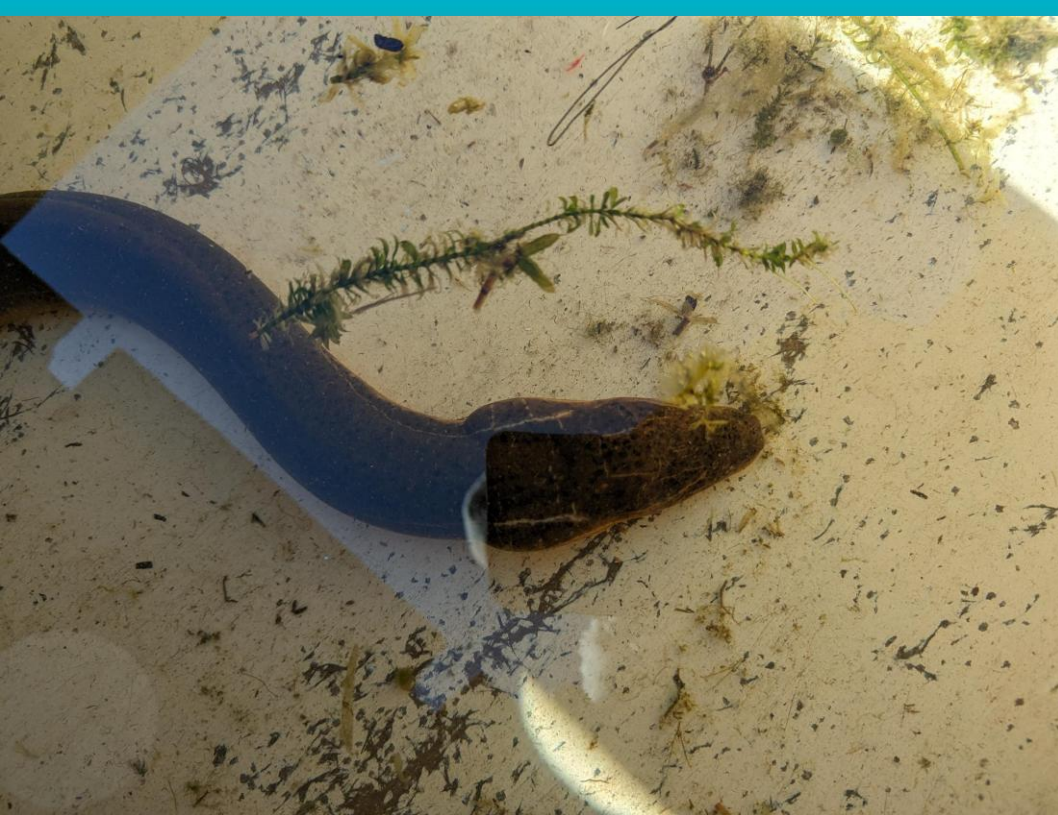


Day vs Night



What We Have Learned So Far







Where Do We Typically Find Them?

















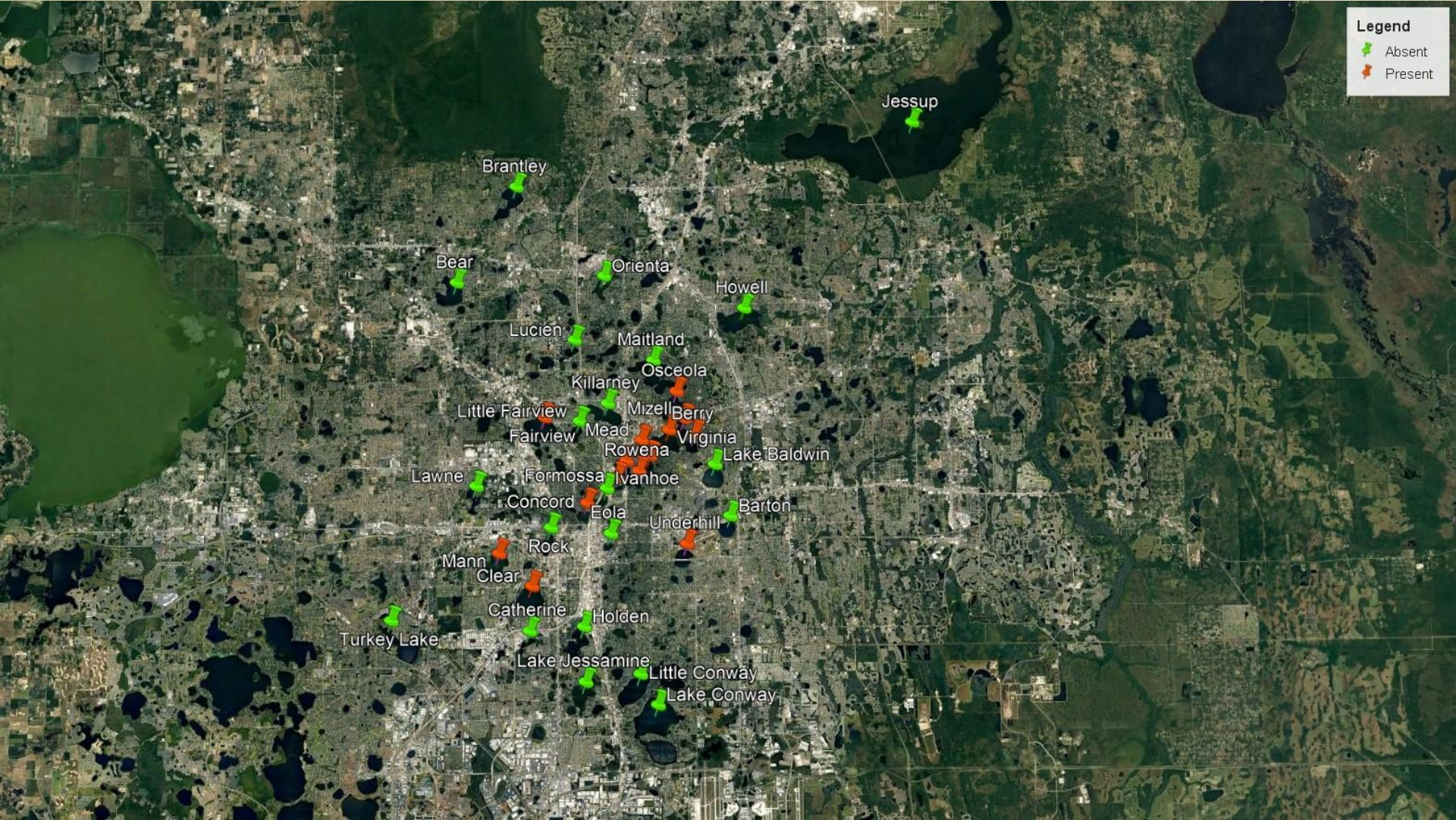






Interesting Finds:

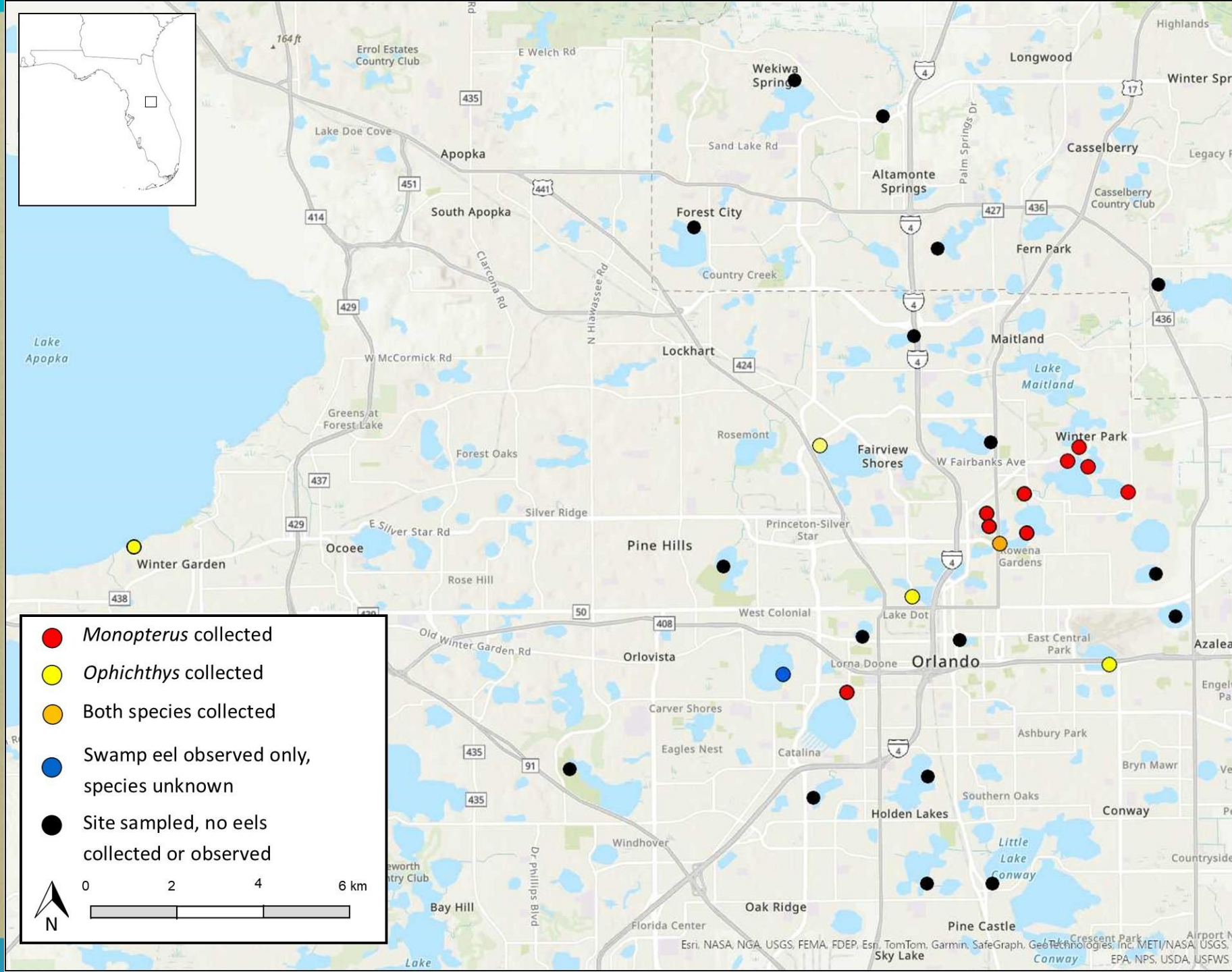
- Cannabilism
- Only one male collected

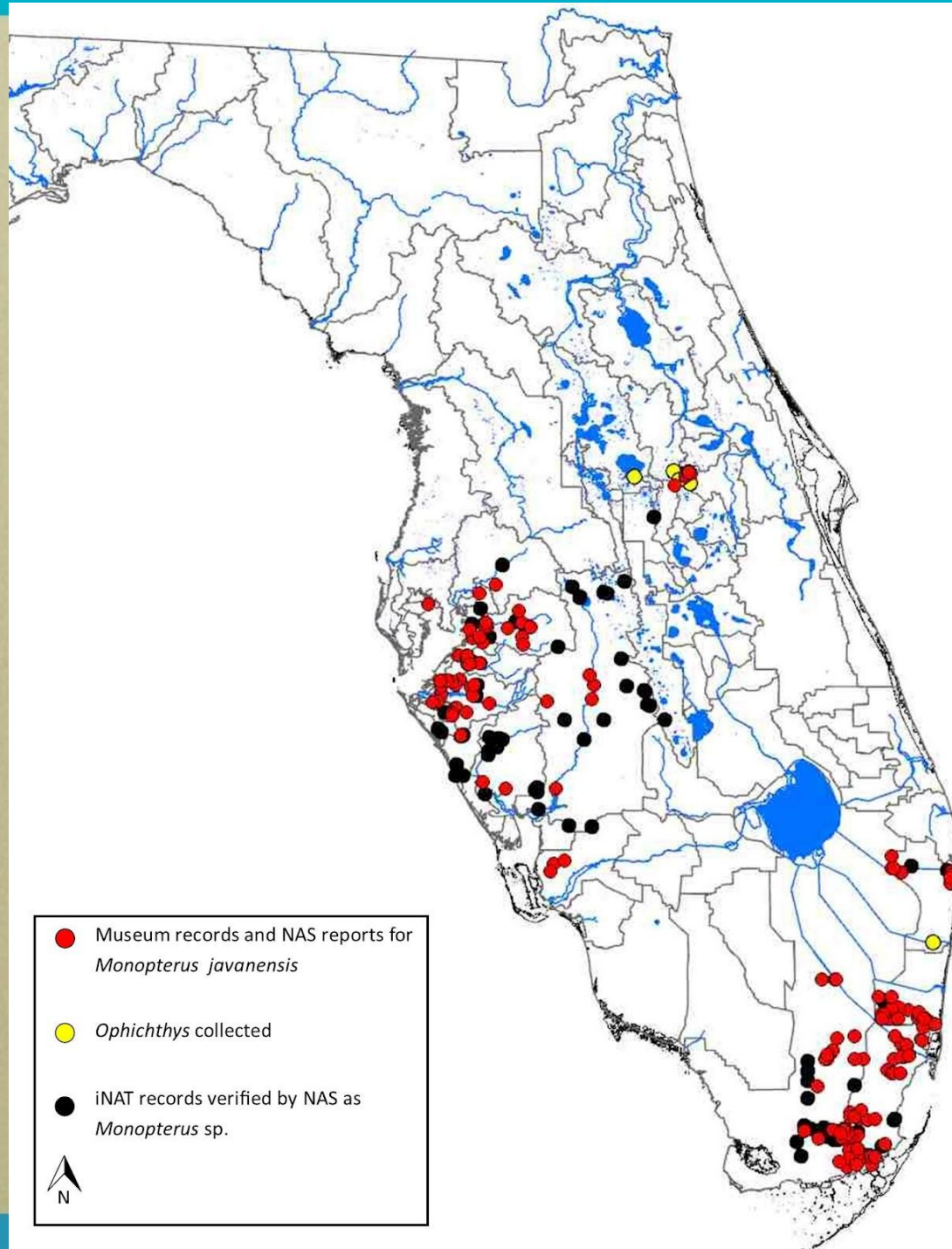


Legend

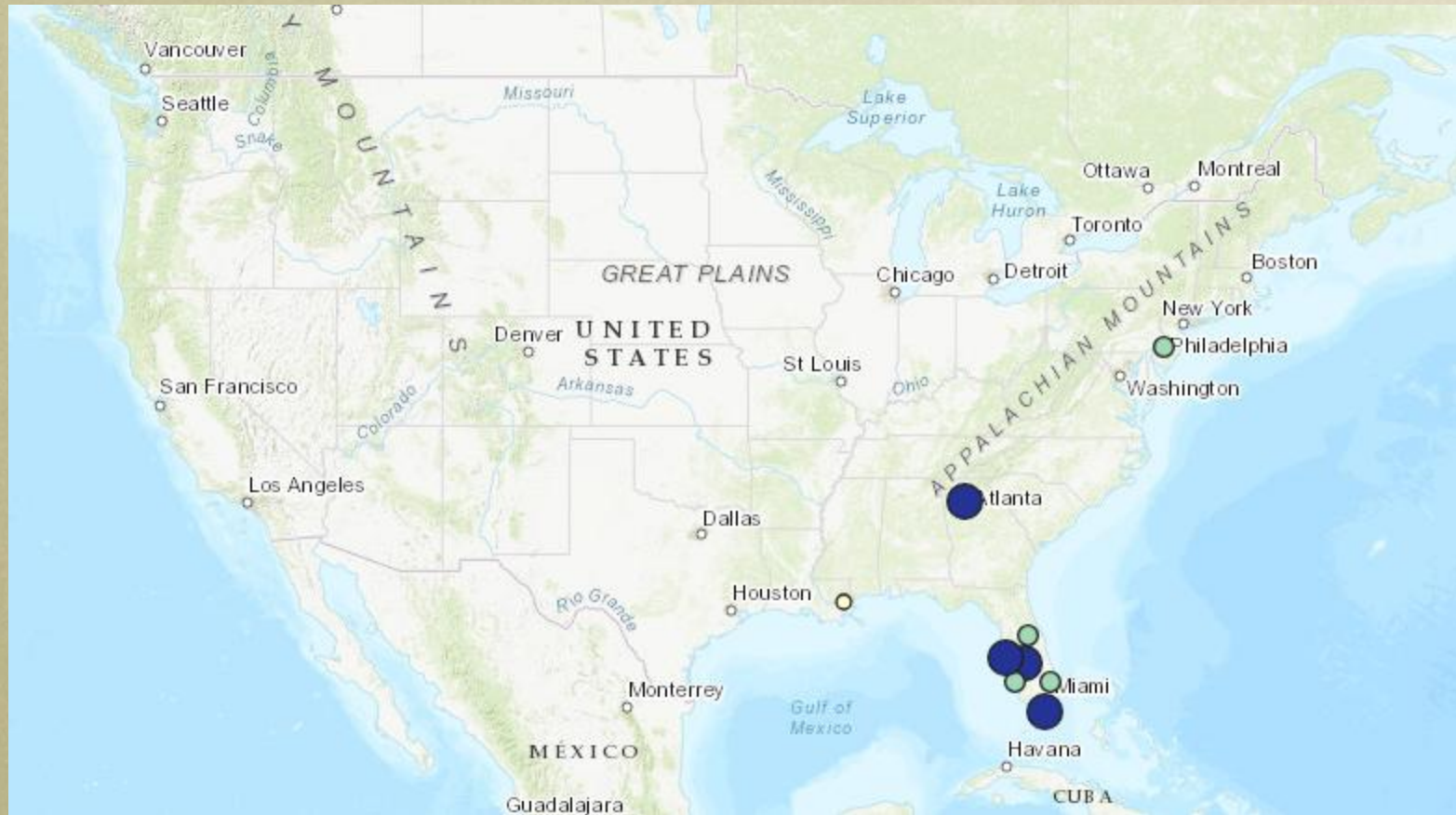
- Absent
- Present



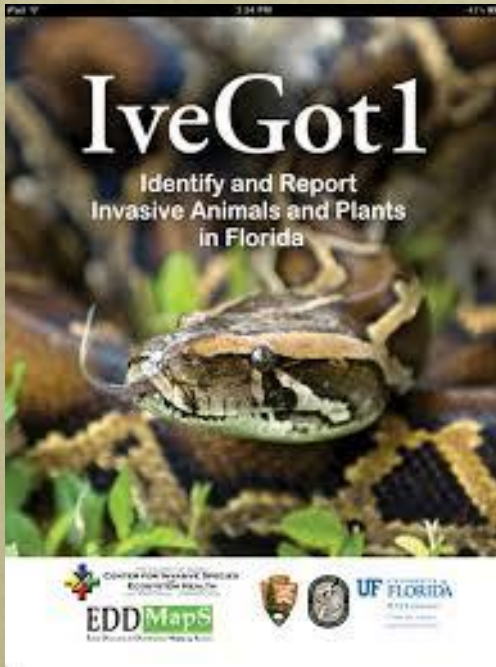




Where else have they been found



What To Do If You Find One



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