

CARIBBEAN



CONSERVATION
CORPORATION

Florida's Marine Turtles: Its Not Just About Beaches



Hutchinson Island Study Area-near shore waters
(Bass and Witzell, *Herpatologica*, 2000)

Juvenile green turtles

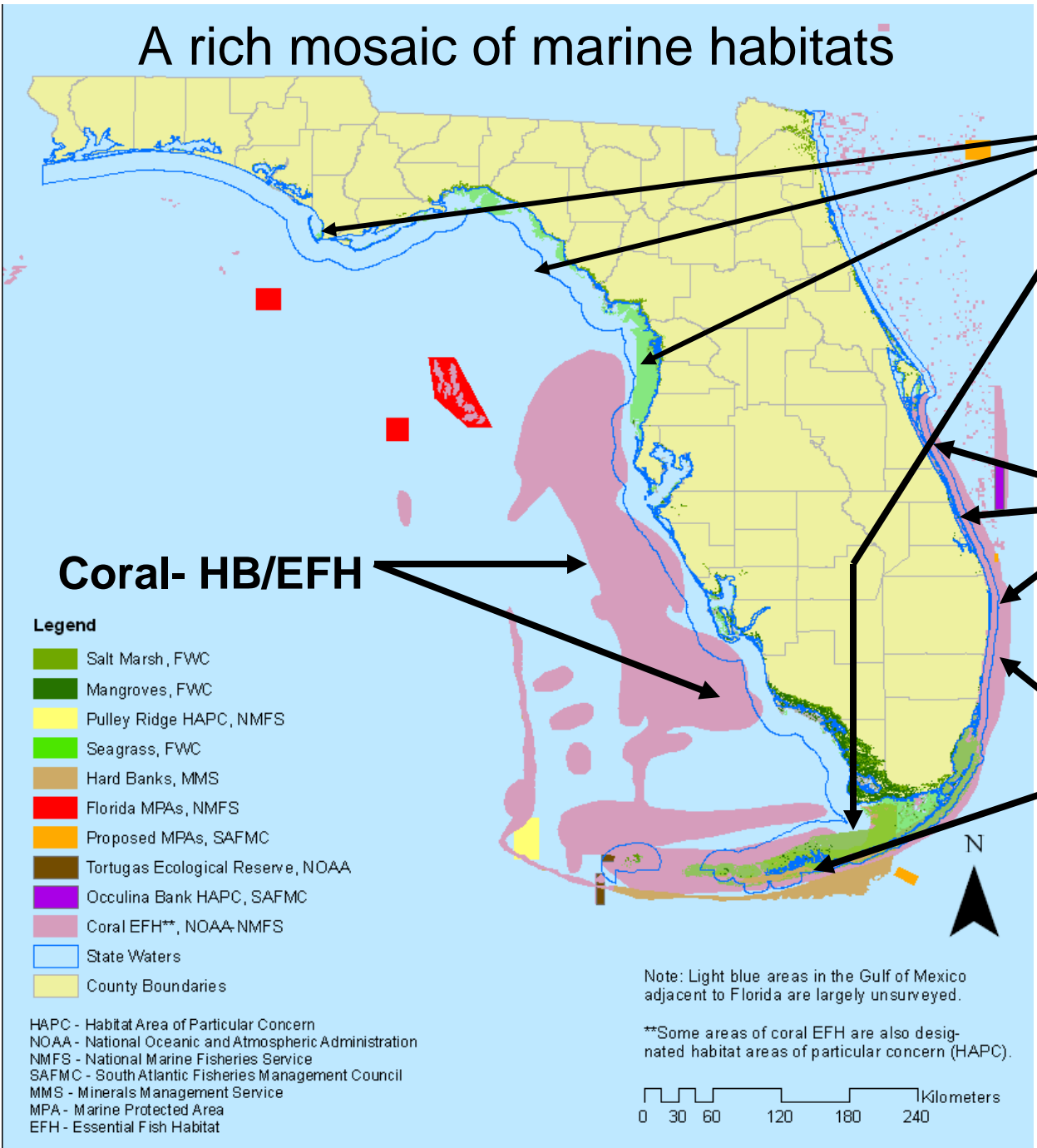
- **53%** from Costa Rica
- **42%** from the United States and Mexico
- **4%** from Aves Island (Venezuela) and Suriname

St Lucie Power Plant Study Area (Witzell *et al*, 2002)

Juvenile loggerheads

- **69%** from South Florida
- **10%** from separate north Florida sub-population,
and the Carolinas
- **20%** from Mexico

A rich mosaic of marine habitats



**500,000 acres of sea grass
(over 2000 sq. miles)**

**NHB rock reefs along
the East central coast.**

Coral- HB/EFH

**Coral reef tracts extend
in 3 parallel lines from
Stuart in Martin County
to The Dry Tortugas in
the Gulf**

Estuaries, bays and lagoons

Legend

- Salt Marsh, FWC
- Mangroves, FWC
- Pulley Ridge HAPC, NMFS
- Seagrass, FWC
- Hard Banks, MMS
- Florida MPAs, NMFS
- Proposed MPAs, SAFMC
- Tortugas Ecological Reserve, NOAA
- Oculina Bank HAPC, SAFMC
- Coral EFH**, NOAA-NMFS
- State Waters
- County Boundaries

Note: Light blue areas in the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to Florida are largely unsurveyed.

**Some areas of coral EFH are also designated habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC).



HAPC - Habitat Area of Particular Concern
 NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NMFS - National Marine Fisheries Service
 SAFMC - South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council
 MMS - Minerals Management Service
 MPA - Marine Protected Area
 EFH - Essential Fish Habitat

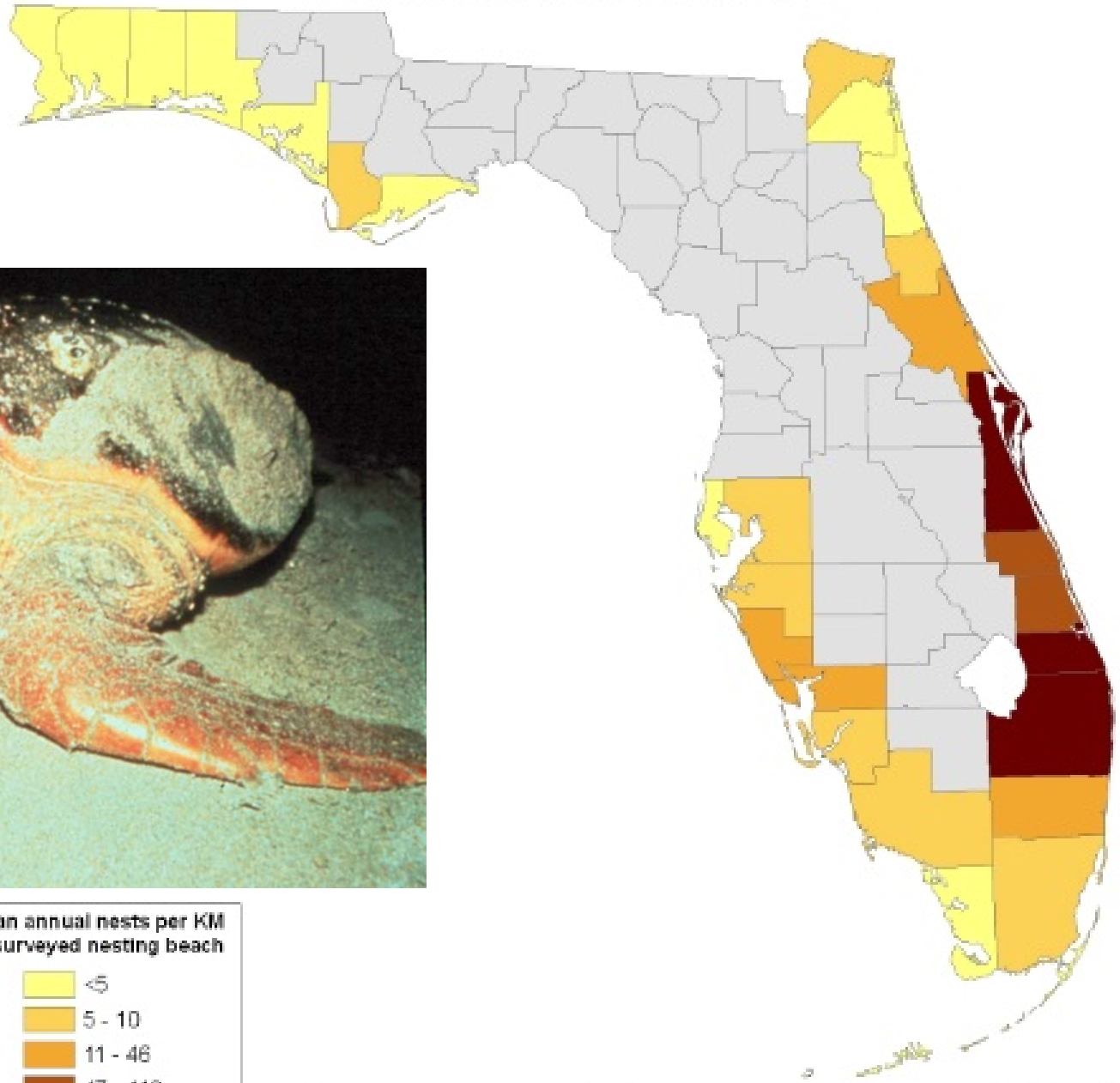


2010 Statewide Totals

County	Total #	CM	CC	EI	LK	Dead
Escambia	29	26	0	0	3	22
Bay	69	67	0	0	2	57
Gulf	1,730	1,670	20	0	40	530
Pasco/Pinellas	105	96	1	8	0	21
Manatee-Lee	29	27	1	0	1	1
Monroe	171	88	35	48	0	0
St. Lucie/Martin	150	150	0	0	0	1
Indian River	321	321	0	0	0	0
Brevard/Volusia	1,981	1,941	39	1	0	316
Flagler/St. Johns	7	7	0	0	0	0
Total	<u>4,592</u>	4,393	96	57	46	948






2004 - 2008 *Caretta caretta* (Loggerhead) Nesting by County

Mean annual nests per kilometer of surveyed nesting beach



USFWS

Mean annual nests per KM
of surveyed nesting beach

-  < 5
-  5 - 10
-  11 - 46
-  47 - 113
-  114 - 185

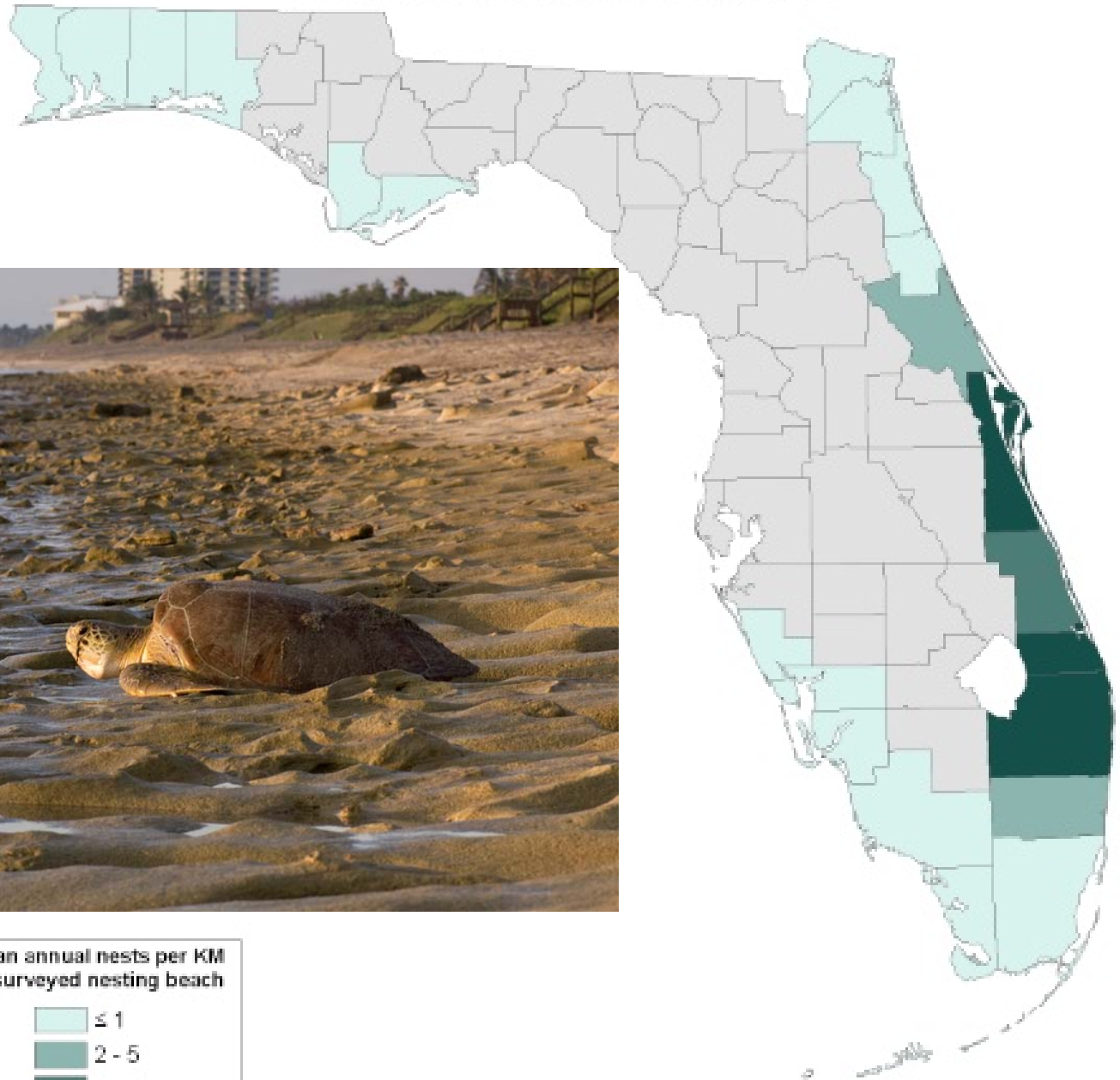
Data source: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
Statewide Sea Turtle Nesting Beach Survey Program

0 50 100 KM

2004 - 2008 *Chelonia mydas* (Green turtle) Nesting by County




Mean annual nests per kilometer of surveyed nesting beach

N



David B. Snyder

Mean annual nests per KM of surveyed nesting beach

-  ≤ 1
-  2 - 5
-  6 - 16
-  17 - 32

Data source: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Statewide Sea Turtle Nesting Beach Survey Program

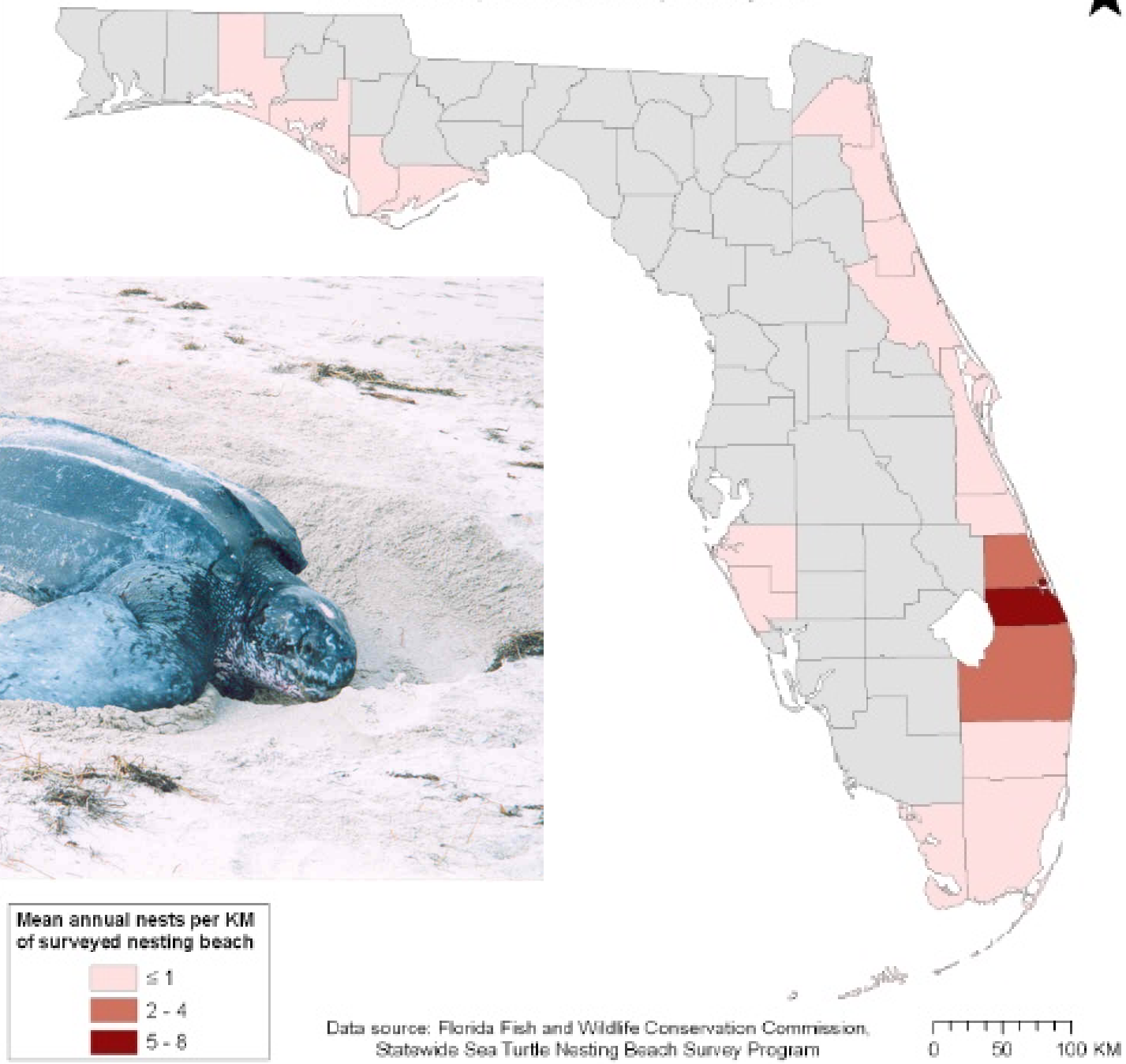


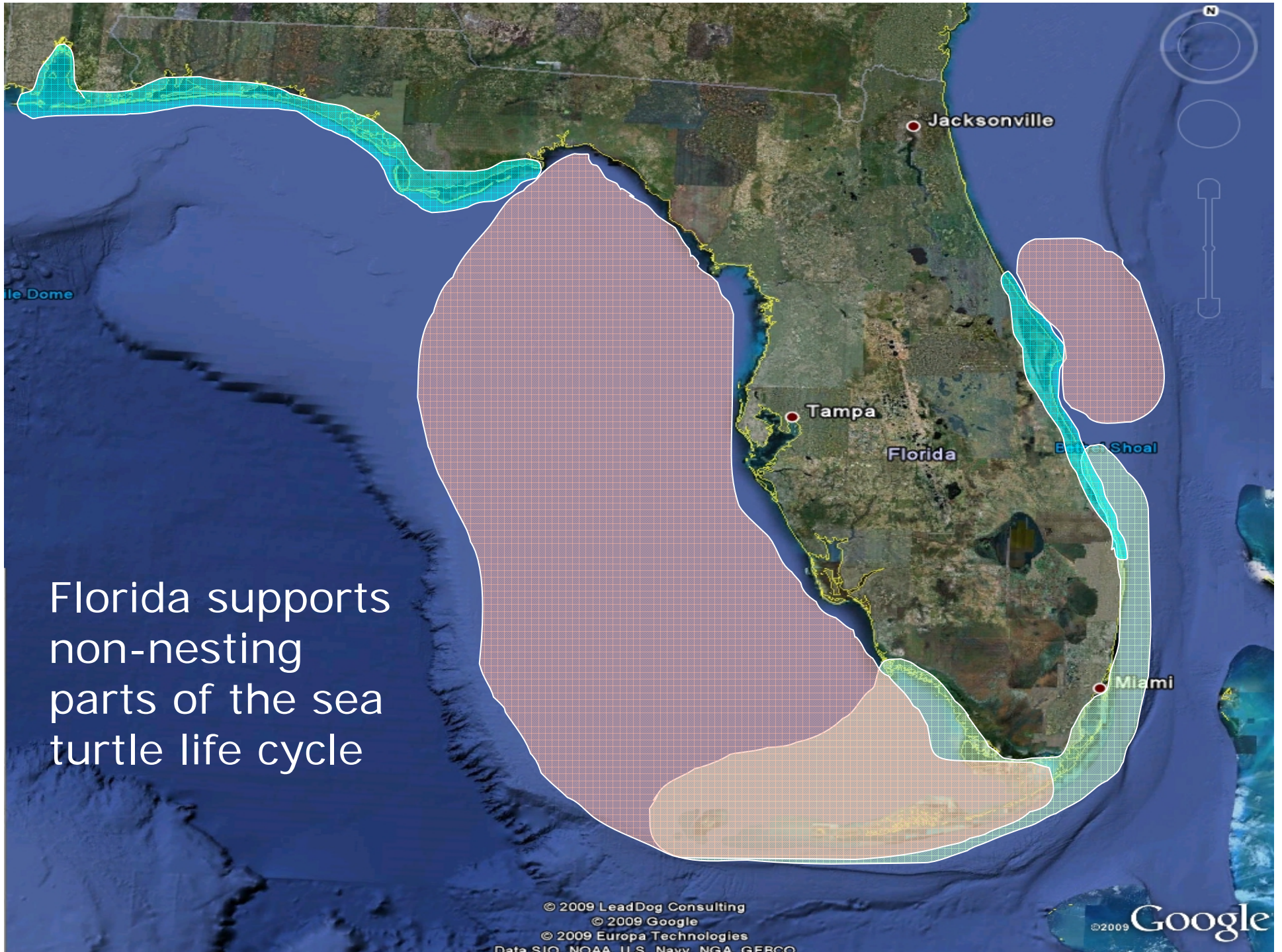
2004 - 2008 *Dermochelys coriacea* (Leatherback) Nesting by County

Mean annual nests per kilometer of surveyed nesting beach



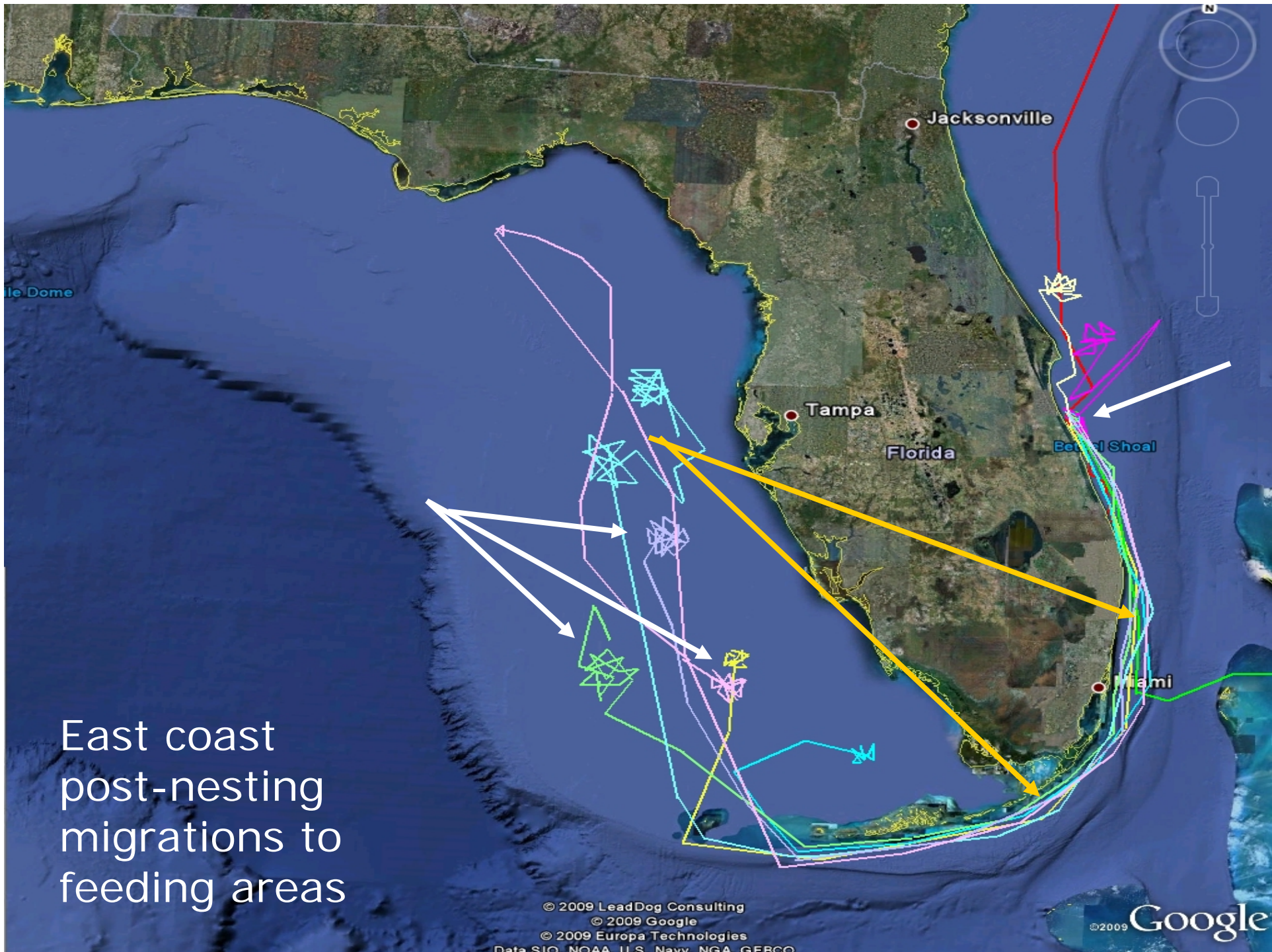
James Elkins



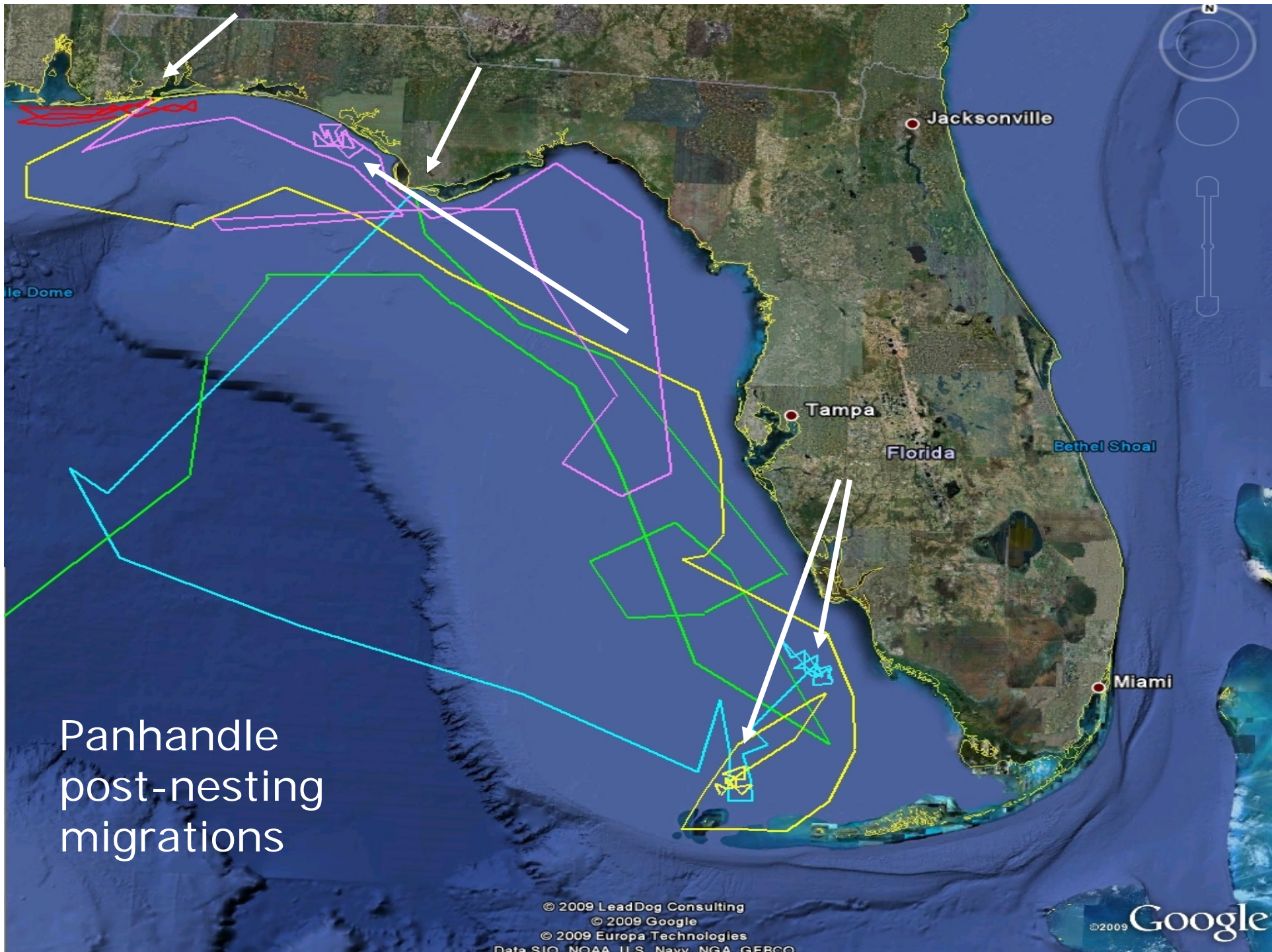


Florida supports
non-nesting
parts of the sea
turtle life cycle

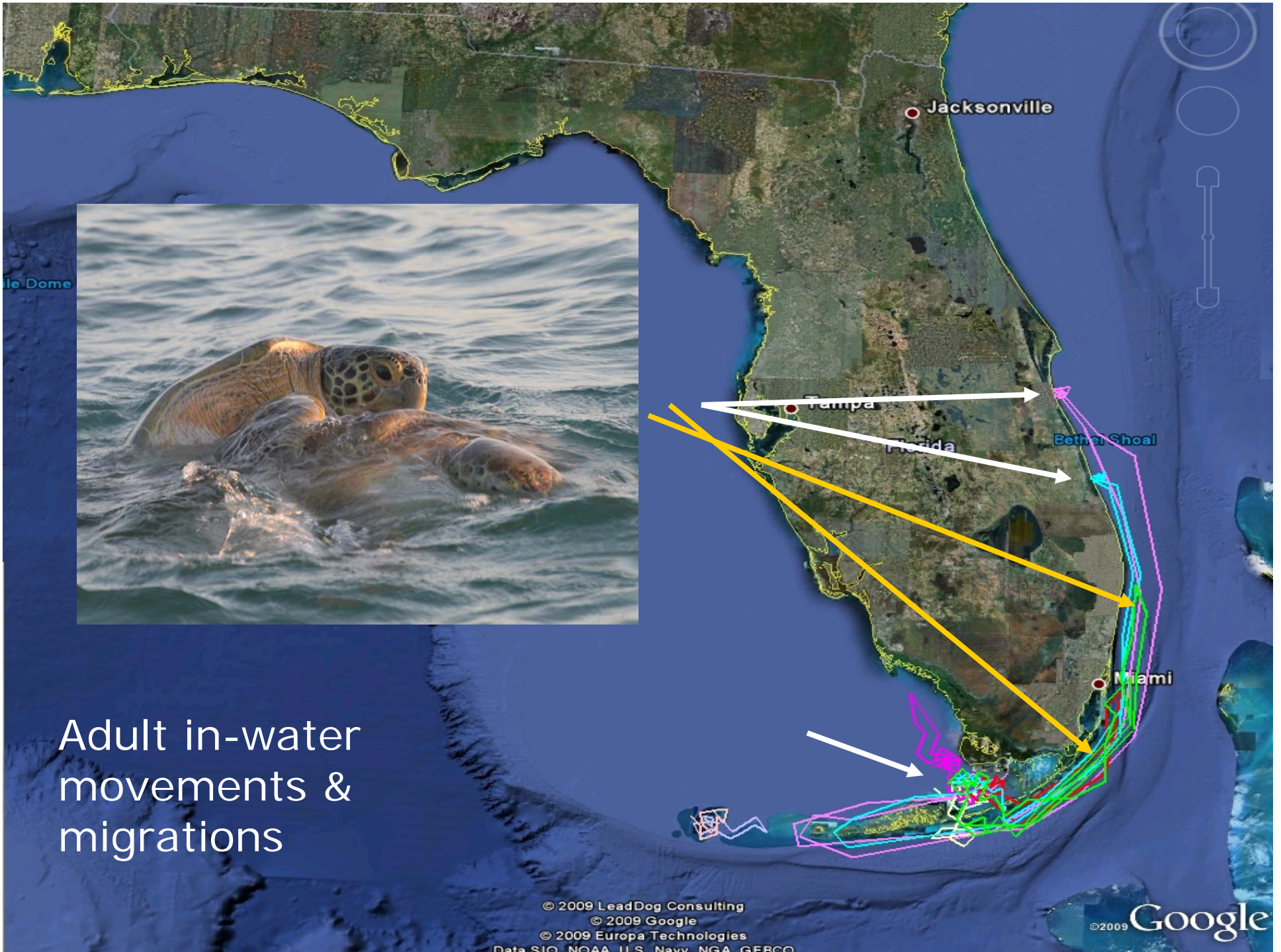




East coast
post-nesting
migrations to
feeding areas



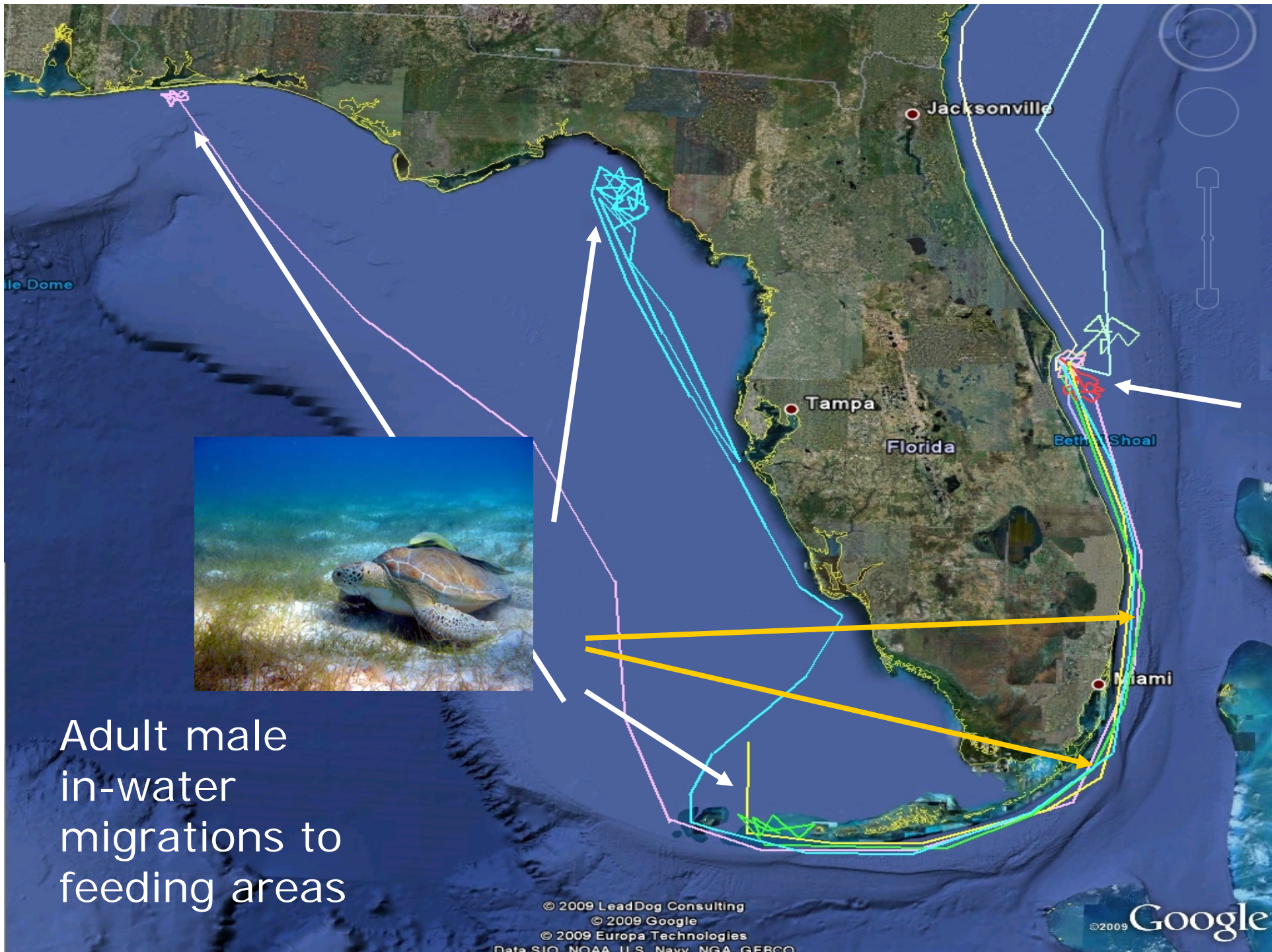
Panhandle
post-nesting
migrations



Adult in-water movements & migrations

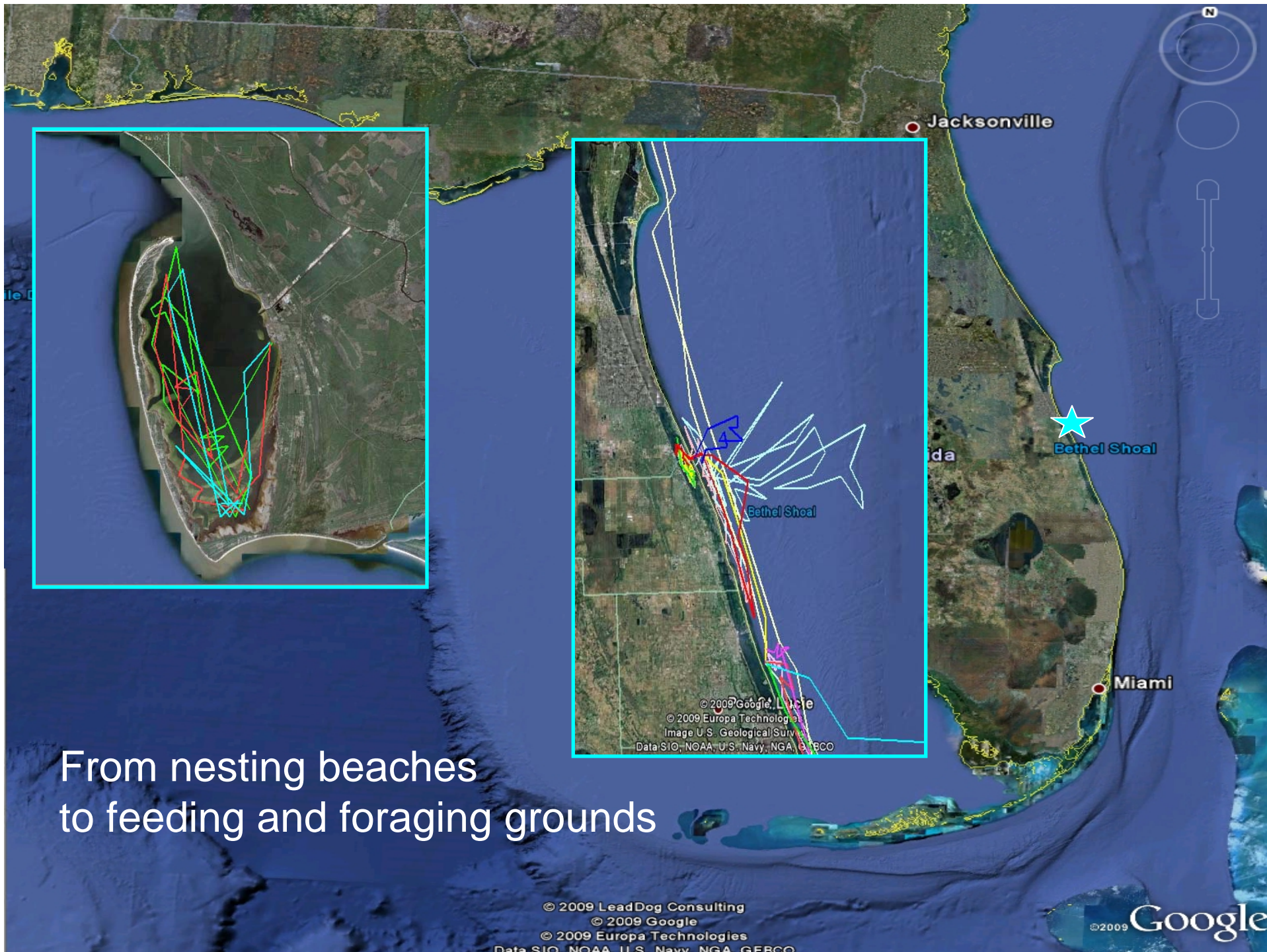
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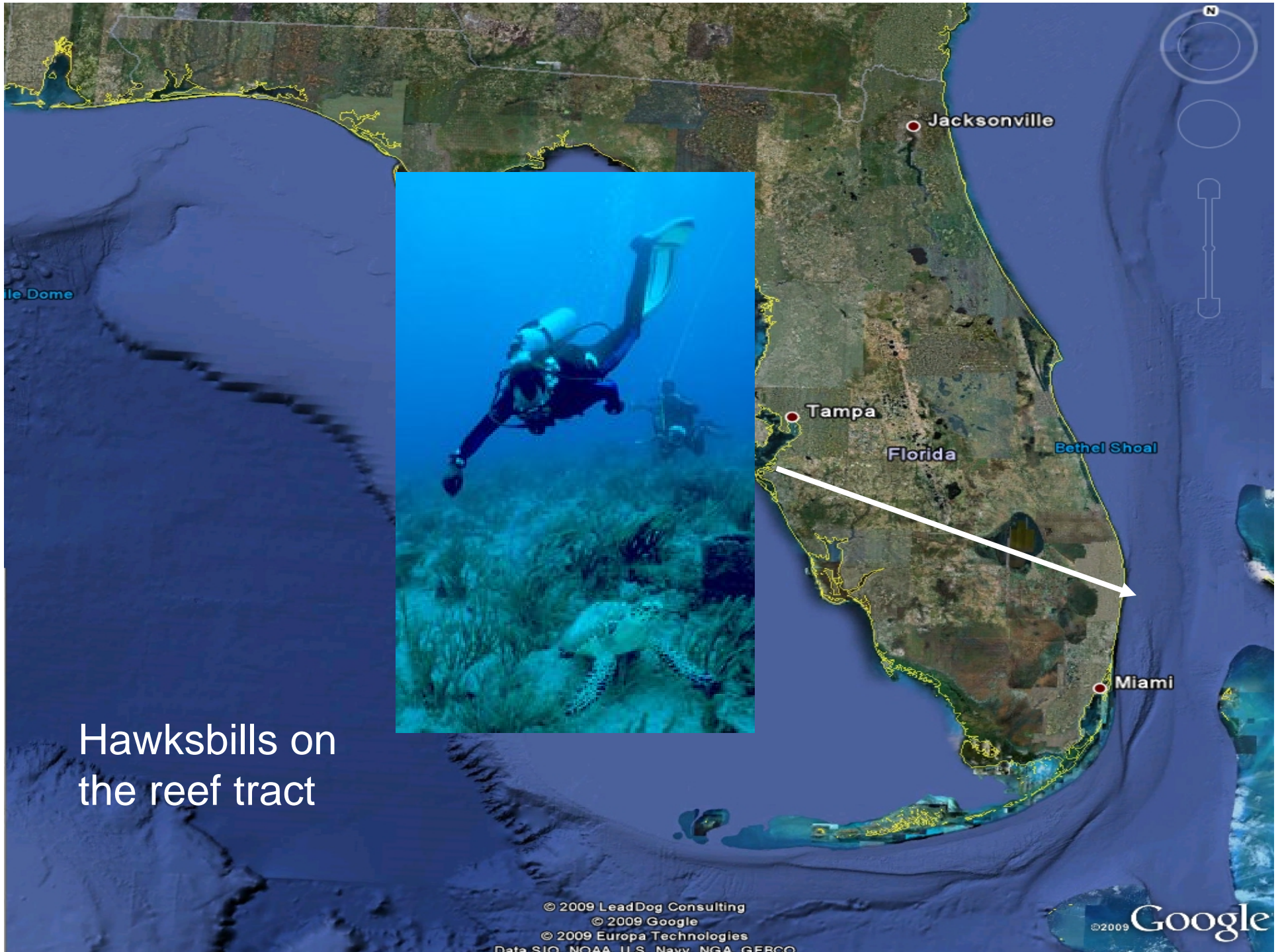


Adult male
in-water
migrations to
feeding areas

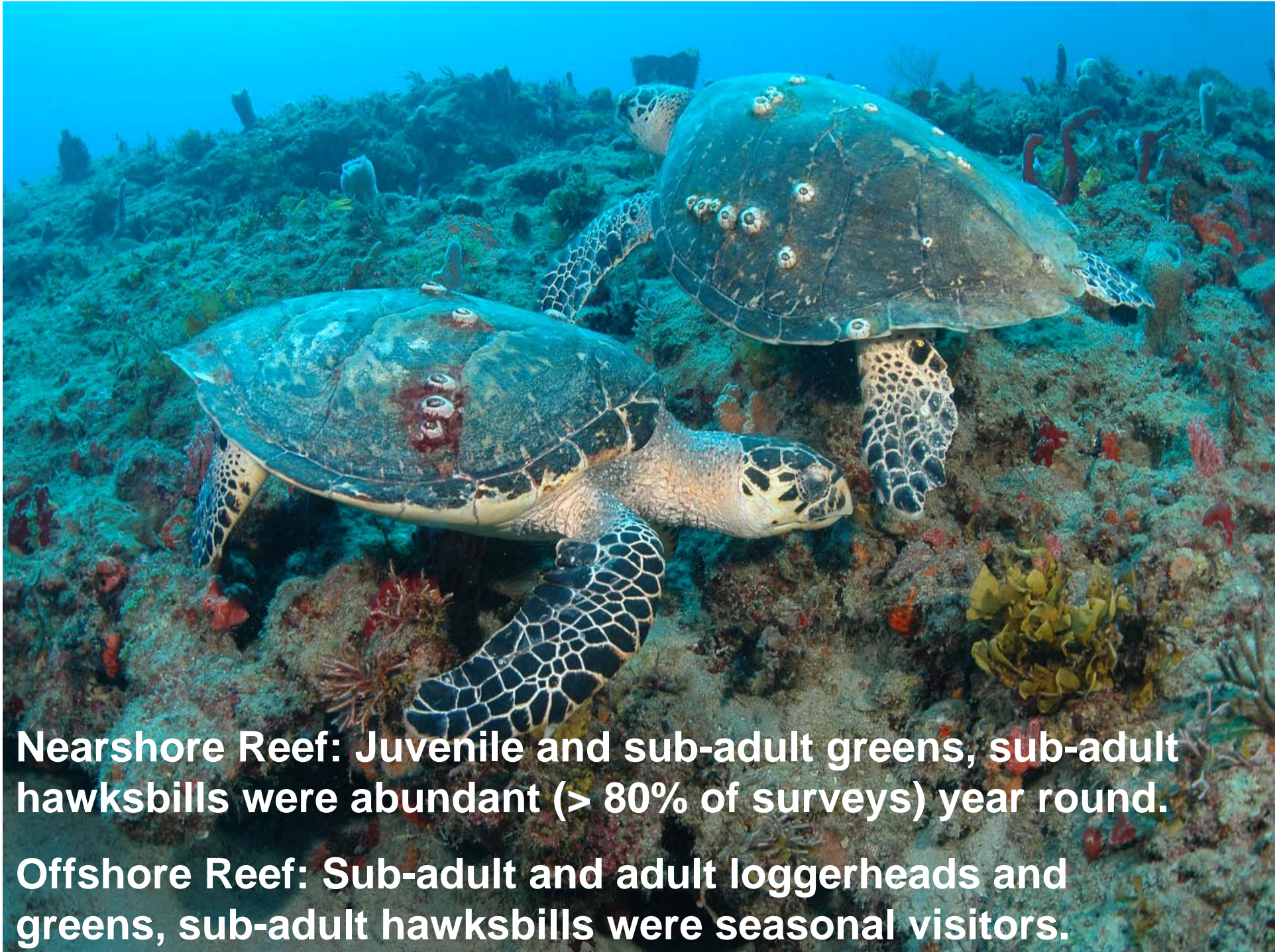
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From nesting beaches
to feeding and foraging grounds

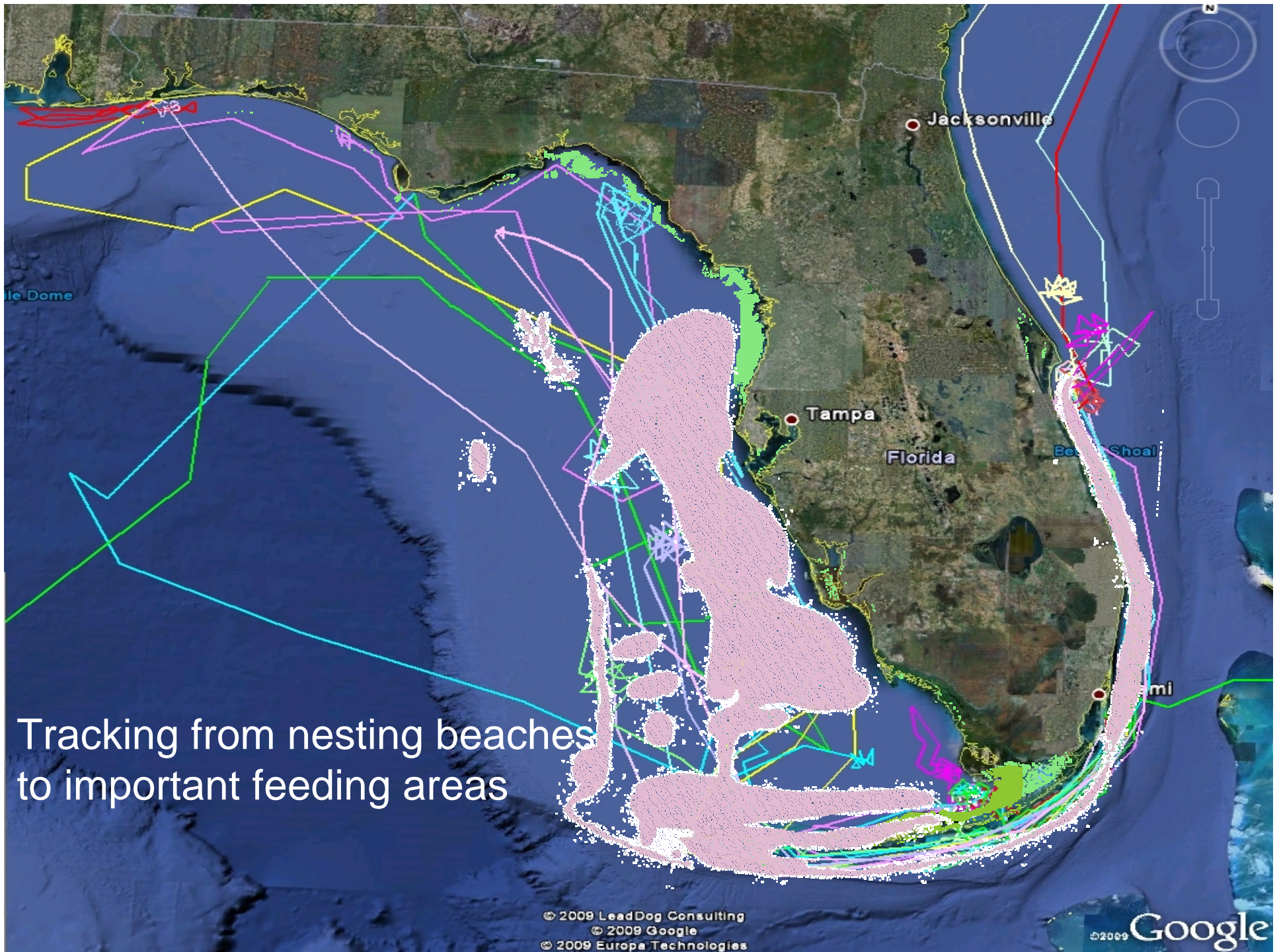


Hawksbills on the reef tract



Nearshore Reef: Juvenile and sub-adult greens, sub-adult hawksbills were abundant (> 80% of surveys) year round.

Offshore Reef: Sub-adult and adult loggerheads and greens, sub-adult hawksbills were seasonal visitors.



Tracking from nesting beaches to important feeding areas

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