

MS Canyon 252 Incident – Sector Mobile WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. Initial Wildlife Response Priorities – Notifications have been made. Information has been shared with state and federal agencies through Unified Command.

II. Authority

A. Decisions Concerning a Wildlife Response

1. Federal and State wildlife personnel have authority over birds and marine mammals, sea turtles and endangered species, and other wildlife-related response decisions.
2. The On-Scene Coordinator consults with the USFWS and state agencies when there is a possibility of impact to migratory birds. Appropriate response measures will be determined by the Unified Command, including federal and state stakeholders.
3. The On-Scene Coordinator consults with the USFWS and state agencies when there is a possibility of impact to sea turtles on land. The On-Scene Coordinator consults with the NMFS and state agencies when there is a possibility of impact to sea turtles in the water. Appropriate response measures will be determined by the Unified Command, including federal and state stakeholders.
4. The On-Scene Coordinator consults with NOAA-NMFS and state agencies when there is a possibility of impact to marine mammals or sea turtles. Appropriate response measures will be determined by the Unified Command, including federal and state stakeholders.

III. Organization - Unified Command will be used to coordinate with local Trustees (see Appendix 1 – Contact list).

A. Planning

1. Wildlife operations planning will be accomplished by the Wildlife Group and coordinated through the Environmental Unit by the Wildlife Group Supervisor.
2. All wildlife response related activities will be included in the Incident Action Plan by the Planning Section.

B. Wildlife Group Supervisor will:

1. Coordinate with the Environmental Unit within Planning Section on the identification of sensitive areas, wildlife-at-risk and recommend response priorities. These data will then be used to assist the deployment of field assets and establishment of animal care facilities.
 - a) It is important to determine wildlife distribution and abundance in the area as soon as possible.
 - b) Protecting sensitive areas from impact and deterring non-oiled wildlife from polluted areas is high priority. These two actions will help shorten the wildlife response efforts.
2. Identify daily objectives and performance metrics (i.e. # animals handled, # volunteers) to be used to assess rehabilitation capability.
3. Provide daily reporting to Unified Command on progress against objectives and need for resources.
4. Tri-State Bird Rescue has been CONTACTED for the wildlife rehabilitation of birds. Organizations within the Southeast Regional Marine Mammal Stranding Network will be activated to respond to marine mammal issues. Organizations within the Sea Turtle Stranding

and Salvage Network will be used to respond to affected sea turtles.

5. Collection of birds and associated REHABILITATION activities will be conducted as authorized by migratory bird permits issued to Tri-State. All endangered species are covered under this permit.
6. Collection and care of oiled marine mammals and sea turtles will be conducted by individuals and organizations identified by (and holding appropriate authorization and permits from) NOAA-NMFS.

C. Safety

IV. Any person that is in need of an ambulance or paramedics should be administered first aid while waiting. No smoking, eating, or drinking in the site work zones, no matches or lighters in this zone. Wear the appropriate level of protection. The buddy system is required for all site work involving levels of protection or potentially representing a risk to personnel. Treat guns and launchers as if they were real firearms/weapons. No loaded devices in automobiles or aircraft. Let pilot know if you have pyrotechnic devices and/or ammo BEFORE boarding, DO NOT shoot into fresh oil as it may ignite, DO NOT shoot over or into dry grass/vegetation as it may ignite. DO NOT chase birds into oiled areas (sometimes doing nothing is the best hazing strategy) taking your time and think about your every move and take NOTHING for granted. Use proper PPE (safety glasses, hearing protection, gloves). DECONTAMINATION is required before the end of the operational period.

IV. Operations

A. Oiled Wildlife Response as Authorized by Federal & State Agencies

1. All wildlife related activities will be managed under the Wildlife Branch of the Operations Section.
2. Wildlife response activities will be coordinated with the Environmental Unit and communicated through the Situation Unit to maintain an effective flow of information.

B. Responsibilities as Authorized by Federal & State Agencies

1. Minimize wildlife losses during spill response.
2. Oversee activities of wildlife contractor.
3. Coordinate over-flights and ground reconnaissance of wildlife at spill site and report to Situation Unit Leader (see Organization Charts in IAP).
4. Confirm protocol as directed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service for collecting and documenting oiled birds, small mammals, manatees and sea turtles (i.e., Chain of Custody form). If significant numbers of carcasses are collected, it may be necessary to obtain a large freezer and generator.
5. Necropsy and sampling of large marine mammals (whales) may need to occur immediately during the spill response at the site of the stranding if long-term storage/removal of carcasses is unreasonable. In these circumstances, sampling and evaluation must follow approved NOAA-NMFS Guidelines and occur after authorization and approval by NMFS Enforcement personnel.
6. Carry out hazing measures as authorized by Federal and State agencies in the Incident Action Plan.
7. Oversee recovery and rehabilitation of impacted animals. Where oiled wildlife may be located within sensitive habitat, decisions may be made to not collect the animal to protect the habitat.

Special measures may be taken to collect and recover individuals of threatened or endangered species or protected marine mammals.

8. Assist in identifying and maintaining appropriate wildlife rehabilitation centers.
9. Assure that evidence tagging, transportation, veterinary services, evidence storage and other support are maintained at the appropriate level.

V. Field Operations

1. Identify possible hazing techniques (based on species, location, and logistics). Deploy equipment as identified in the Incident Action Plan after authorization.
2. Carcass collection will be carried out concurrently with other field operations. This activity will be done in accordance with the chain of custody requirements.
3. Implement field teams to capture oiled wildlife:
 - Identify retrieval needs and identify available personnel (agency +/- contractor support).
 - Assign teams to existing operational divisions.
 - Request needed logistical support (boats, nets, etc.).
 - Field team deployment will expand/contract based on field recon and survey information as well as trustee priorities (species status/listing; breeding locations).
 - Evaluate the need for staging wildlife teams on jack barges.

4. Wildlife transport plan in development.

5. Request assistance from Comms Unit to incorporate wildlife operations communication needs into the response efforts; identify radio needs.

6. Reporting and Coordination

The primary input mechanism for the public to report affected wildlife is via the Wildlife Hotline 1-866-557-1401. Identify additional resources required to manage the hotline if calls become overwhelming. Hotline calls will be answered and a message taken. Message will be delivered to the Search & Collection Unit Leader who will notify the appropriate field team.

Example: General public goes into a park visitor center. Personnel would be requested to assist the public in calling the hotline.

Clean up Operations personnel in the field:

Call the hotline.

Send a message via their comms plan – message should be delivered to Wildlife Search & Collection unit.

Wildlife recon teams

Can retrieve if safe to do so.

If additional resources required, call Wildlife Search & Collection unit.

7. GPS system is necessary to mark locations of both live and deceased wildlife.

8. Deceased animal collection protocol agreed with state and federal agencies will be followed.

9. Transportation – Various modes of transportation should be set up through the Logistics Section. This may include vans, trucks, trailers, airboats, flat-bottom boats, etc.

VI. Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers

A. *Bird Rehab Locations*

1. A suitable facility needs to be located to set up the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Warehouse should have water and electricity, open floor plan to arrange pens and house wildlife cleaning and support trailer.

Identified locations for facilities:

Theodore, AL 5400 Willis Road – site has been secured and fully functional. Animals can be accepted any time.

Gulfport, MS – 10194 Loraine Road, Erica Lander cell: 251-508-9941

Pensacola, FL 115 East 9 Mile Road – identified for planning purposes, not staffed at this time – can be operational within 6 hours of notification.

2. Set up 24 hour security plan.
3. Mobile wildlife response trailers are equipped with on-demand hot water systems, wash tables, collapsible tables for use in examining and arranging supplies, as well as various sizes of portable kennels. The *Wildlife Response Services, LLC Resource Trailer* is also available on-site and stocked with necessary rehabilitation equipment.
4. Wildlife recovery teams must wear proper PPE (including gloves, Tyvek suits, goggles, and rubber boots and PFD if in boats and/or near water. Other PPE as determined by the UC.

B. *Mammal and Turtle Rehab Locations*

1. If feasible, oiled marine mammals and sea turtles will be cared for at the most appropriate facility nearest to where the mammal/turtle stranded. A complete resource list for available facilities (and associated capacities) is currently being compiled. Facilities must be organizations within the Southeast Regional Marine Mammal Stranding Network or the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network, and hold appropriate authorization and permits to care for the species in question.
2. Set up 24 hour security plan.
3. Wildlife recovery teams must wear proper PPE (including gloves, Tyvek suits, goggles, and rubber boots and PFD if in boats and/or near water. Other PPE as determined by the UC. Safety training will be completed as specified in the USFWS Best Practices manual.
4. GPS system is necessary to mark locations of both live and deceased wildlife.
5. The NOAA-NMFS “Marine Mammal Oil Spill Response Guidelines” will be followed in caring for all affected mammals.
6. Appropriate oiled turtle guidelines will be developed by consulting experts and will be followed for care of all affected sea turtles.

C. Volunteers

1. If the incident has significant wildlife impact the use of volunteers may be necessary. This will be coordinated through Unified Command.

D. Supplies

1. A limited quantity of medical supplies, capture equipment, and PPE are kept in the wildlife support trailers for bird collection. Wildlife contractors and mammal/turtle stranding network members will also have a minimal amount of supplies and equipment. Additional equipment and supplies will need to be ordered through the Logistics Section and delivered to the rehab center.
2. The rehabilitation centers should be provided with a supply of Tyvek™ suits, gloves, sun block, insect repellent and other appropriate resources for the recovery and rehabilitation teams as this is the usual place for those contractors to gather for morning and evening planning and de-briefing.

E. Support

1. Designated areas within the rehab center shall be established to take breaks, to have meals, and to attend to administrative tasks. If restroom facilities are not located within the facility, portable facilities need to be provided. Because the task of caring for oil impacted animals is time intensive, arrangements will need to be made to have food for responders ordered and delivered to the rehab facility.
2. Decontamination of workers and equipment will be managed as identified in the Waste Management Plan.

F. Waste Disposal & Oiled Carcass Dispensation

1. Adhere to Federal, State, and municipal regulations when disposing of both oily wastewater and gray water. Wastewater refers to wildlife wash water, rinse water, and pool overflow water. The Responsible Party will be responsible for the proper disposal of contaminated wastewater.
2. Solid waste must be disposed of in accordance with appropriate Federal, State, and/or local hazardous waste, municipal solid waste, and/or biological waste laws and regulations. Solid waste means soiled Tyvek suits, gloves, towels, sheets, and syringes. The Responsible Party will be responsible for the proper disposal of contaminated solid waste.
3. Dispensation of oiled bird, mammal and sea turtle carcasses will take place under the direction of the appropriate state and federal agency. As mentioned previously, large mammals may need to be necropsied and sample at the stranding site. Dispensation of the carcass post-sampling will be coordinated through the appropriate agencies.

G. Wildlife Rehabilitation and Release Criteria

1. Birds: The wildlife contractor prepares and carries out the release plan after consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service Guidance documents.
2. Cetaceans and Sea Turtles: Animals will be released upon meeting pre-established release criteria, completion of appropriate Stranding Reports, and approval by NOAA-Fisheries. Manatees will be released upon meeting pre-established release criteria, completion of appropriate Stranding Reports, and approval by US Fish and Wildlife Service.

H. Records

1. All final reports maintained by the wildlife response team for the oiled bird response are to be delivered to the USFWS and Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as appropriate within 30 days of the date the FOSC declares the response closed or from the departure of the wildlife response team, whichever comes first.

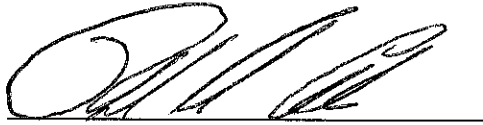
2. For stranded marine mammals and turtles, official stranding reports must be completed for each animal collected, and should be forwarded to the NOAA-NMFS Stranding Coordinator and the Wildlife Group Supervisor as quickly as feasible after disposition.

3. Daily reports from the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center are to be sent each evening at end of day to the following: New Orleans Sector: charlie_hebert@fws.gov, lcarver@wlf.la.gov, jlacour@wlf.la.gov, and clejeune@wlf.la.gov; Mobile Sector: pete_tuttle@fws.gov, kennethwrice@att.net; AL: chuck.sharp@dcnr.alabama.gov; MS: brigid@mdac.state.ms.us; FL: dan.wolf@myfwc.com, david.palandro@myfwc.com; Unified Command: Michael.condon@bp.com Daily reports (including intake logs) from all marine mammal rehabilitation and necropsy centers are to be sent each evening to mhziccardi@ucdavis.edu, blair.mase@noaa.gov, erin.fougeres@noaa.gov and teri.rowles@noaa.gov

4. Daily reports from all sea turtle rehabilitation and necropsy centers are to be sent each evening to mhziccardi@ucdavis.edu, wendy.teas@noaa.gov, sheryan.epperly@noaa.gov, Barbara.schroeder@noaa.gov and teri.rowles@noaa.gov

This wildlife plan follows procedures as set forth by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service document "Best Practices for Migratory Bird Care During Oil Spill Response" (November 2003) and NOAA document "Marine Mammal Oil Spill Response Guidelines" (12/19/07)

Federal and State Agencies



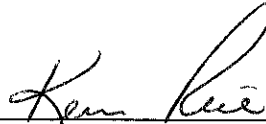
Rick Clark
National Park Service



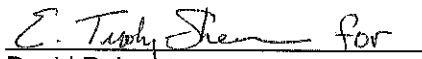
~~Cindy Collier~~ SCOTT MCCREERY
Planning Section Chief



Anthony Velasco
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



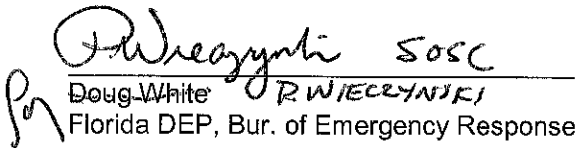
Ken Rice
Wildlife Group Supervisor



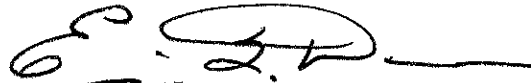
~~David Dale~~ JOHN FORET
National Marine Fisheries Service



~~Bruce Freeman~~ Philip Woods
Alabama Dept of Environmental Mgt



Doug White R. WICZYNSKI
Florida DEP, Bur. of Emergency Response



Eric Dear
Mississippi DEQ, Emergency Srvc. Branch

Appendix 1 Key Contacts List

- **Federal Agency –**

- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) –**

- Louisiana: Buddy Goatcher (Cell #: 337-280-1157 / 337-257-4813) or Ecological Services Field Office (Office #: 337-291-3100 / 337-291-3125 in Louisiana. If concern of shoreline impact exists, Buddy Goatcher will notify wildlife refuge personnel.

- Mississippi, contact Stephen Ricks in Jackson Field office at 6578 Dogwood View Pkwy, Suite A, Jackson, MS 39213; (601)720-5783, cell (601) 321-1122.

- Alabama, contact Pete Tuttle (251-424-0635) or Bill Pearson in Daphne Field office at 1208-B Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526; (251)441-5181.

- Florida contact Donald Imm in Panama City Field office at 1601 Balboa Avenue, Panama City, FL 32405; (850)769-0552, cell (850) 532-2026. Southeast Regional Headquarters Office – Atlanta, GA: 404-679-7140.

- Texas, notify Ecological Services Field Office (Office #: 281-286-8282 or Ron Brinkley Cell #: 713-542-1873). If concern of shoreline impact exists, Ron Brinkley will notify wildlife refuge personnel. Southwest Regional Headquarters Office – Albuquerque, NM: 505-248-6920.

- Tyndall Air Force Base, Tyndall AFB, Wendy Jones, Panama City, FL, (850) 283-2641 (850) 527-2009
Wendy.Jones@tyndall.af.mil, Tyndall AFB

- Eglin Air Force Base, Eglin AFB Bruce Hagedorn, Niceville, FL (850) 882-8421,
bruce.hagedorn@eglin.af.mil, Eglin AFB

- **State Agency**

- Louisiana, contact Todd Baker (225-281-2066 - primary) at Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries at 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808; or secondarily at (225)765-2800 or 1-800-442-2511.

- Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks at 1505 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211-6374; (601)432-2400.

- Alabama Department of Conservation and National Resources at 64 Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36130; (334)242-3465.

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399; Telephone: (850) 488-467; Fax (850) 278-4676, Terry Doonan (386) 754-1051 x202 (Office); (386) 623-4986 (Mobile); alternate Nancy Douglas (863)647-4000 x1137 (Office); (863) 581-6903 Leslie Ward Manatee Coordinator (727) 896-8626 (Office); (813) 781-1175

- Texas Parks & Wildlife Kills & Spills Team Regional Office at 512-389-4848 or Region 4, Winston Denton, Office (281)534-0138. If potential for shoreline impact exists, Winston Denton will notify wildlife management area personnel.

- Florida Park Service District 1, NW Florida, contact Tova Spector, Panama City Beach, FL (850) 233-5110
Tova.Spector@dep.state.fl.us, NW Florida

National Park Service (NPS)

A. Gulf Island National Seashore (GUIS)

- a. MS District: Cat, Horn, West Ship, East Ship, Petit Bois Islands
 - i. Gary Hopkins, District Biologist
 - ii. Cell: 228-348-1062
 - iii. Office: 228-230-4104
 - iv. Email: gary_hopkins@nps.gov
- b. FL District: Perdido Key, Santa Rosa Island (Ft Pickens, Opal Beach units), and Okaloosa Island
 - i. Mark Nicholas, District Biologist
 - ii. Cell: 850-232-3619
 - iii. Office: 850-934-2617
 - iv. Email: mark_nicholas@nps.gov

B. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve (JELA)

- a. Haigler (Dusty) Pate
- b. Cell: 504-382-4937
- c. Office: 504-589-3882 ext 119
- d. Email: haigler_pate@nps.gov

C. Padre Islands National Seashore (PAIS)

- a. Wade Stablein
- b. Cell: 361-658-4599
- c. Office: 361-949-8173 ext 237
- d. Email: wade_stablein@nps.gov

D. Everglades National Park (EVER)

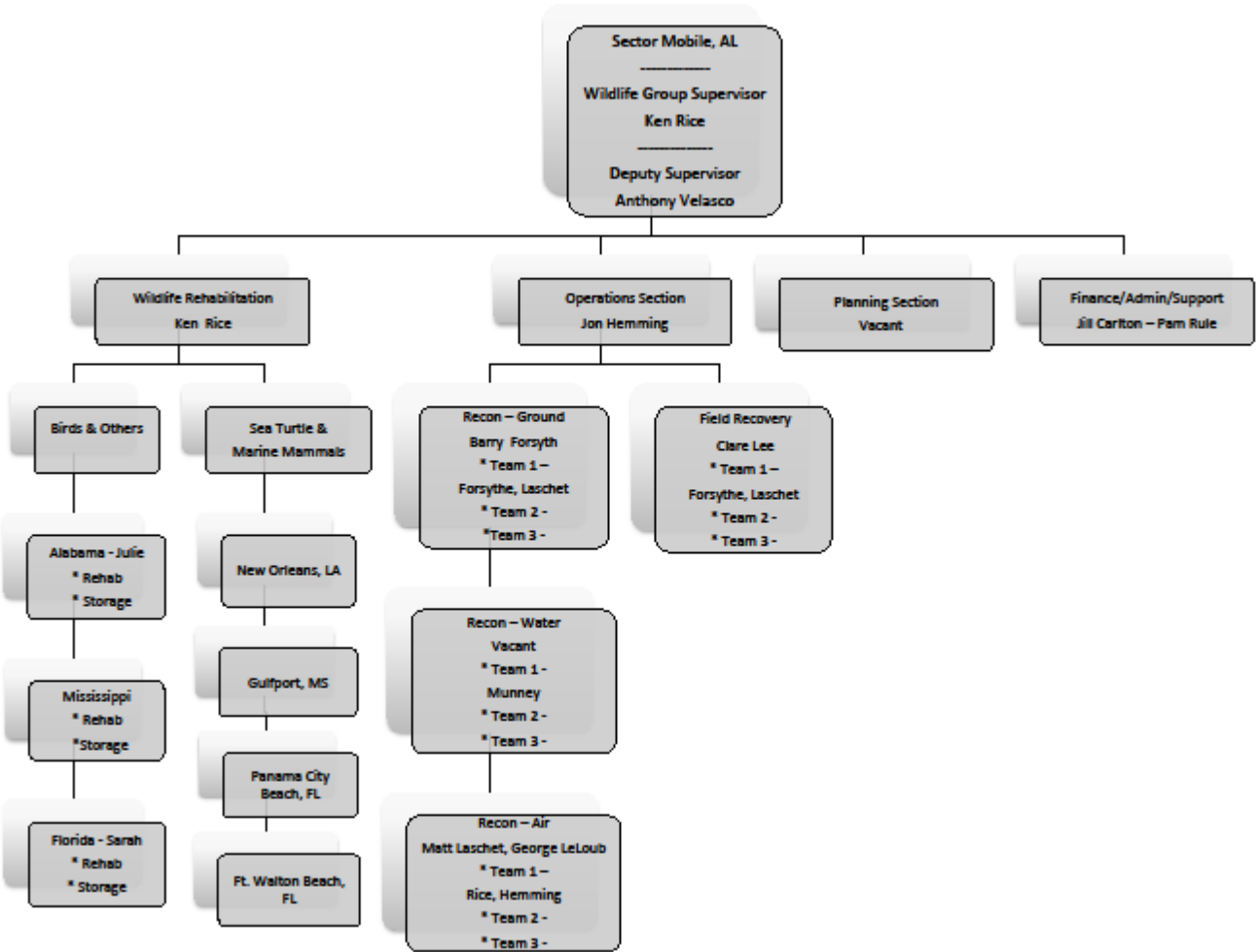
- a. David Hallac
- b. Cell: 305-302-4055
- c. Office: 305-224-4239
- d. Email: david_hallac@nps.gov

E. Dry Tortugas National Park (DRTO)

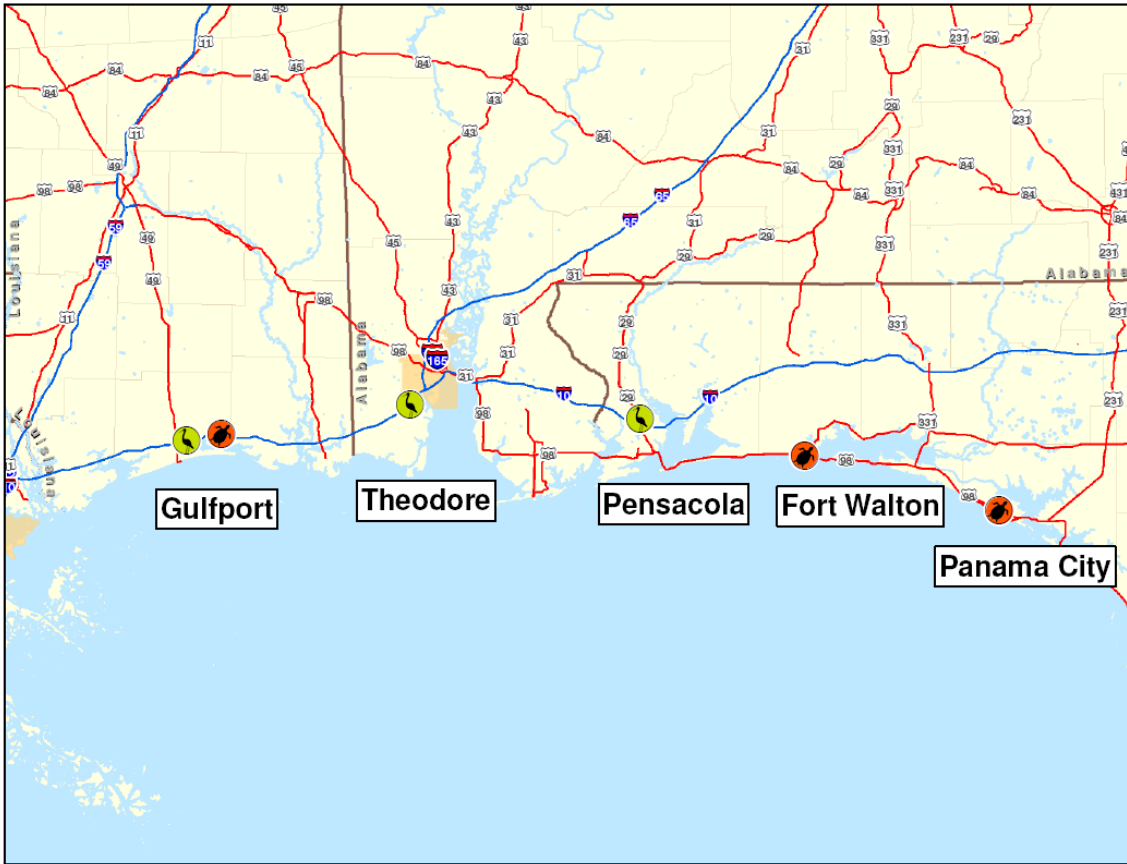
- a. David Hallac
- b. Cell: 305-302-4055
- c. Office: 305-224-4239
- d. Email: david_hallac@nps.gov

F. Southeast Regional Office-Atlanta, GA

- a. Tim Pinion
- b. Cell: 404-245-3377
- c. Office: 404-507-5815
- d. Email: timothy_pinion@nps.gov



Wildlife Rehabilitation Sites



Legend

-  Bird
-  Mammal/Turtle
- Major Roads
-  Interstate
-  US Highway



Location Map

