

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



WS Wildlife
Services

Protecting People
Protecting Agriculture
Protecting Wildlife

*Buddy Goatcher – Louisiana
Anthony Velasco - Kentucky*

*Walter Cotton
Louisiana*

Innovations in Wildlife Rescues at Spills

Roles

- Prevention
- Rescue
- Regulatory
- Media



Oiled endangered brown pelican lost to the 2004 Hurricane Ivan Spill

Wildlife Response & Helicopters



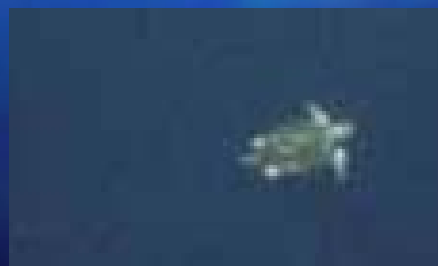
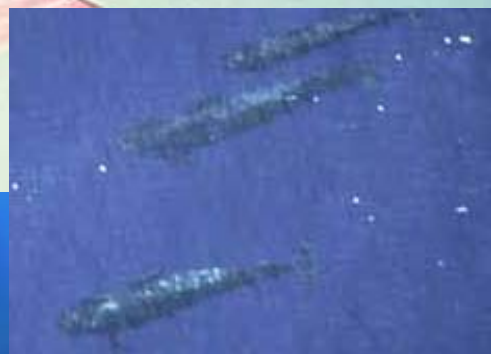
Bass South – Hurricane Katrina Spills 2005

Technical Assistance on:

Dispersants



**Provide
expertise in
wildlife
spotter
aircraft**



Technical Assistance on:
***In-situ* Burns**



6th Day Post-burn

**Fire set & controlled
by USFWS helicopter**



Technical Assistance on:

Spill Threats



Wildlife Issue:
Oyster
contamination



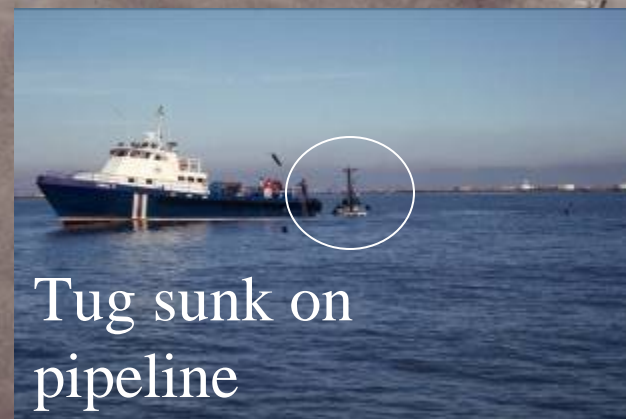
Wildlife Issue:
Explosives use
around whales

Case History:

Port Fourchon 1997



- Crude oil pipeline break
- Two helicopters in relays
- Saved ~ 2,000 lesser scaup & 700 white pelicans



Tug sunk on
pipeline

Case History:

Hurricane Ivan, 2004



- Low-level wildlife & oil searches
- Transported hazing crews to remote beaches
- Moved 6,000 resistant birds via "integrated hazing" (it took 3-days to move them!!!)



Hurricane Ivan 2004 – Slicks advancing on bird beaches



Hurricane Ivan 2004 – Hazing site at Pass A Loutre Refuge



Case History:

West Champagne Bay, 2005

- Responders declared spill a "bird free-zone"
- A dozen oiled rails per mile



Case History:

Breton Island, 2005



- Bird searches out to 25 miles
- On-water bird rescues by spotter-helicopter teamed with catch-boats
- Sharks!



Photo Credit: LDEQ's Dwight Bradshaw & Forrest Davis
LOSCO's Joey Moore



Breton Island

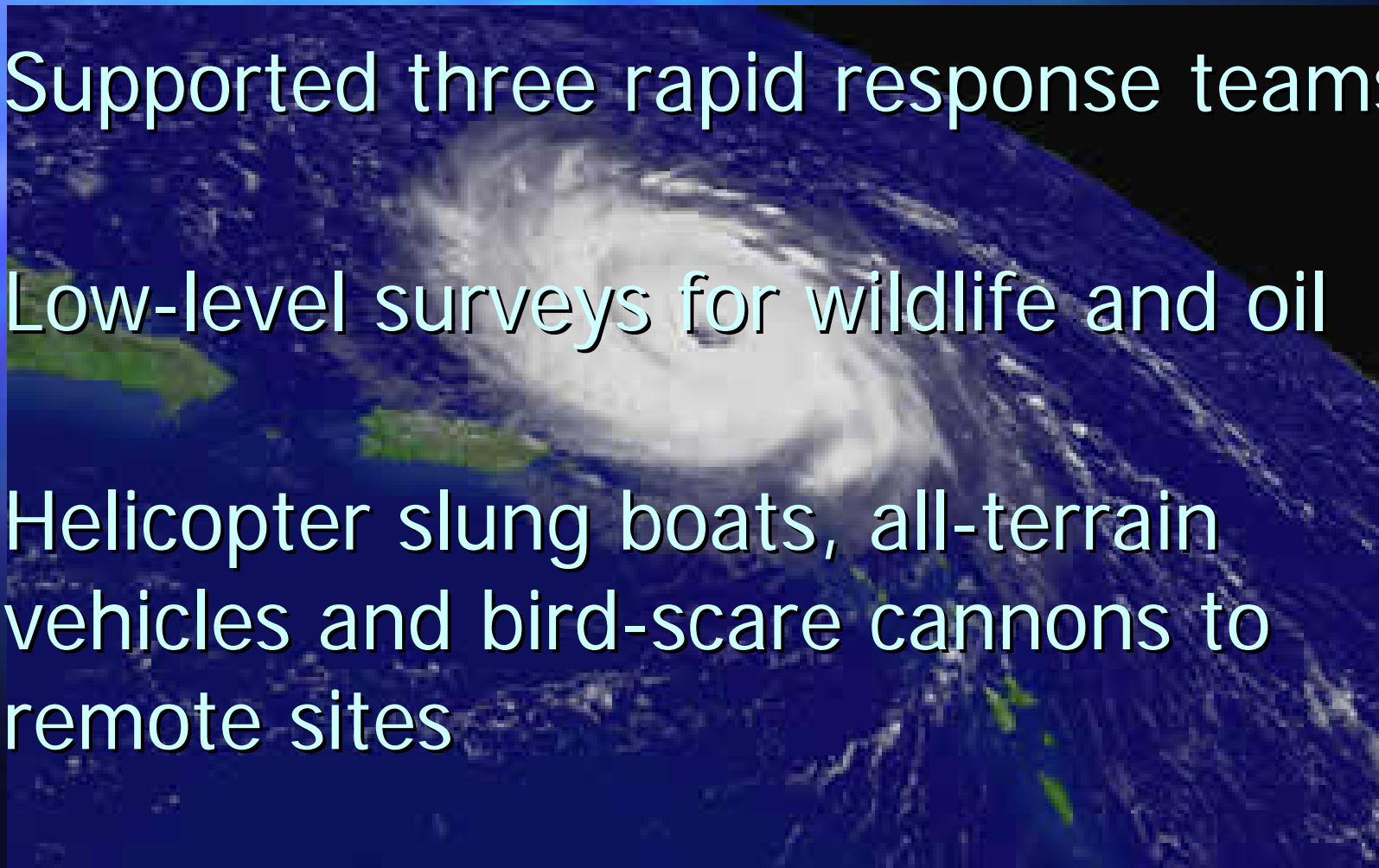
743 endangered brown
pelican nestlings were oiled

Case History:

Hurricanes Katrina/Rita



- Supported three rapid response teams
- Low-level surveys for wildlife and oil
- Helicopter slung boats, all-terrain vehicles and bird-scare cannons to remote sites



Logistical Challenges



Calcasieu River - 2006



- Helicopter located oiled birds



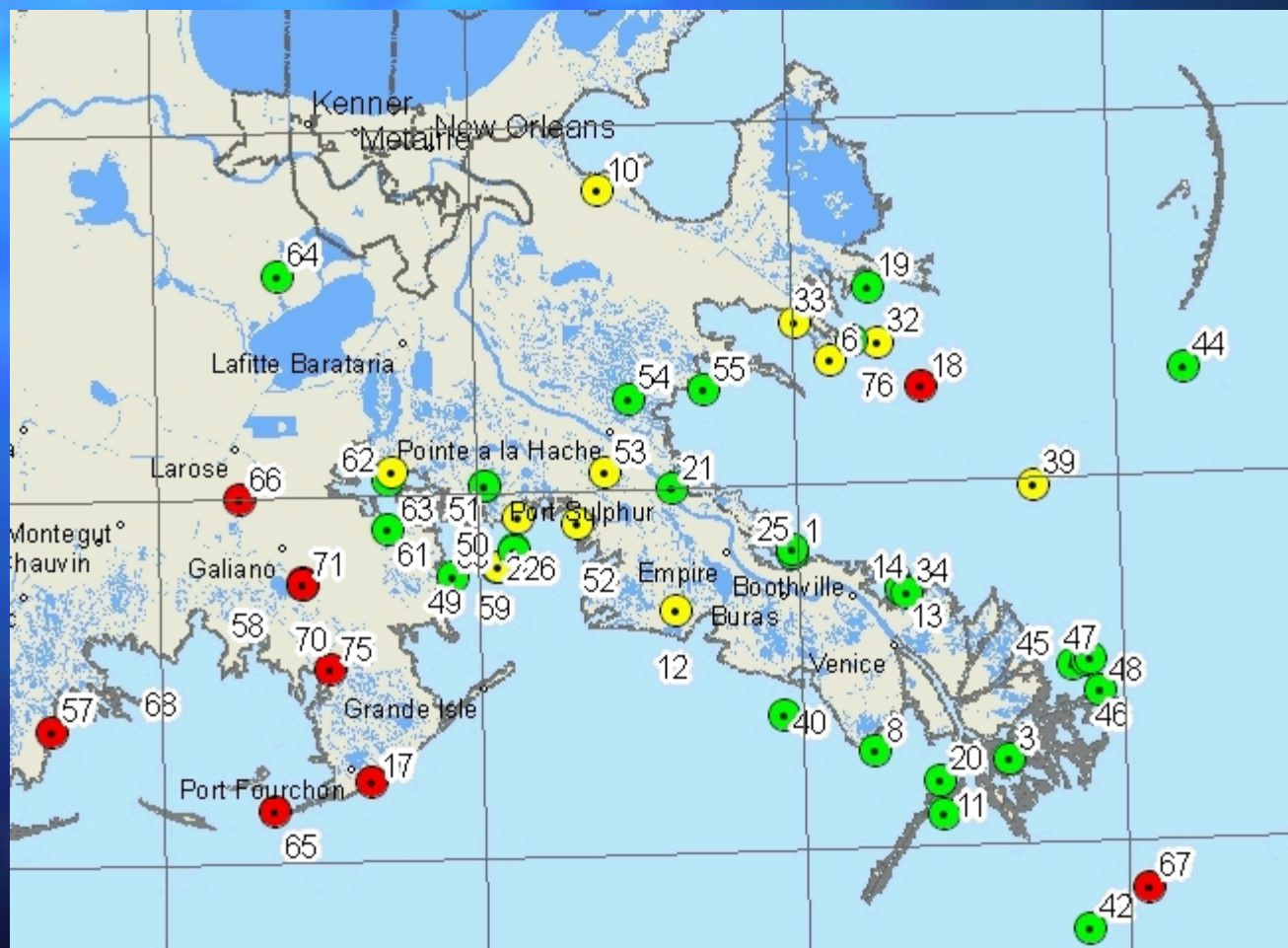
Low Level Helicopter



Video of oiled rail flushed with helicopter ultra-low-level tactic:



Hurricane Gustav Spills







Next:

Anthony Velasco

&

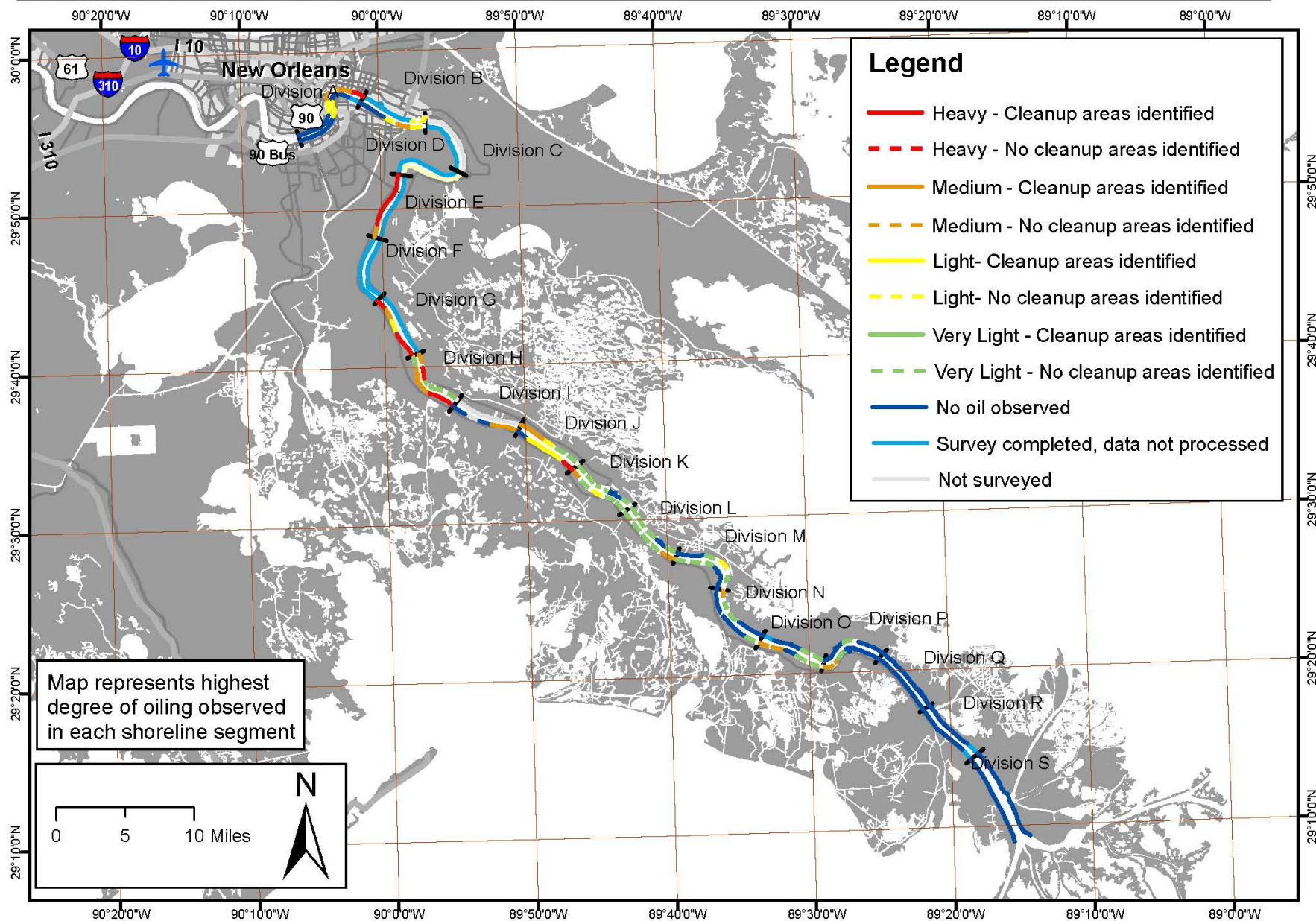
Walter Cotton



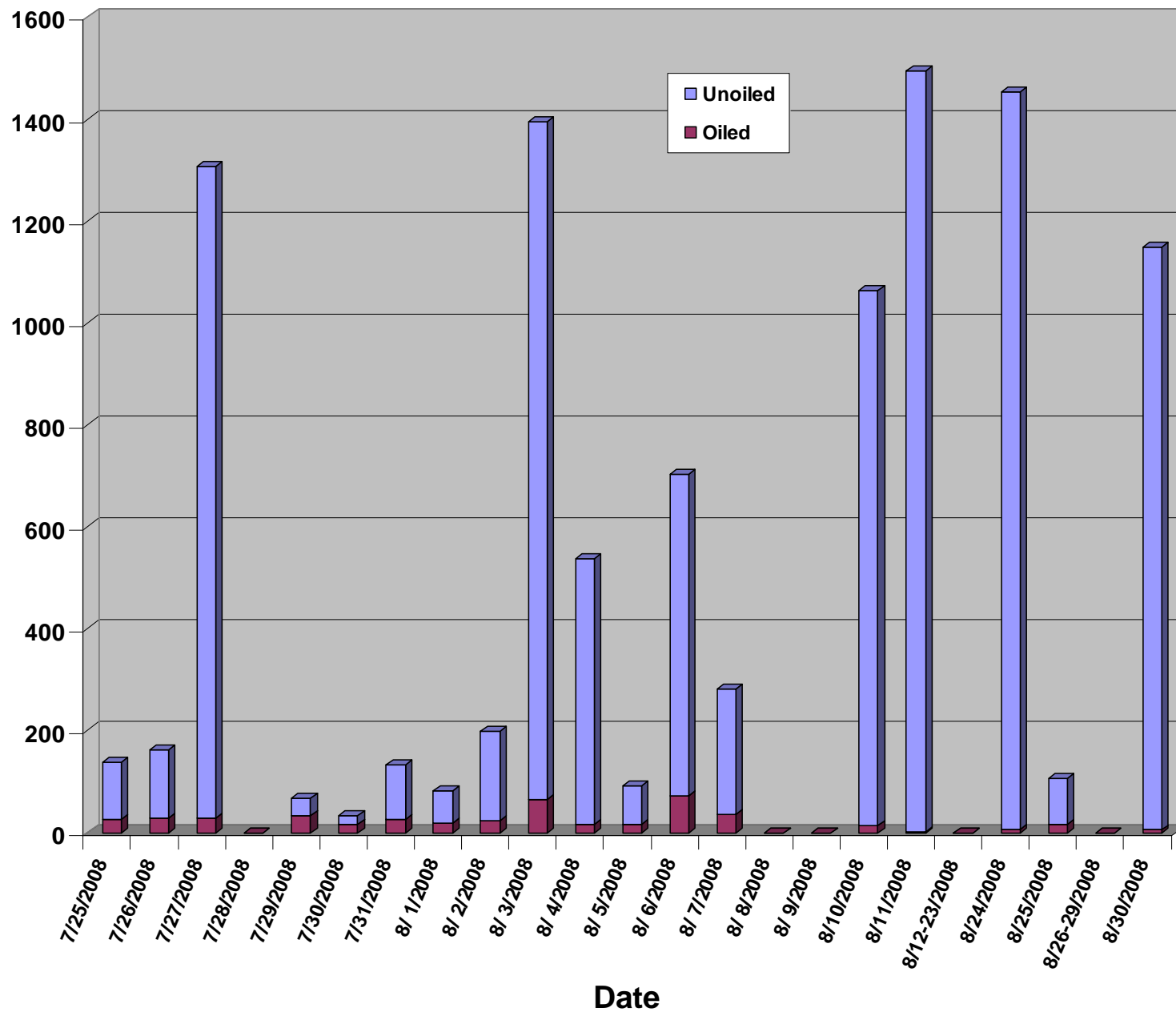
Photo by Jeff Dauzat - LDEQ

USE ONLY AS A GENERAL REFERENCE

Graphic does not represent precise amounts or locations of oil

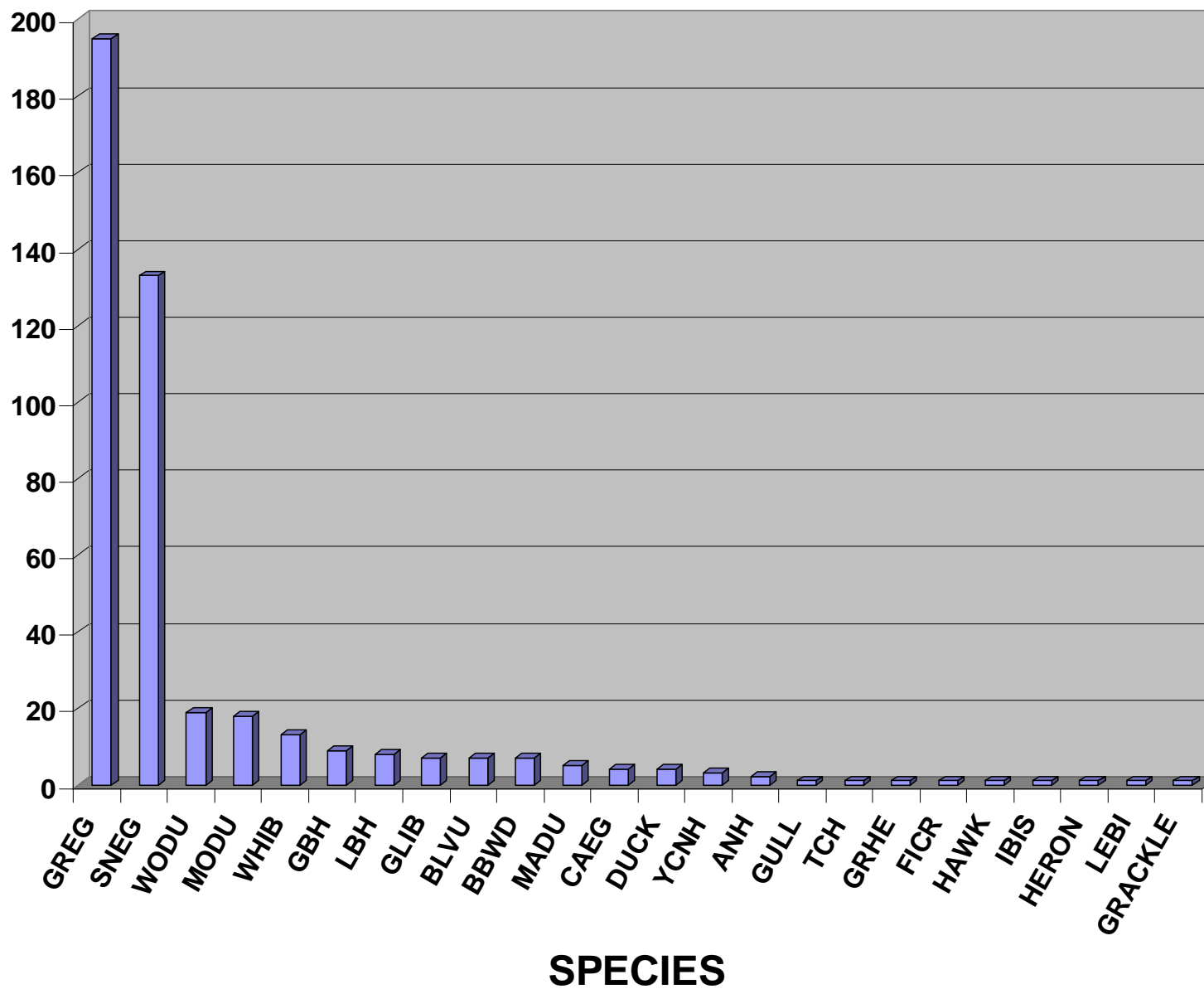


DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Surveys (all wildlife - all surveys combined)



DM932 - 2008 OBSERVED OILED BIRDS

(by species)



DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Surveys

ICS Division	No. Oiled Wildlife
A	25
B	36
C	53
D	56
E	87
F	54
G	20
H	30
I	23
J	40
K	12
L	5
M	0
N	2

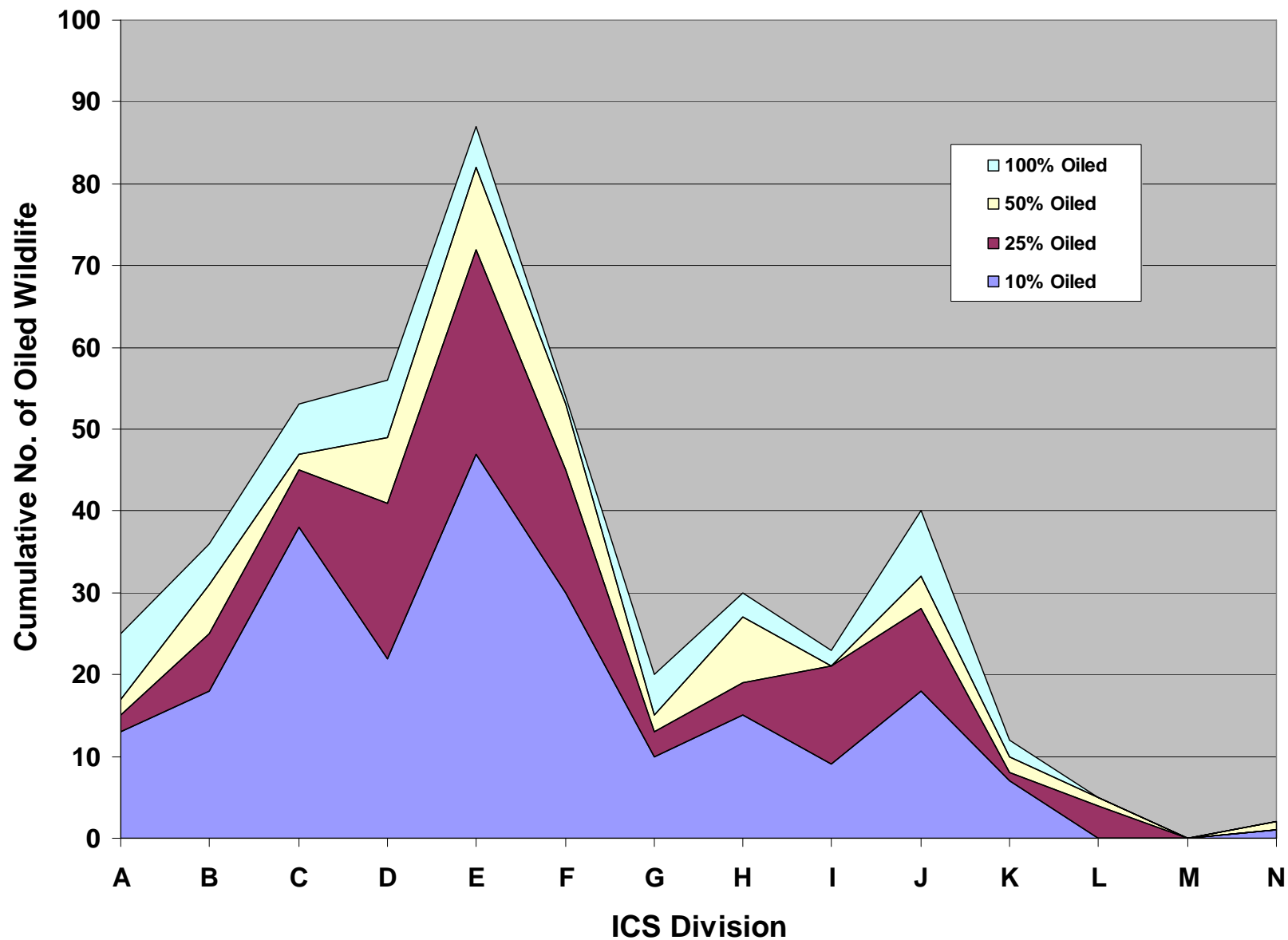


DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Surveys

ICS Division	10% Oiled	25% Oiled	50% Oiled	100% Oiled
A	13	2	2	8
B	18	7	6	5
C	38	7	2	6
D	22	19	8	7
E	47	25	10	5
F	30	15	8	1
G	10	3	2	5
H	15	4	8	3
I	9	12	0	2
J	18	10	4	8
K	7	1	2	2
L	0	4	1	0
M	0	0	0	0
N	1	0	1	0

Proportional Distribution of Oiled Wildlife

DM932 - 2008 surveys (by ICS Division)



DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Surveys

Survey Type	Hours	Miles	Total Obs	Obs Oiled
Aerial	60	1065	8882	154
Ground/Boat	168	310	1510	289



DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Surveys

Survey Type	Total Obs	Obs Oiled	10% Oiled	25% Oiled	50% Oiled	100% Oiled
Aerial	8882	154	32	57	30	35
Ground/Boat	1510	289	196	52	24	17



DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Surveys

Survey Type	Total Obs	Obs Oiled	TOTAL PUE	OILED PUE	TPUE MILE	OPUE MILE
Aerial	8882	154	148.0	2.6	8.3	0.1
Ground/Boat	1510	289	9.0	1.7	4.9	0.9



DM932 - 2008 Wildlife Capture and Rehab

Species	Captured (live)	Recovered (dead)	Washed	Died (transp/rehab)	Released
GREG	4		4		4
SNEG	2		1		2
CAEG	1		1		1
LBH	1		1		1
BCNH	1		1	1	
WHIB	4		2		4
WODU	5	5	3	2	3
MODU	2	2	2		2
BBWD	2				2
GULL	3	1	2	1	2
MODO	1	1	1		1
PIGEON	3		1	2	1
PASS	1		1	1	
GATOR	3		3		3
TURTLE	2		2		2
TOTAL	35	9	25	7	28



CAPTURE TECHNIQUES

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX
AND USE AN INTEGRATED
APPROACH

Surveillance

Used to locate concentrations and determine disposition of oiled birds for later or current capture possibilities.

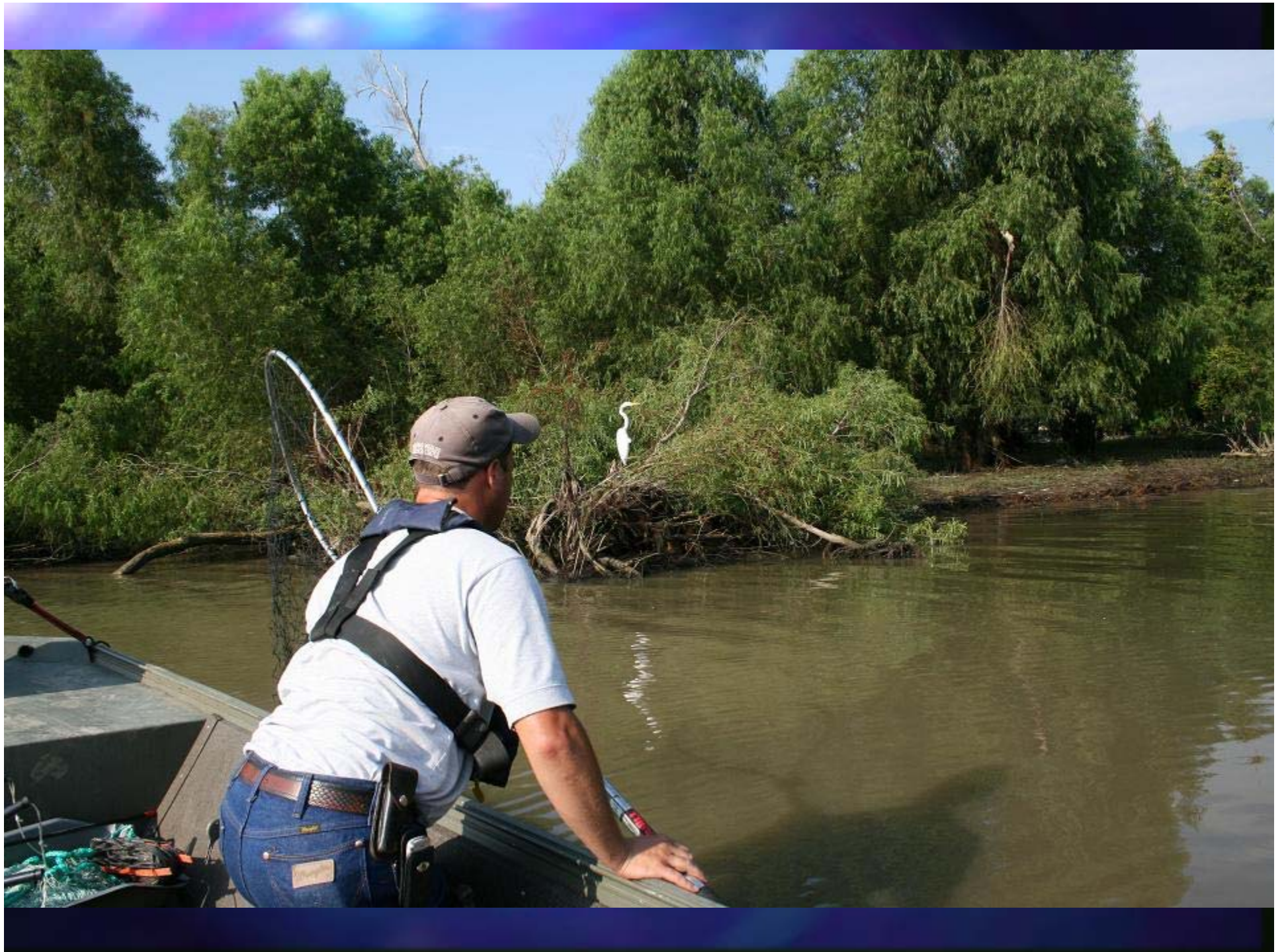


Locate, Flush, Chase

Used in combination with surveillance to determine if oiled bird can fly. If flight is limited capture is possible with pole or throw nets.







Cage Type Live Traps

Used to capture and visually monitor mammals.





CODA Net Launcher

Experimental design of remotely detonated net. Uses .308 blank cartridge for propulsion. Can be used on land or from watercraft.















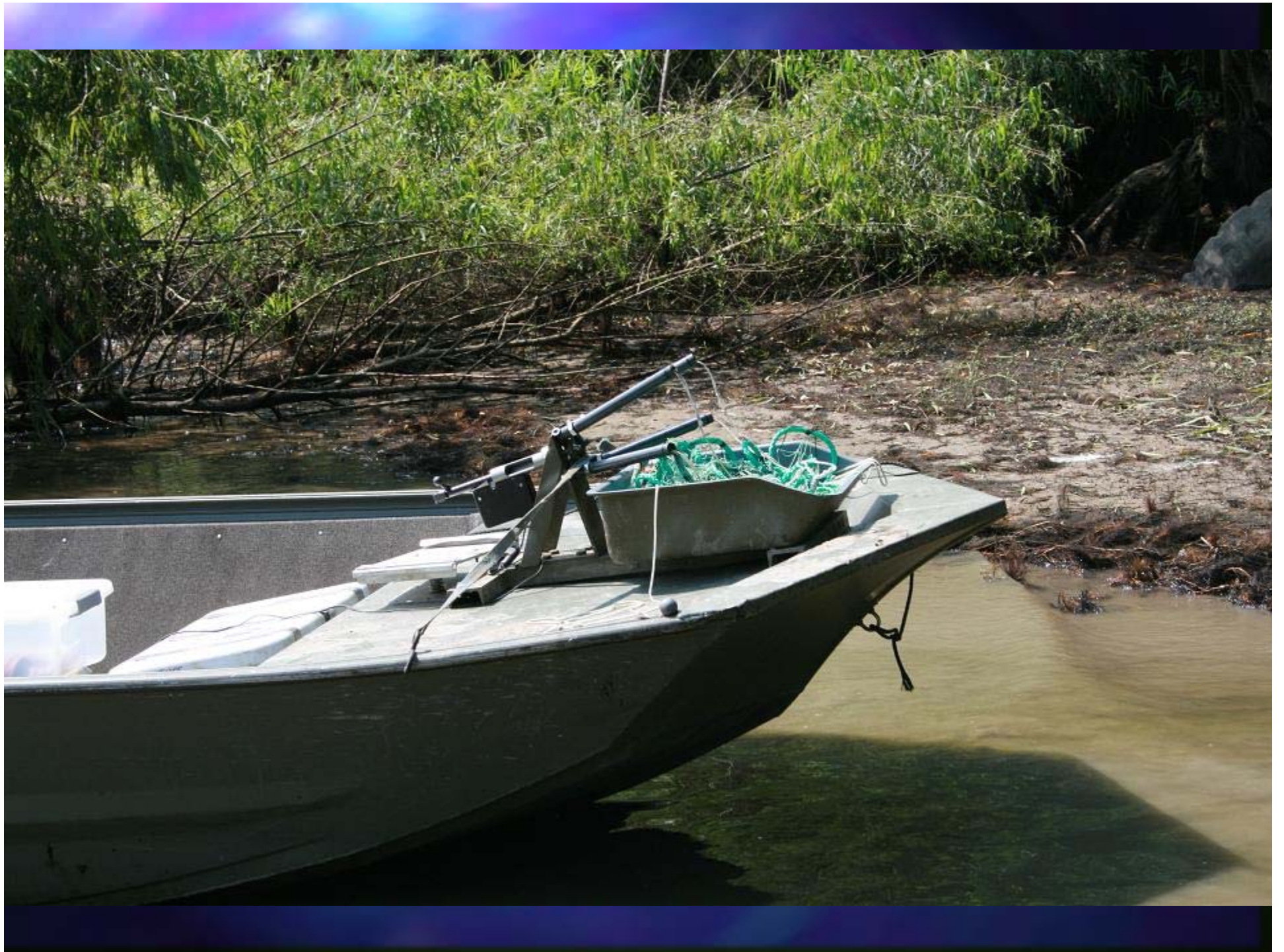


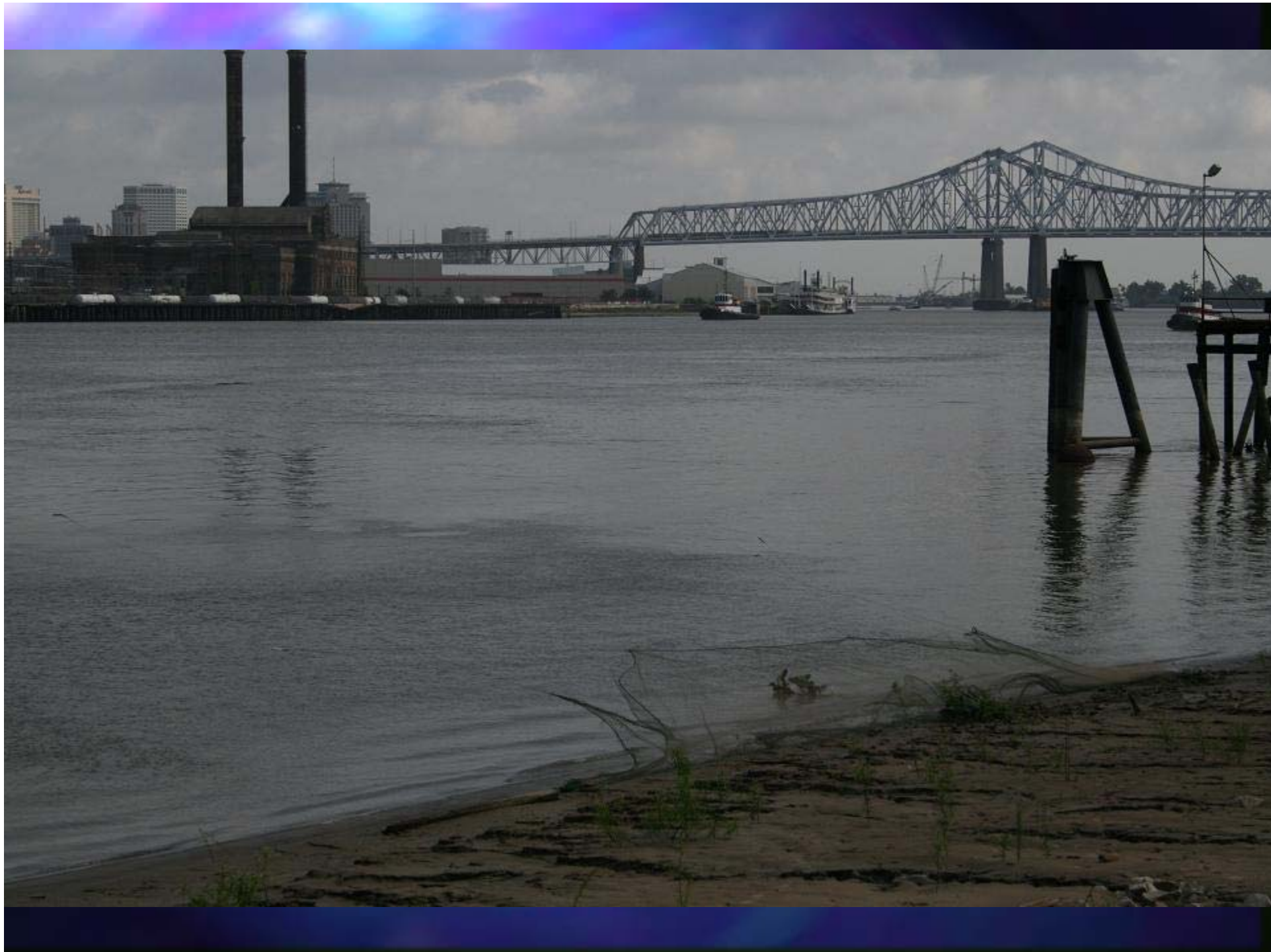












Modified Soft Catch Footholds

Used to catch wading
birds in feeding and
loafing areas.





Hand Capture

Used mostly for snakes and alligators where dexterity and flexibility are necessary









QUESTIONS ?????

