Sea Turtle Nesting Patterns Across Florida Coasts (2020-2024)

Author: Charles Steadman, BS

This study investigates sea turtle nesting patterns across Florida's east and west coasts from the years 2020 to 2024, inclusive, focusing on species-specific distribution trends by latitude and longitude. Loggerhead turtles (Caretta caretta) dominated the number of nests recorded on both coasts. However, green turtles (Chelonia mydas) demonstrated a relatively higher nesting density on the west coast, while leatherback turtles (Dermochelys coriacea) accounted for the least common nesting behavior across both regions. These findings offer a glimpse into regional nesting dynamics and provide groundwork for future analyses incorporating environmental variables or longer-term trends.



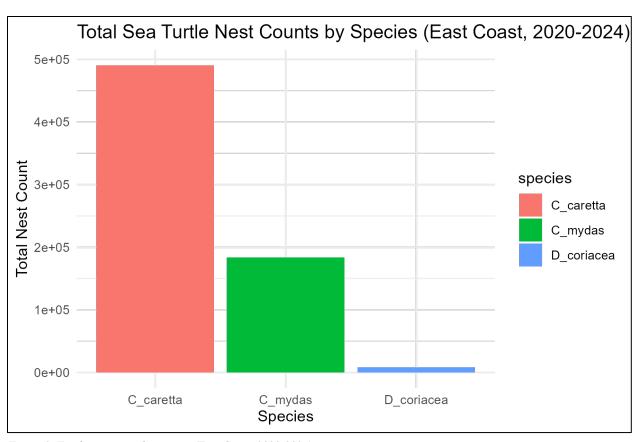


Figure 1: Total nest counts by species (East Coast, 2020-2024)

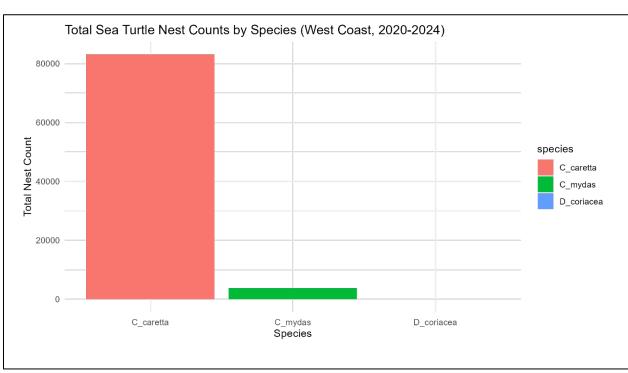


Figure 2: Total nest counts by species (West Coast, 2020-2024)

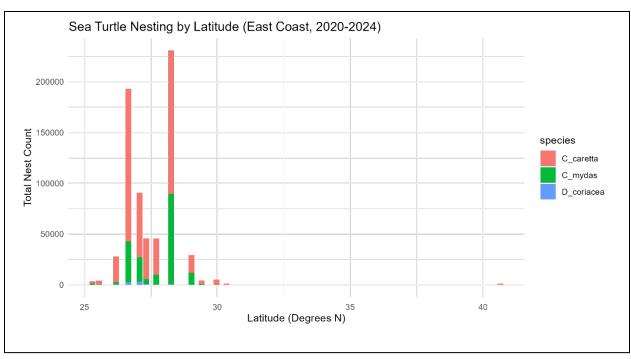


Figure 3: Sea turtle nesting by latitude (East Coast, 2020-2024)

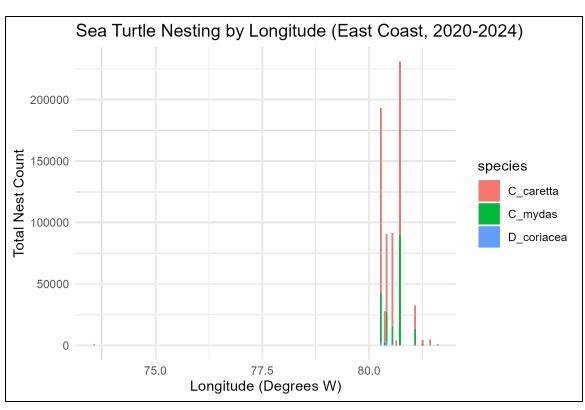


Figure 4: Sea turtle nesting by longitude (East Coast, 2020-2024)

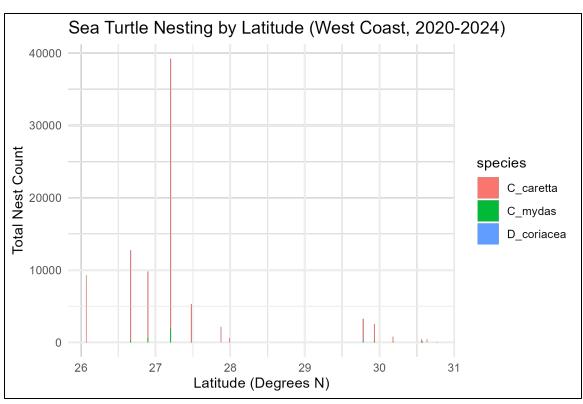


Figure 5: Sea turtle nesting by latitude (West Coast, 2020-2024)

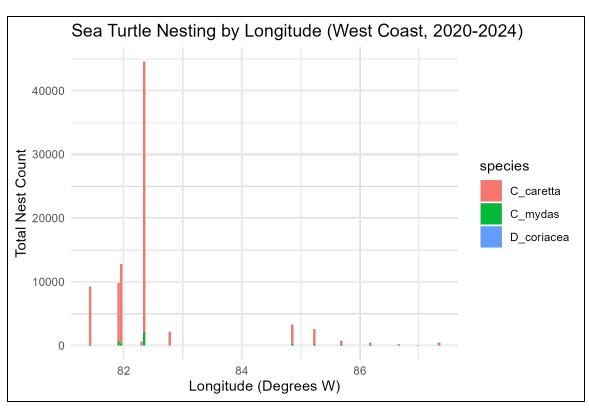


Figure 6: Sea turtle nesting by longitude (West Coast, 2020-2024)