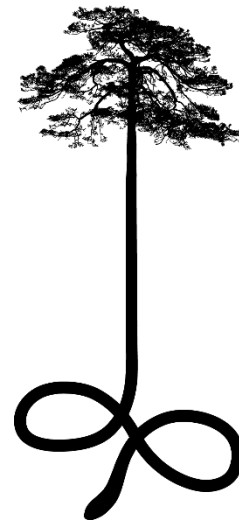


# Reproductive output in southern populations of Spotted Turtles

Houston C. Chandler



THE Orienne  
Society

# Measuring Reproductive Output

- Goals: clutch size, # of clutches, nesting locations, and nest survival
- Attached radio transmitters to female turtles at two sites
- 13 females at Site 1
- 4 females at Site 2





# X-raying Females



# Locating Nests



# Results

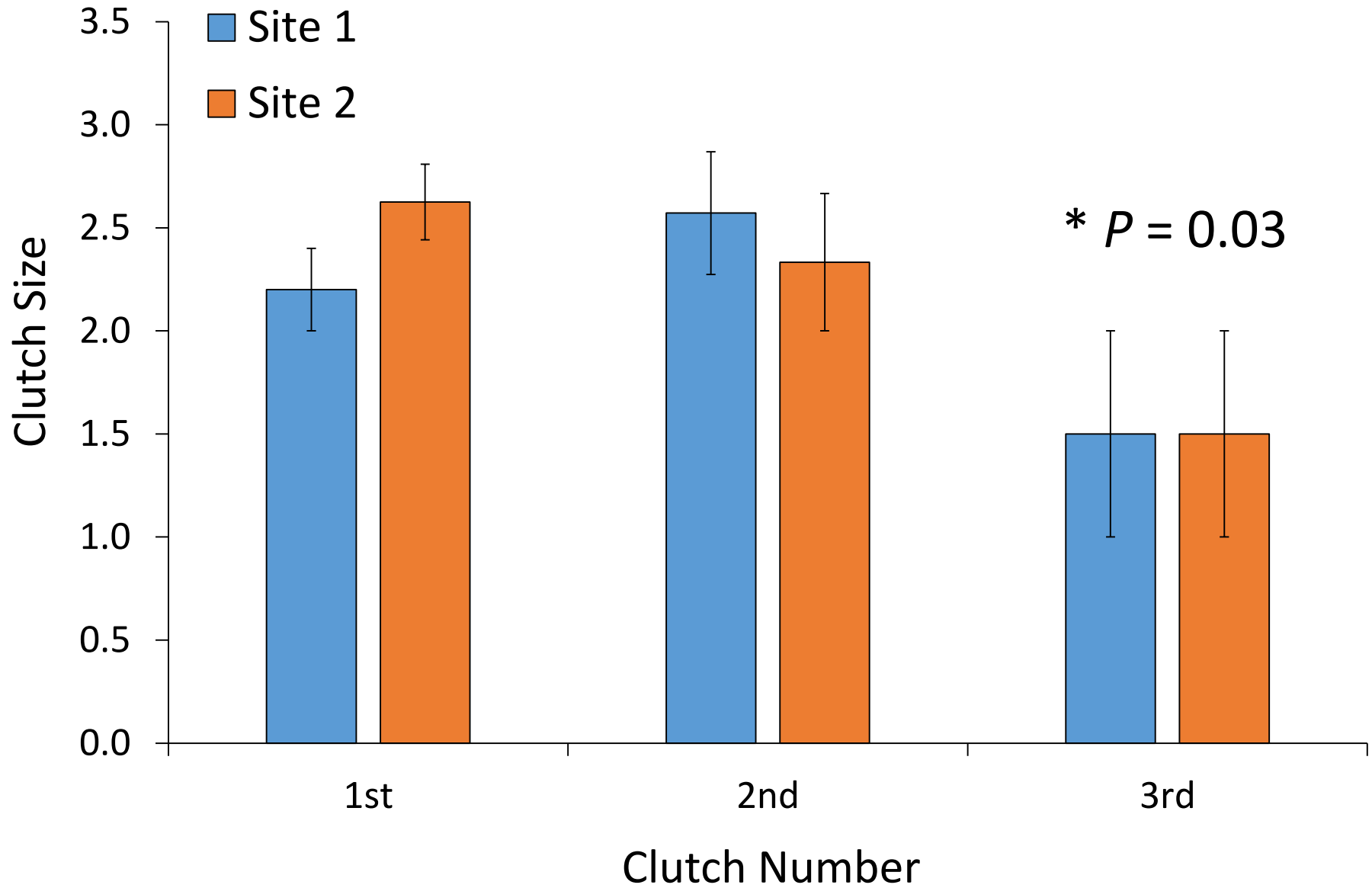
- Observed breeding but no eggs in March and April
- Shelled eggs were detected for the first time in early May
- A majority of turtles produced eggs during 2018
  - 1 clutch: 15/17 (88%)
  - 2 clutches: 11/17 (65%)
  - 3 clutches: 6/17 (35%)
- 32 total clutches, able to identify clutch size in 26





Mean = 2.3 eggs/clutch

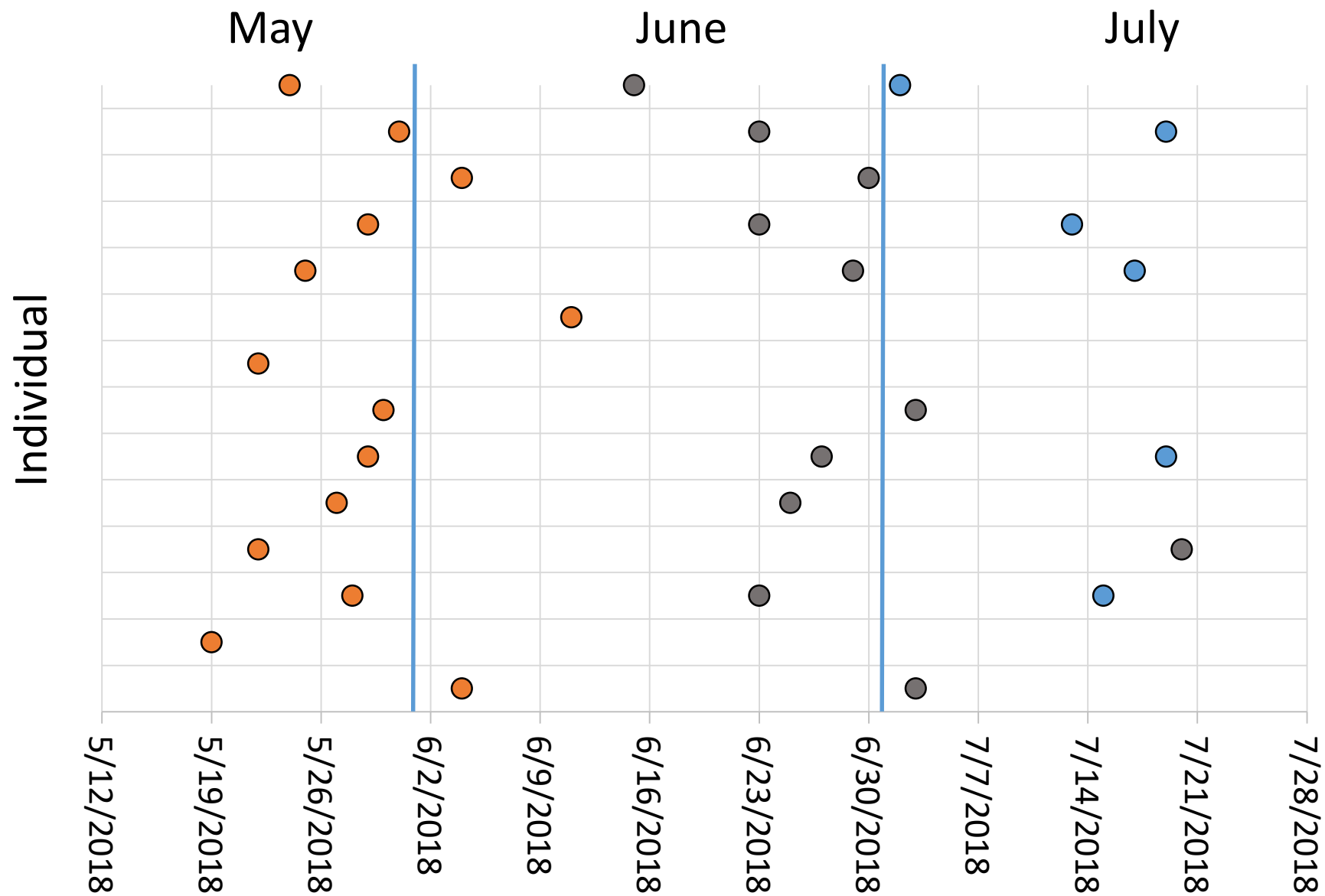
# Clutch Sizes



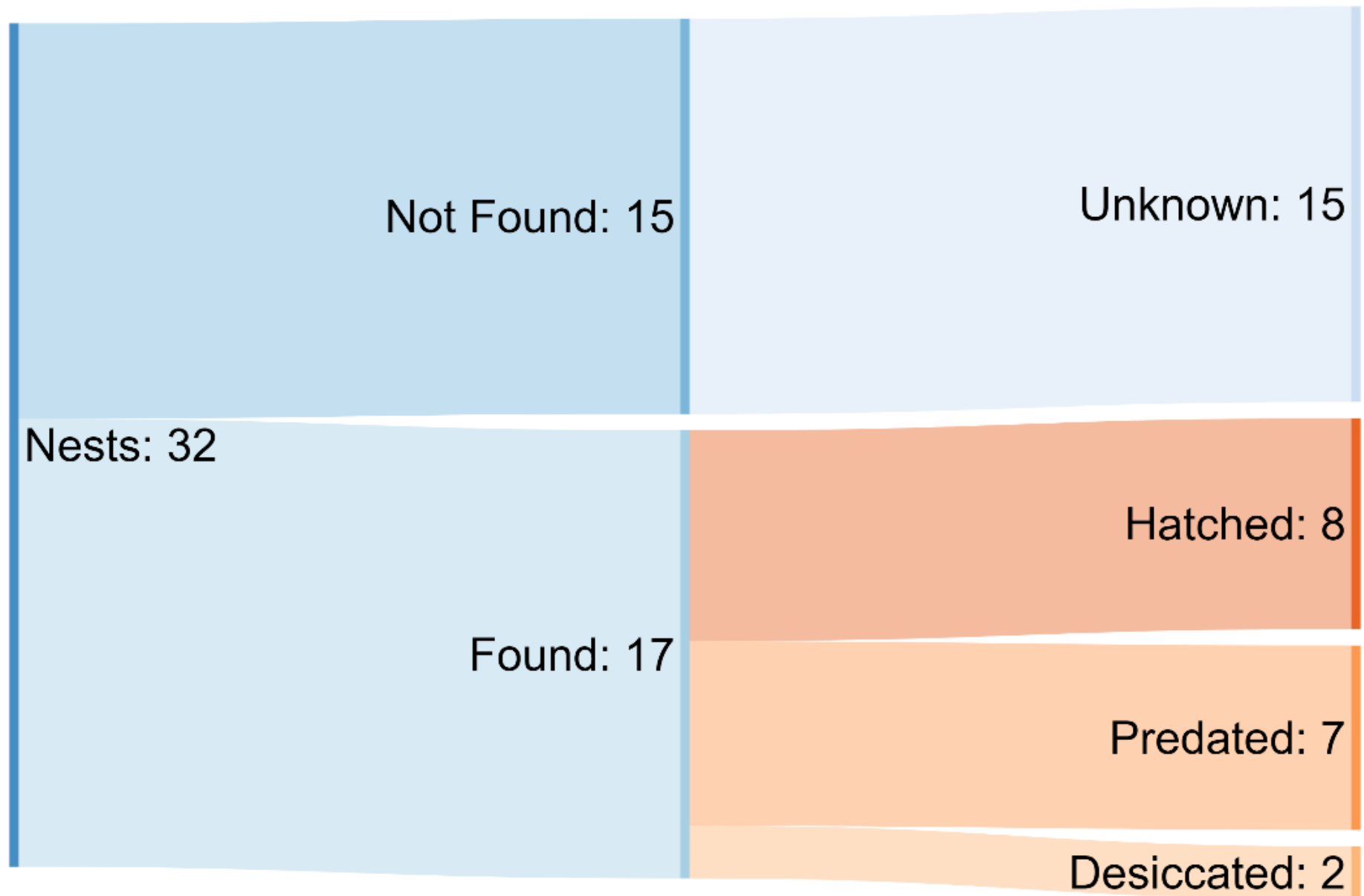
# Nest Locations



# Nesting Dates



# Nest Fate





# Conclusions

- 17 female turtles produced between 65 and 77 eggs
  - **Multiple clutching appears to be common**
  - Nine females produced 5-10 eggs in a single year
- 15 hatchlings produced from identified nests
- Work is important for assessing population viability
  - Unclear how temporal variation affects reproductive rates



# Florida is even Weirder!



Nine turtles confirmed gravid before the end of April, 4 in March!

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- 
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