

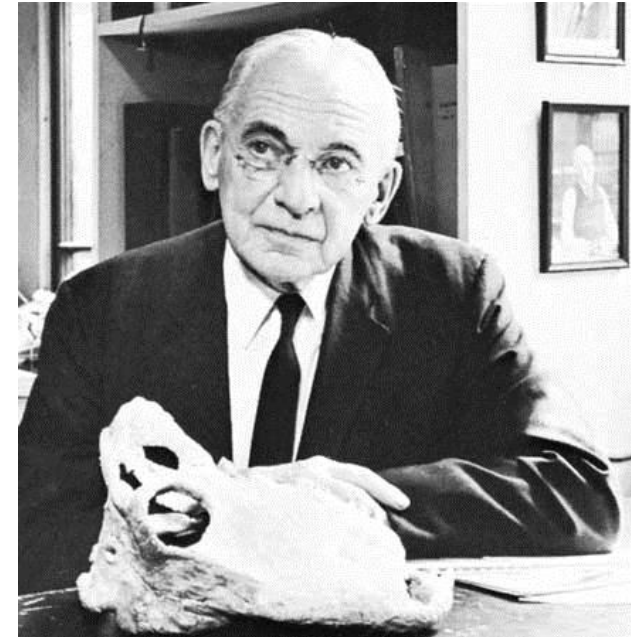
Turtle Monitoring at Ohio and Erie Canal Reservation



“Because they are still living, turtles are commonplace objects to us;

were they entirely extinct, their shells – the most remarkable defensive armor ever assumed by a tetrapod – would be a cause for wonder.”


– Alfred Sherwood Romer, Harvard University



Alfred Sherwood Romer, 1965
Credit: Courtesy of the Harvard University News Service

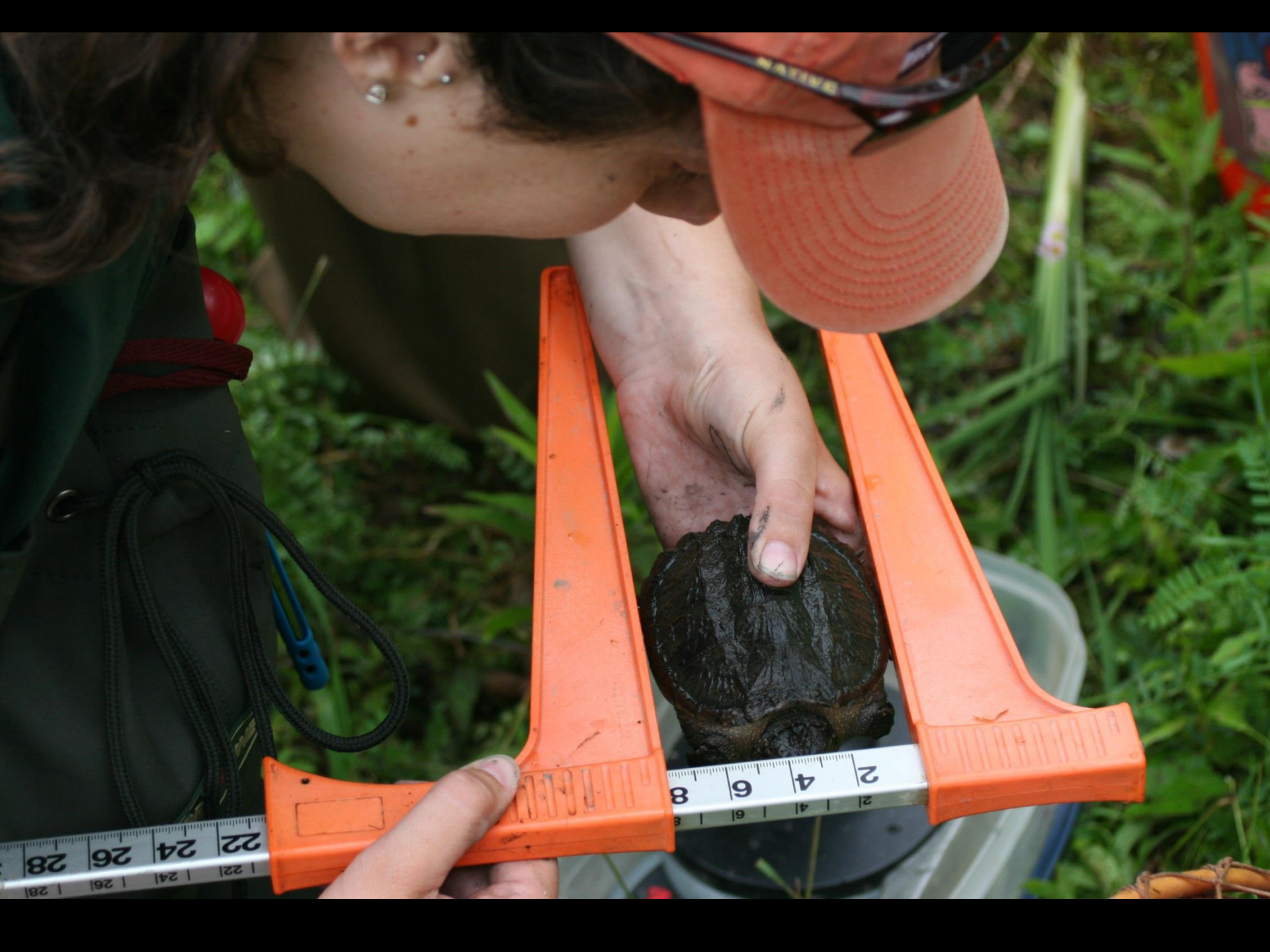
- 1999 : 4 Blanding's turtles found at OEC
- 2000 : Female lays 12 eggs behind CanalWay Visitor Center
- Headstart program begins
- 2002 – 2008 : 55 turtles released



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- Continued monitoring
 - Radio telemetry
 - Meso-predator control
 - Exotic species control
 - Nesting site augmentation
 - Public education/outreach













Help us keep our wetlands
safe and healthy
for native wildlife...

...by not releasing any pets into these natural habitats.

NATIVE SPECIES

Midland Painted Turtle



NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Red-eared Slider



Many species common to pet stores, like Red-eared Sliders, are not native to this region of Ohio. Releasing these animals into our waters results in competition with native species and transmission of diseases. Releasing ANY captive animal exposes wild populations and entire ecosystems to unforeseen problems.

Under Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) Section 1501:31-25-04, a reptile or amphibian that has been captive produced is not native to Ohio may not be released into the wild.



Cleveland
Metroparks





