

# Python trap update

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## **Review - major types of snake traps**

**Intercept** – typically using drift fences

**Attractant** – using sensory cues from prey species or conspecifics

## Major challenges to deploying python traps

- Trap size and strength
- Inaccessibility of habitat
- Extreme environment – wet/dry traps, hurricanes, etc
- Bycatch of non-target species

# Overview of recent projects

- Key Largo interdiction
- ENP captive snake trials
- Frog Pond trap deployment
- Small-scale deployments

# Key Largo interdiction project goals

- Support recovery of ESA-listed species
- Assess rate of colonization
- Protect lower Keys?



# 30 attractant traps deployed



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24 intercept traps deployed



# Non-target captures



## Non-target captures

Opossum (5)

Raccoon (1, plus escapes)

Squirrel (1)

Yellow ratsnake (9)

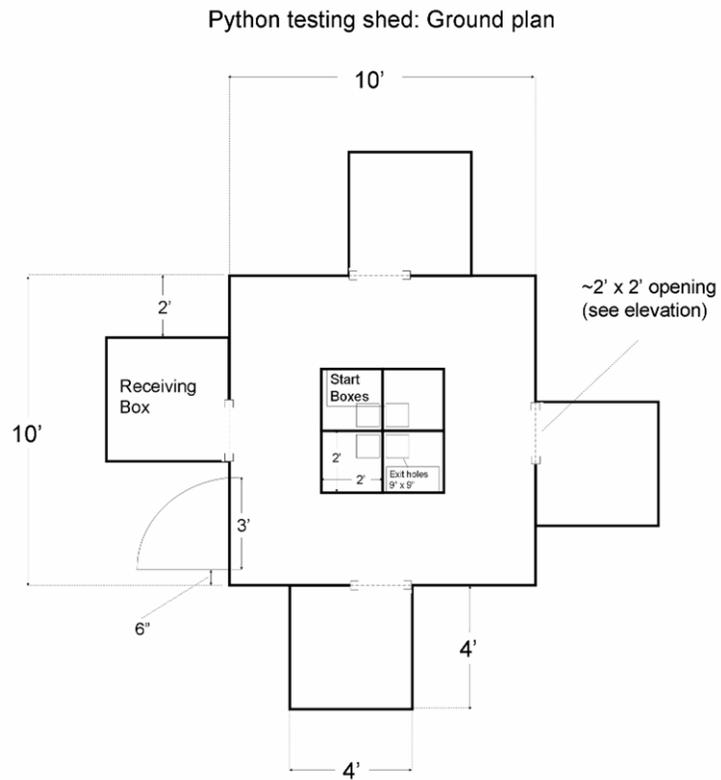
Black racer (1)

Hermit & land crabs (>100)





# ENP captive snake trials





# ENP captive snake trials



# Frog Pond trials

## ➤ Self-baiting traps



# Frog Pond trials

## ➤ Drift fence experiments



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# Frog Pond trials

## ➤ Drift fence experiments



Unauthorized trap checks?

# Small-scale deployments



# FY2009 efforts

## Continue/expand Key Largo monitoring

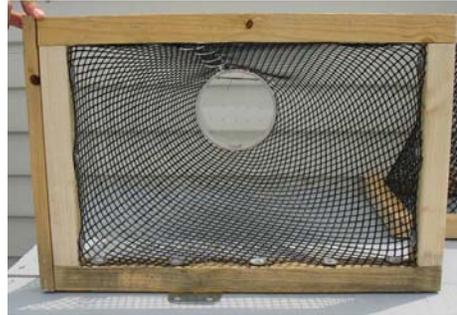
- Fabrication/deployment of metal traps
- Deploying traps along US-1 corridor
- Increased road sampling

## Continue captive trials

## Hole-in-the-donut experimental enclosure

# Entrance designs

Spring-loaded  
clear plastic



Horizontal squeeze



Horizontal flap,  
self-adjusting size



# Acknowledgments

**ENP and Frog Pond projects:** Mike Cherkiss, Brian Greeves, Alex Wolf, Matt Brien, Bob Hill

**Key Largo projects:** Ron Rozar, Karen Garrod, Steve Klett, Pat Wells, Doug Mader, Clay and Ralph DeGayner

**Funding from** USGS (Ronnie Best), FWS (Cindy Schulz), NPS (Dan Kimball), and SFWMD (LeRoy Rodgers)