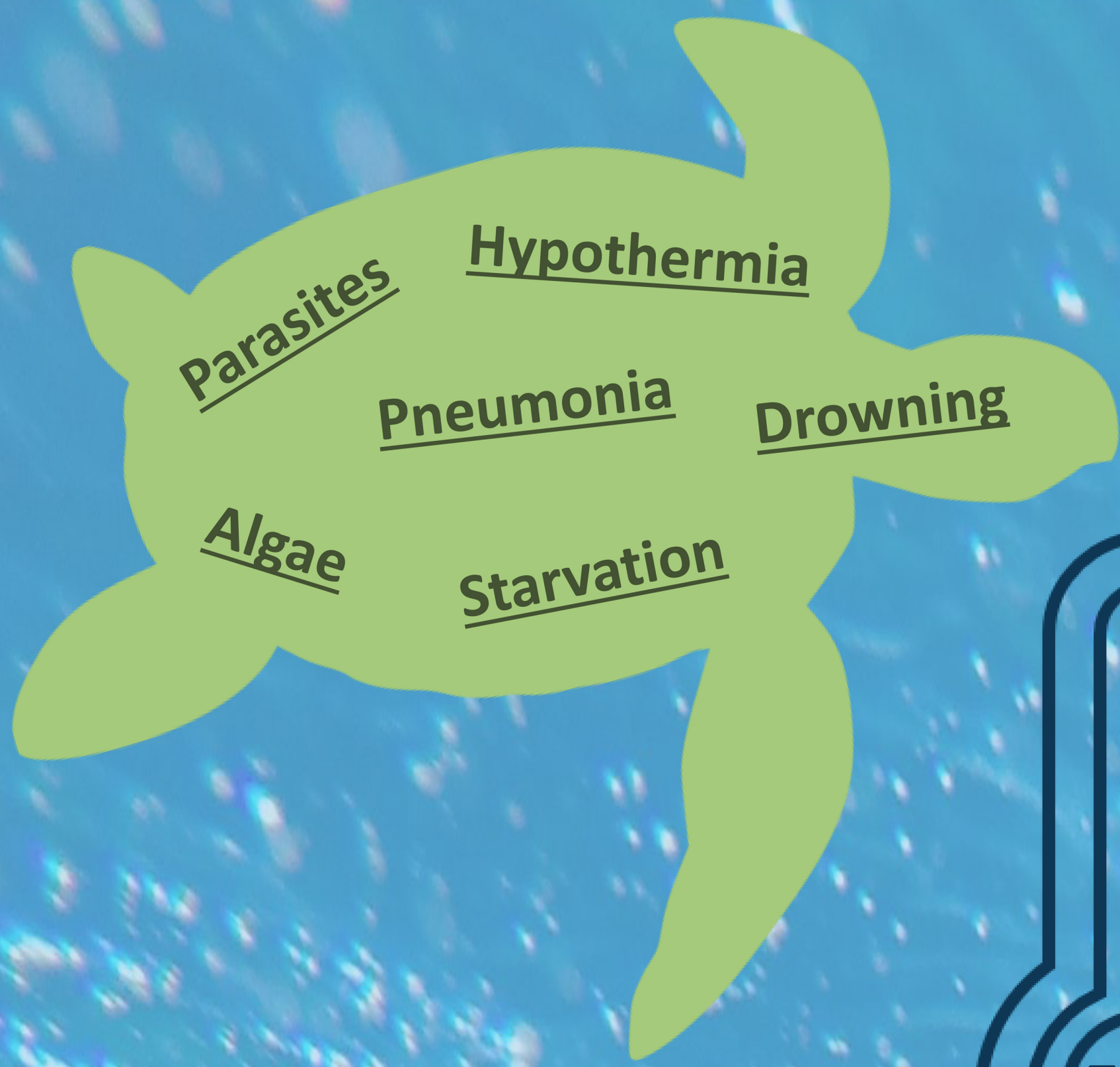


Cold Stunning



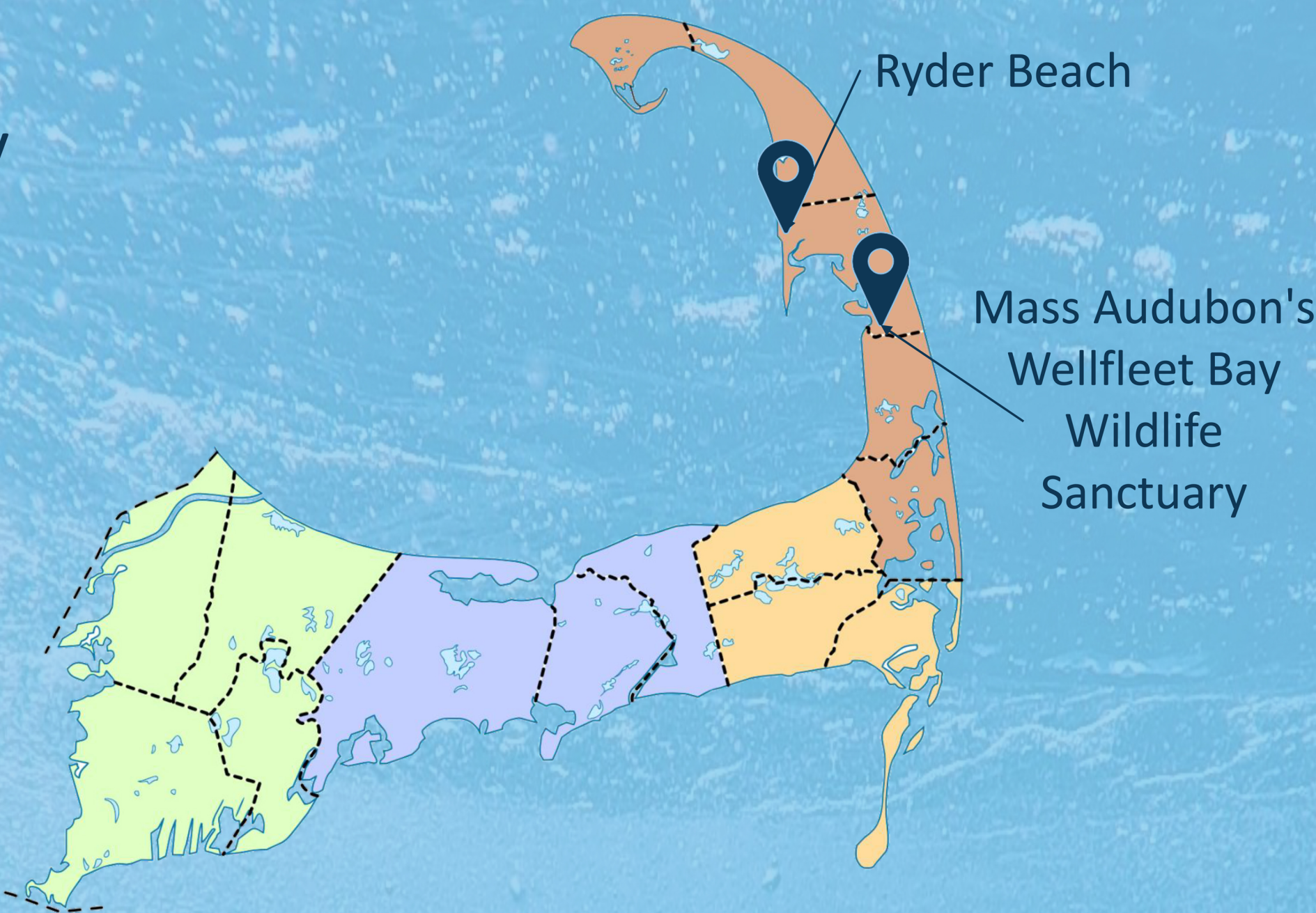
When water temperatures dip below 50 degrees Celsius, turtles become cold stunned. As the body temperatures of the turtles decrease, they lose the ability to swim, their metabolism slows, and organs begin to shut down. This leads various health problems, including hypothermia, pneumonia, starvation, parasites, drowning, and algae growth.

Goals

- ❖ Research why sea turtles were getting cold stunned
- ❖ Find them before the process occurs and their physical situation worsens
- ❖ Find potential solutions and try to apply them



Mass Audubon Society sends volunteers to beaches in the bay to search for stranded turtles during the stranding season. The stranding season usually starts in November, but in 2018 it started in mid-October. We attended Mass Audubon's Sea Turtle Open House in Wellfleet. Immediately after high tide, we traveled to Ryder Beach to search for stranded turtles. Our rescue team was lucky enough to find a turtle.

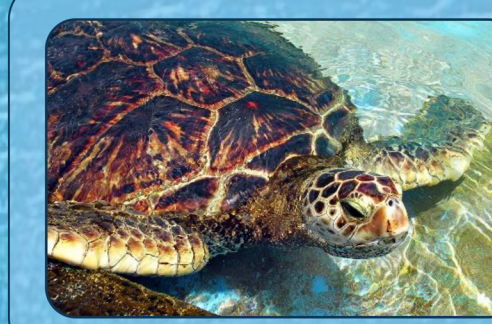


Sea Turtle Open House November 24, 2018

Sea Turtle Stranding*



Kemp's Ridley: 503



Green: 14



Loggerhead: 8

Total: 525

*As of November 24, 2018

Tools for the Future



Beach Signs

- ❖ Improves collection of beached turtles.
- ❖ Cheap method of public awareness.
- ❖ Signs get washed away by weather.



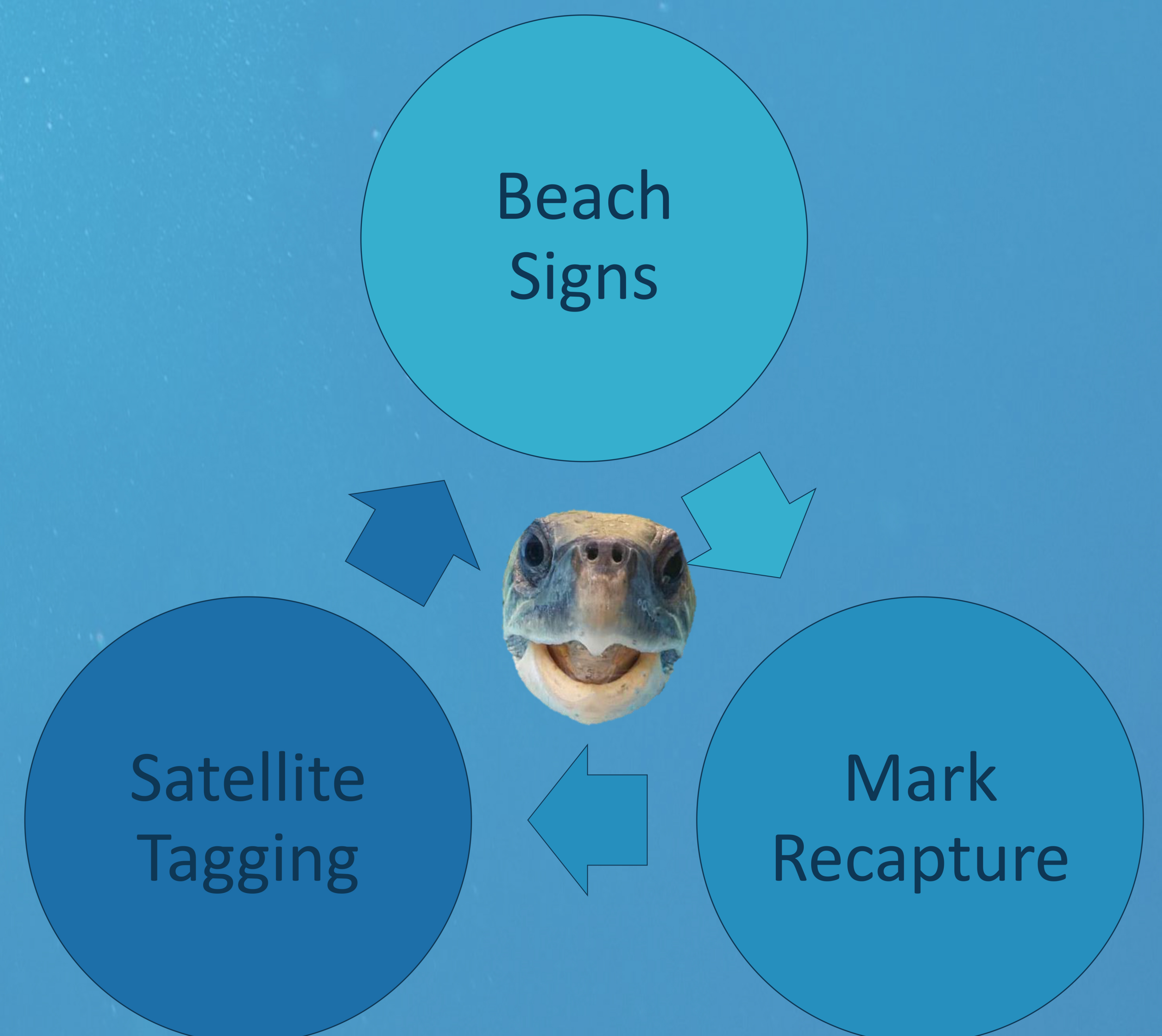
Satellite Tracking

- ❖ Improves collection of turtles prior to being beached.
- ❖ Very expensive.
- ❖ Many juveniles too small for satellite tags.



Mark Recapture

- ❖ Good estimation of population size.
- ❖ Can include juveniles.
- ❖ Data analyzed after recapture.



Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Jenette Kerr and Robert Prescott of Mass Audubon Society for aiding us in our understanding of the problem and the turtle itself. We would also like to thank the speakers that came into our lectures that aided us in everything from finding creditable articles to making well thought out and effective power points. We couldn't have done this project without them.

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