

Blue Crabs as Education Tools: Oh My!

Amy Sauls, Science Teacher/Marine Education
Consultant

Jones County Senior High School

Engage Track
Tryon Room
11:00-11:30am

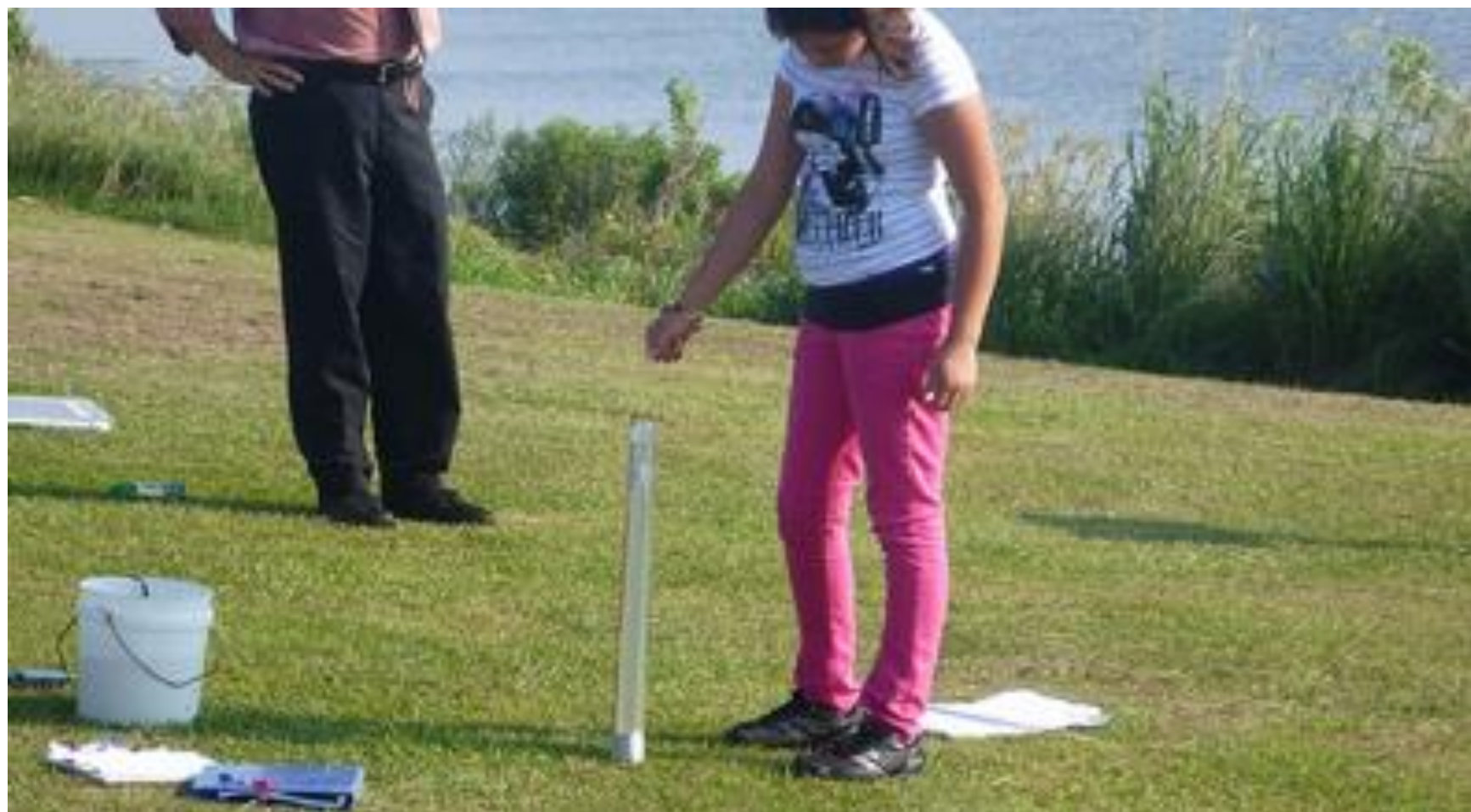
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November 20th, 2013

- Blue crabs make very charismatic learning subjects
- They are very common in North Carolina (they are the biggest commercially harvested seafood in NC)
- Their life history gives scientists a tremendous amount of environmental data and ultimately
- They could be a key in the potential for restoring whooping cranes in North Carolina







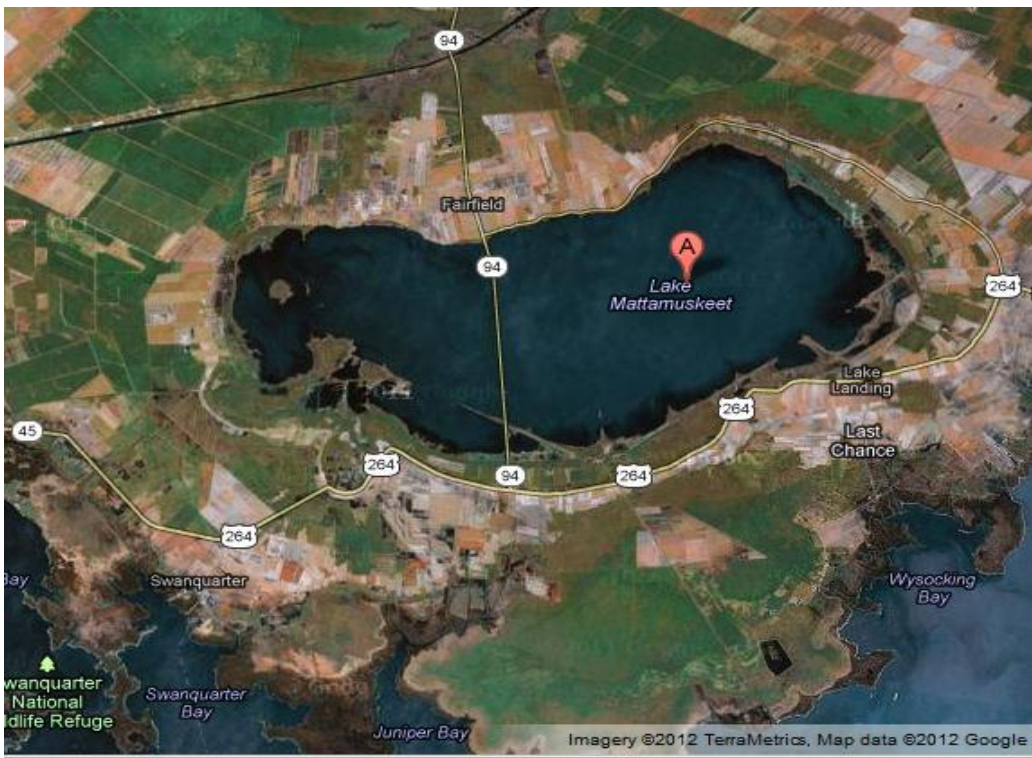
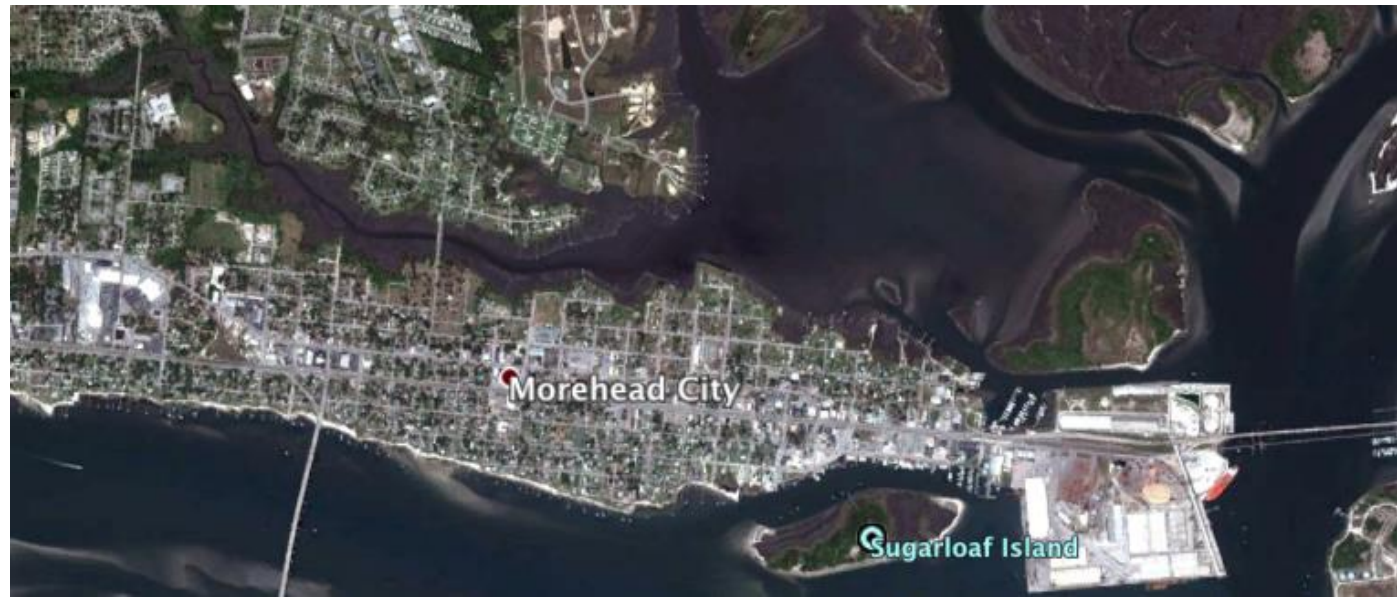


Image A: Lake Mattamuskeet in Hyde County, NC

B. Calico Creek on the North side of Morehead City







Project Goals

- Provide teachers with lessons and programs where they can work with scientists/scientists can provide programs about blue crabs
- Data from monitoring blue crabs can provide support for restoration efforts of historic Whooping Crane populations in eastern North Carolina.
- In Texas blue crabs are the major dietary item for the last natural migratory population of Whooping Cranes (*Grus Americana*).



Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, Texas

