

Invasive Verts in Cayman Islands



SPRING 2007



Hurricane Ivan- Sept 2004





Plan

- Darwin project
- 3 key endemics
- 3 key invasives
- 3 student projects
- 3 key questions
 - What's the damage?
 - Where are is it happening?
 - What is the magnitude and solution?

In Darwin's Wake: Darwin Initiative Biodiversity Action Plan for the Cayman Islands



And Karen Varnham!



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Blue Iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*)

Hickatee (*Trachemys decussata*)



A photograph of a Cayman Parrot perched on a tree branch. The parrot is primarily green with a white forehead and a red patch on its cheek. It is surrounded by numerous small, round, brown fruits hanging from the branches. The background shows a clear blue sky and more branches with leaves.

Cayman Parrot
(*Amazona leucocophela caymanensis*)

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Invasives are one of the riders
Leading to pestilence, war,
famine and death

Invasives

- per Varnham/JNCC
 - 8 inverts (? Lack of looking)
 - 74 plants (? Under-estimate)
 - 27 Vertebrates (possibly growing)
 - 2 Amphibians
 - 9 Birds
 - 6 Mammals
 - 10 Reptiles
 - 3 of particular interest to CIDoE

Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*)



Red-eared Slider (*Trachemys scripta*)





Monk Parakeet
(*Myiopsitta monachus*)

A close-up photograph of a Monk Parakeet (Myiopsitta monachus) against a dark blue background. The bird is shown in profile, facing left. It has vibrant green plumage on its body and wings, and a lighter, greyish-brown patch on its forehead and throat. A small, solid red dot is placed on the bird's forehead, just above the eye. The text "Monk Parakeet (Myiopsitta monachus)" is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent grey rectangular background in the center of the image.

Monk Parakeet
(*Myiopsitta monachus*)

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Help needed to ID invasives

By Carol Winker, carol@cfp.ky

Monday, 28th March, 2017 11:44H 18:28 CDT (11:27 GMT)

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Cayman residents are being asked to report sightings of three invasive creatures that may be putting local species at risk.

The invaders are the green iguana, the monk parakeet and the red-eared slider, a type of turtle.

The Department of Environment announced last week that these animals are the focus of a three-month study to determine their potential impact on Cayman's blue iguana, parrot and nickerree.

The invaders may be taking over habitats and/or food supplies, explained DoE director Gina Ebanks-Petrie. There is concern that the locals may soon be outnumbered.

The study began last week with the arrival of three students from the University of Exeter in the UK, who are working in conjunction with DoE staff under the supervision of Senior Research Officer Mat Cottam.



Brendan Godbeer shows fellow students Bethan Parry and Nicole Simpson where he sighted nests of monk parakeets in George Town. Looking over his shoulder is DoE Director Gina Ebanks-Petrie, flanked by Brendan Godley of the University of Exeter, left, and Mat Cottam of DoE. Photo: Carol Winker



Nicola Simpson



Bethan Parry

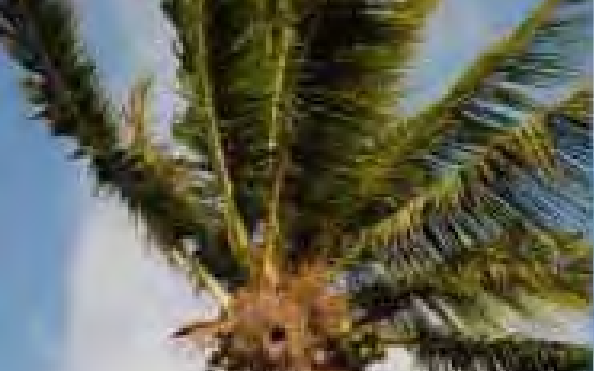


Kristan Godbeer

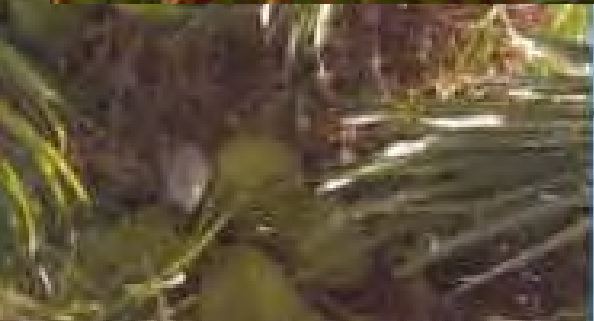
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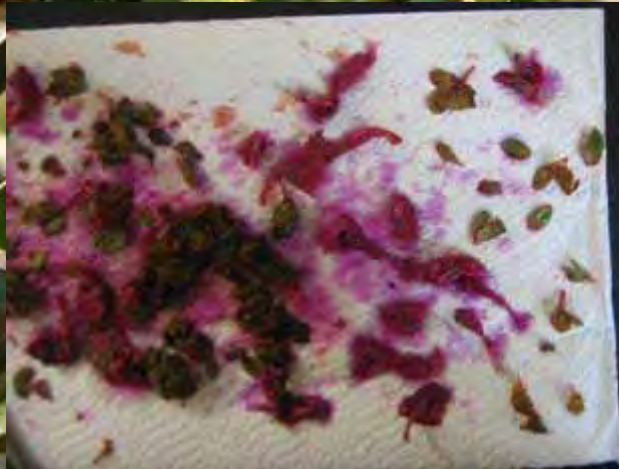




Kristan D. Godbeer



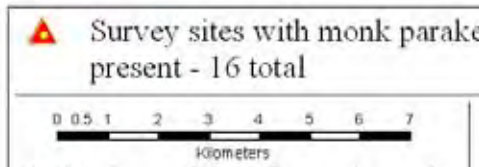
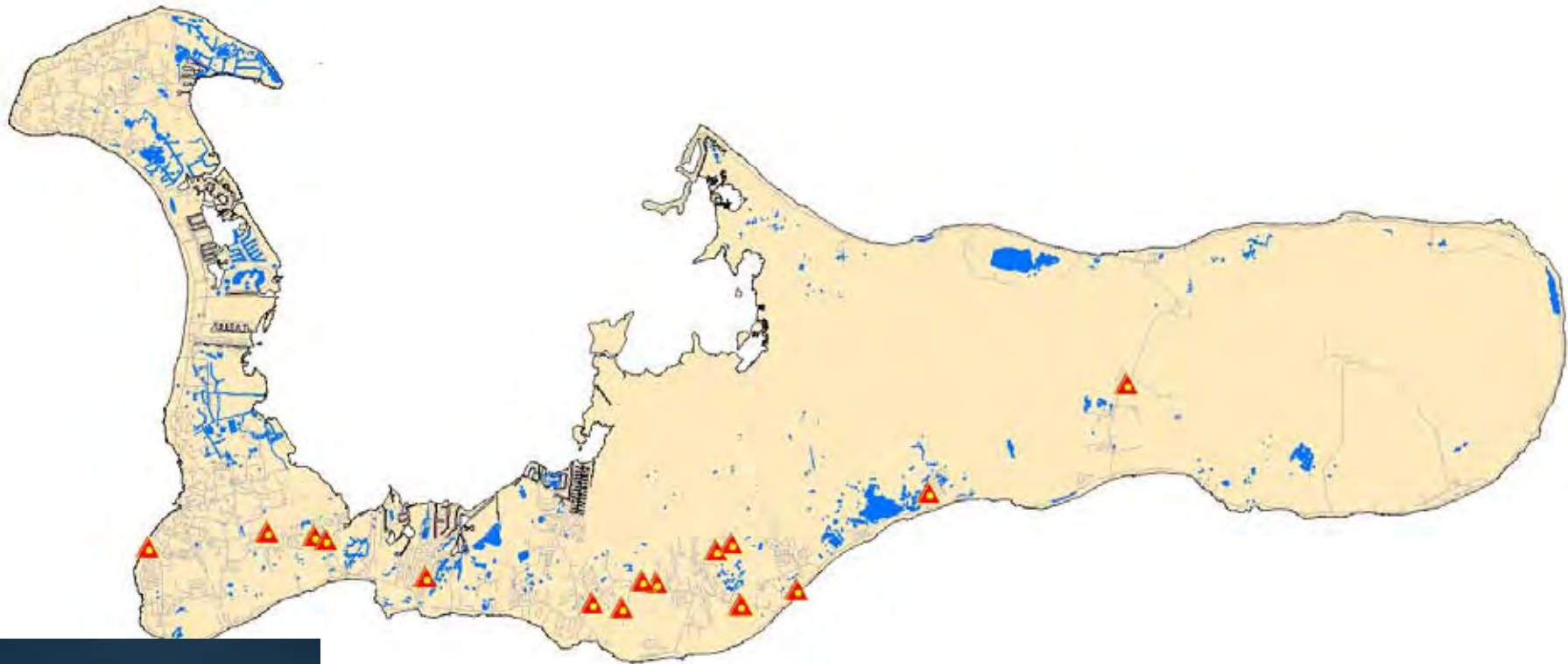




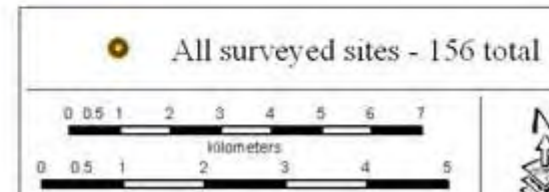
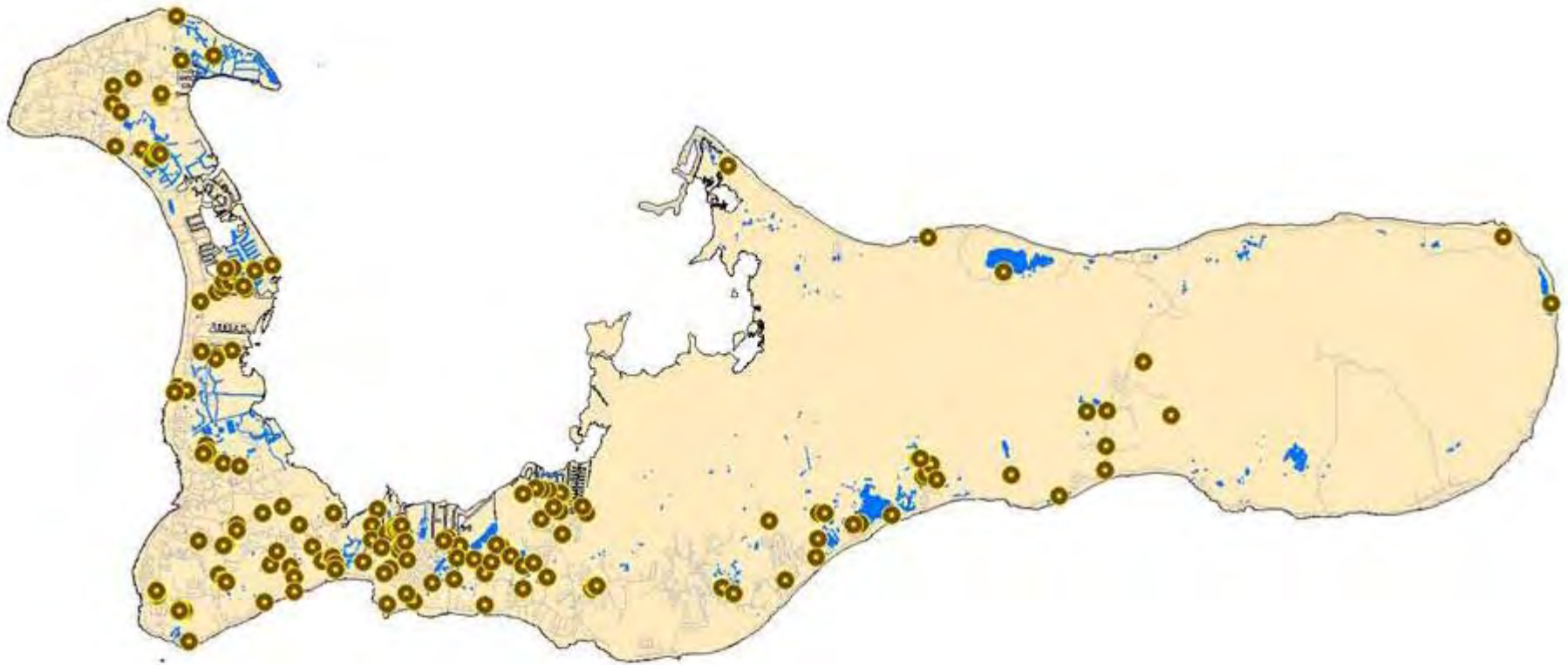
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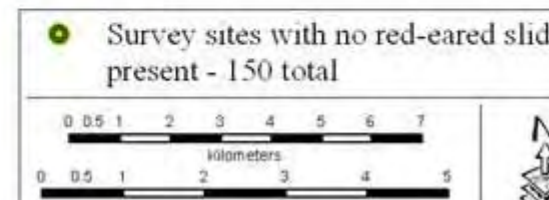
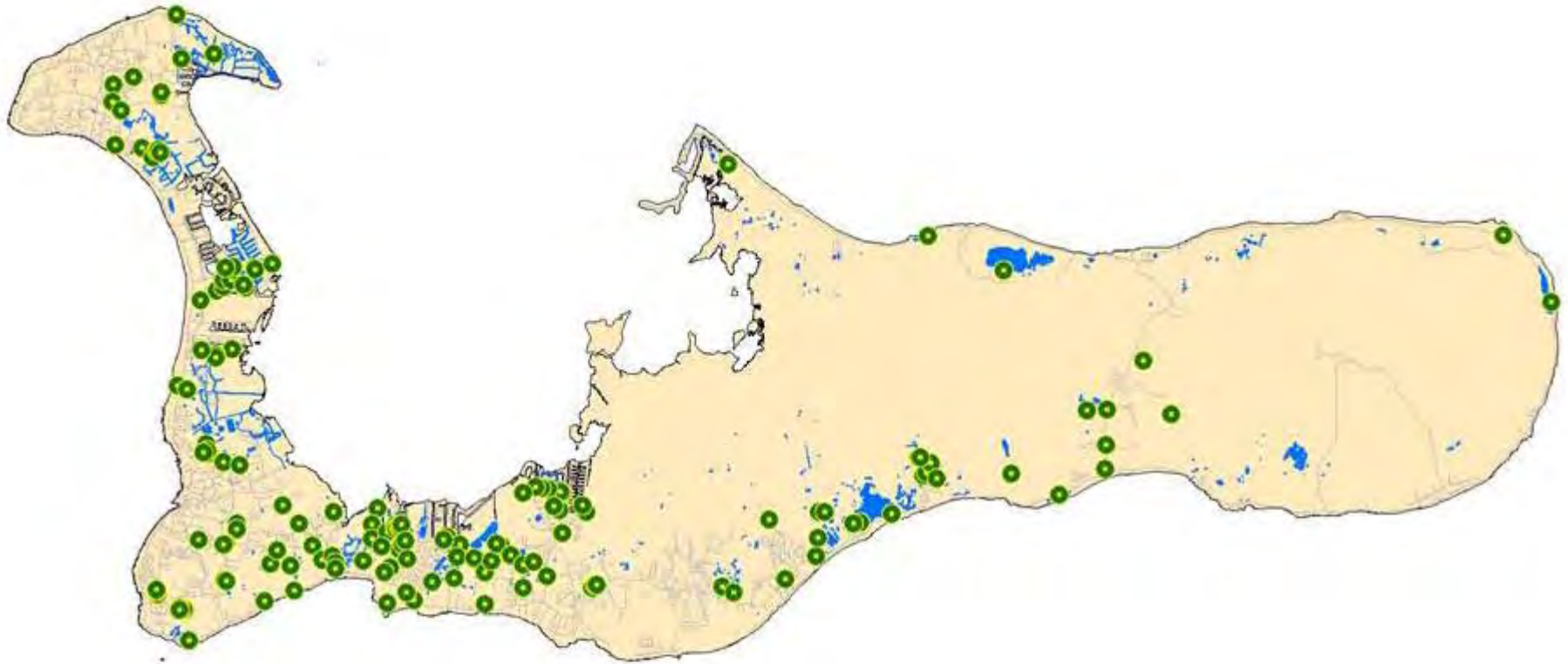
Monk parakeet nesting sites



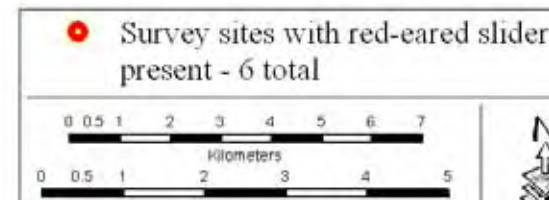
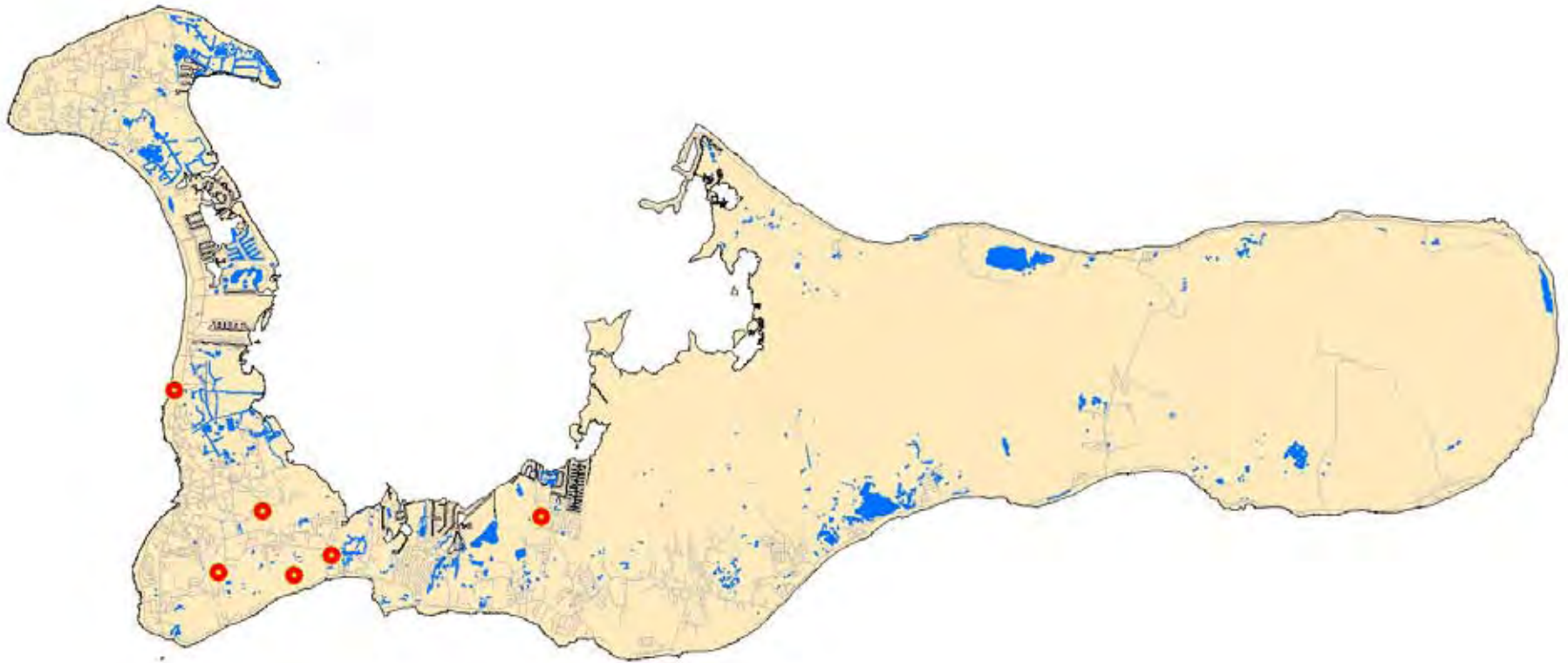
Red-eared slider monitoring



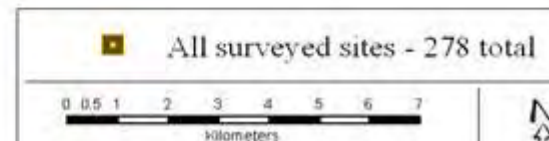
Red-eared slider free



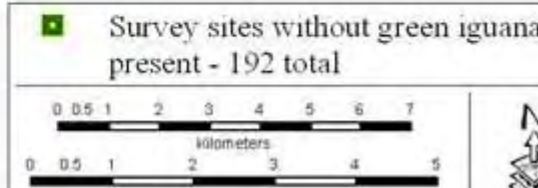
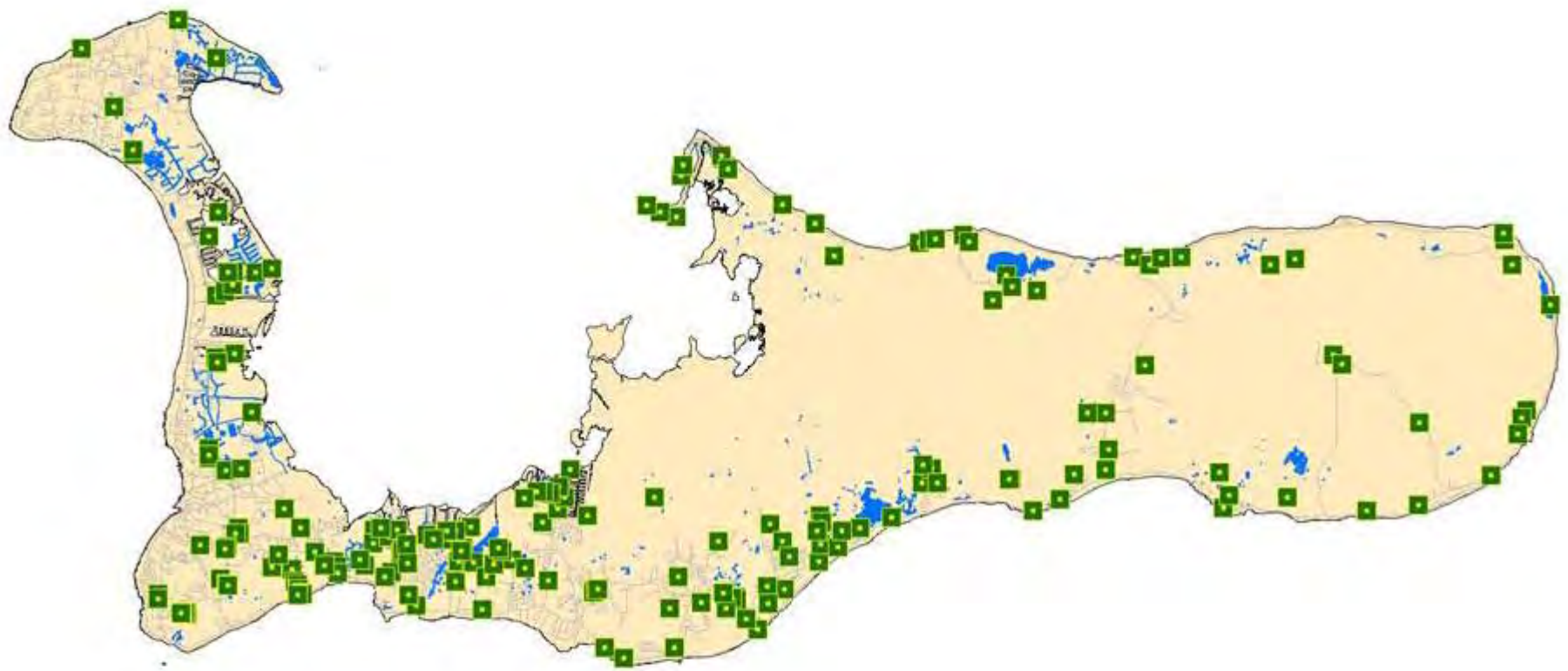
Red-eared sliders present!



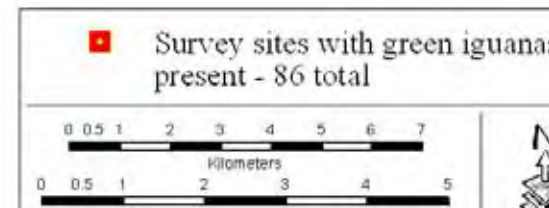
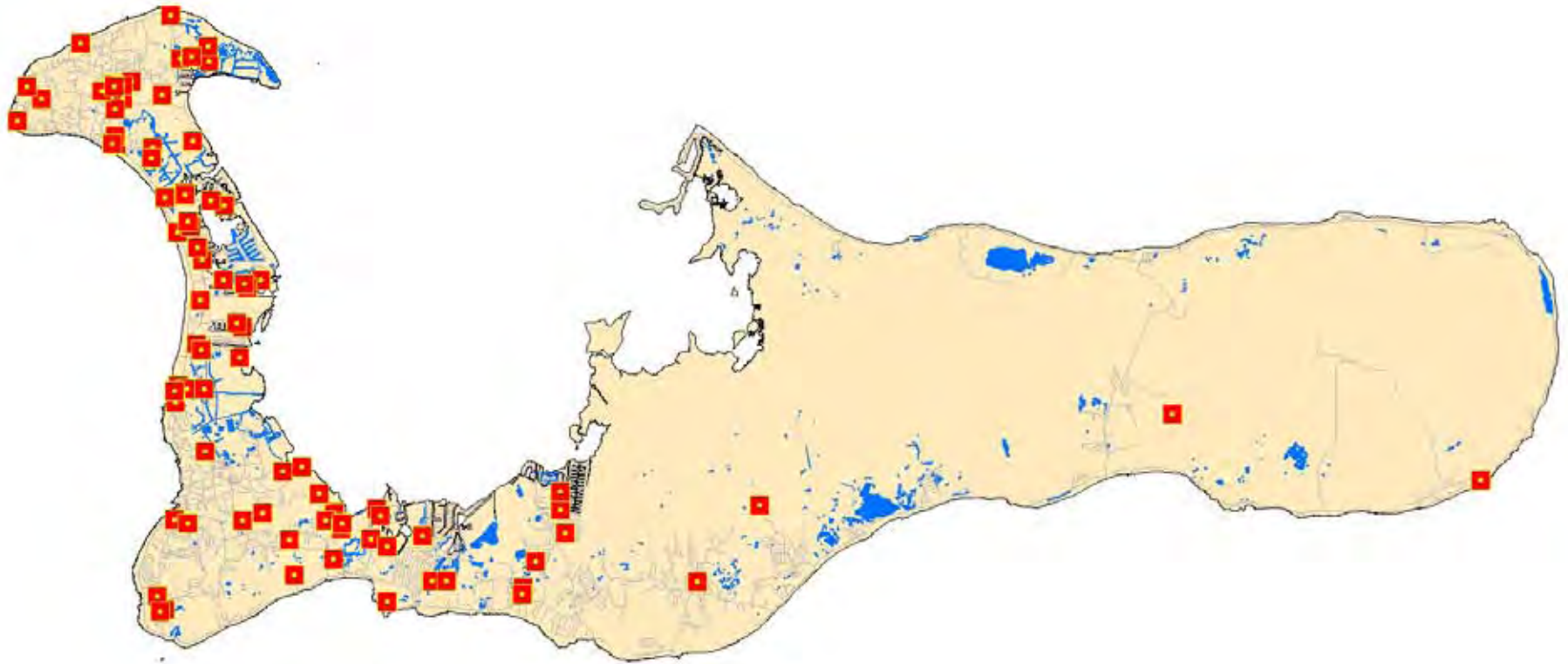
Iguana monitoring sites



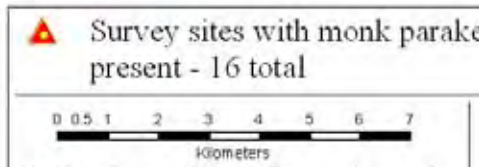
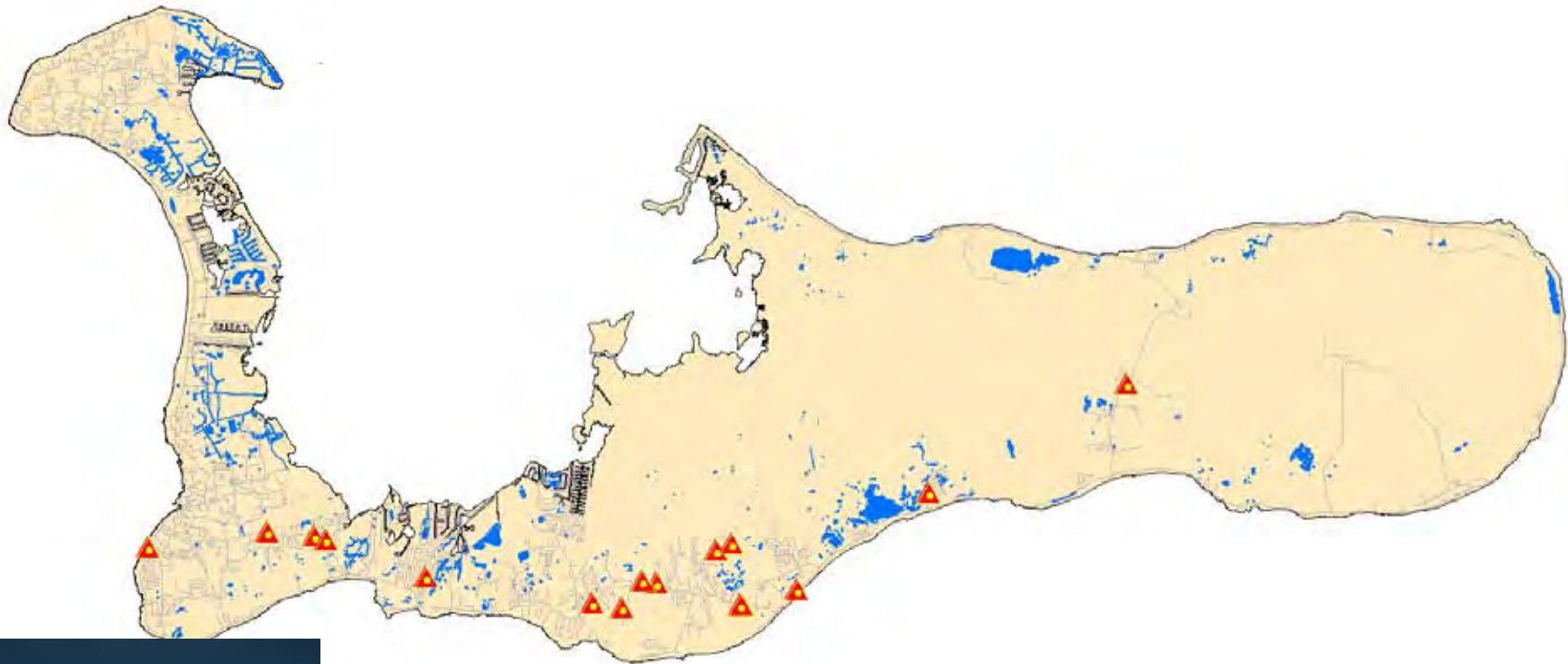
Iguanas not detected



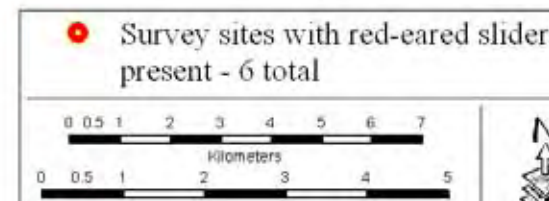
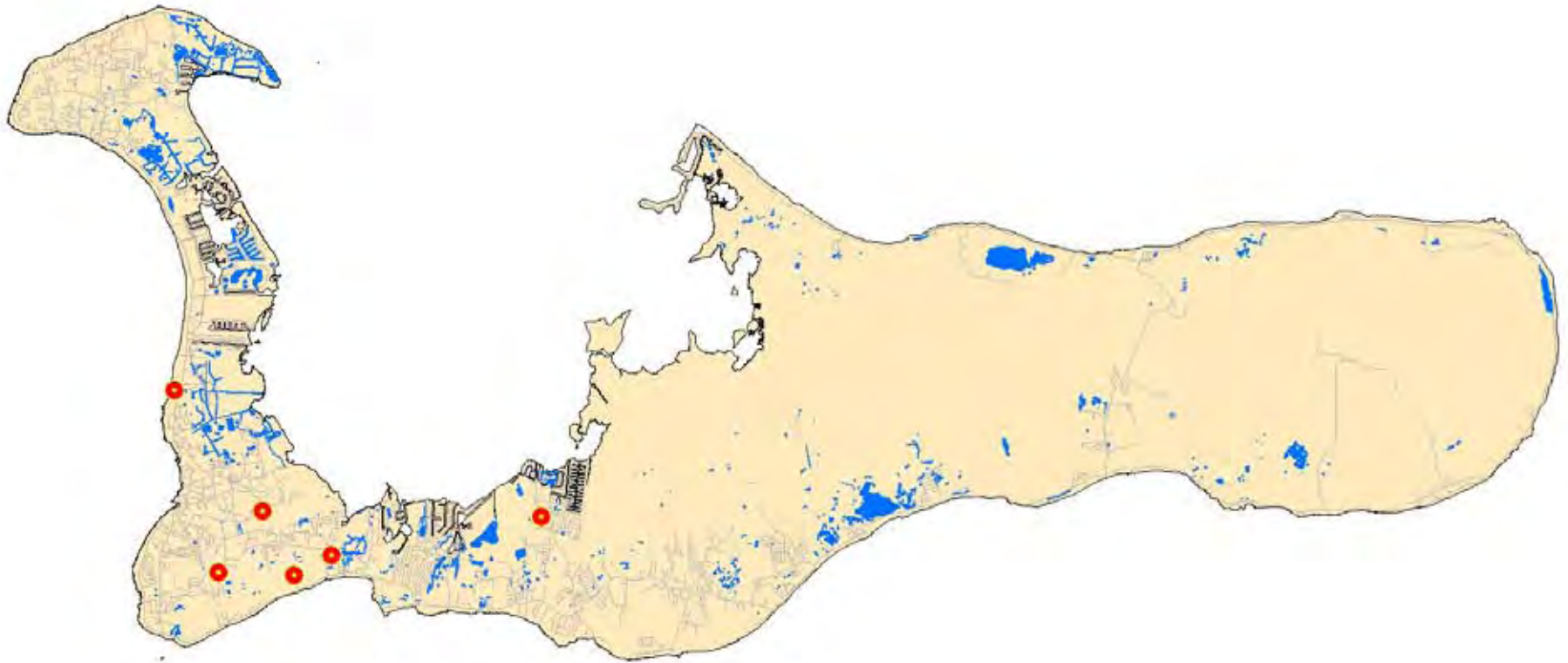
Iguanas detected



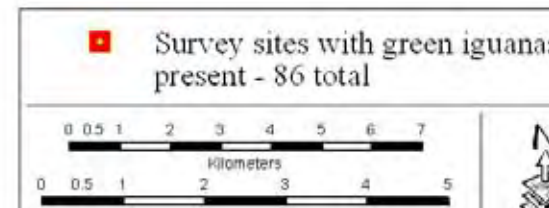
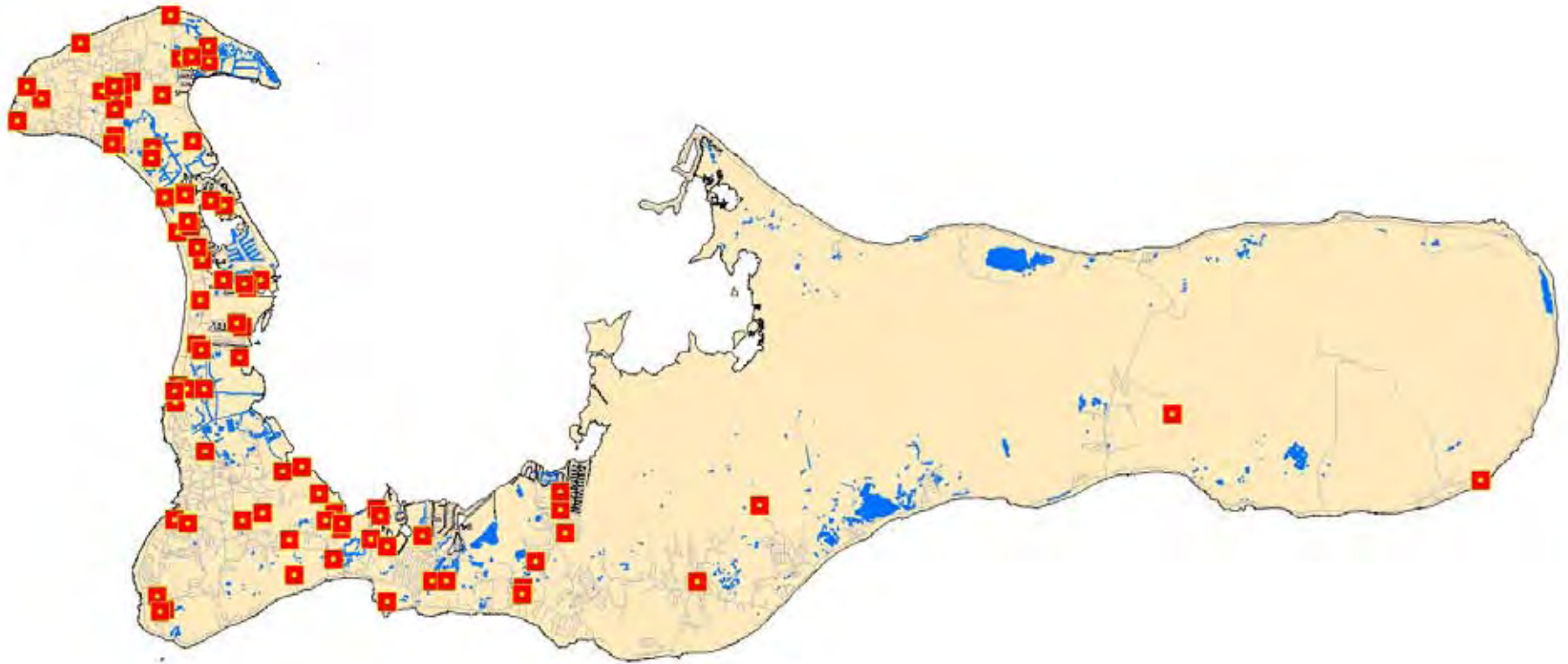
Monk parakeet nesting sites



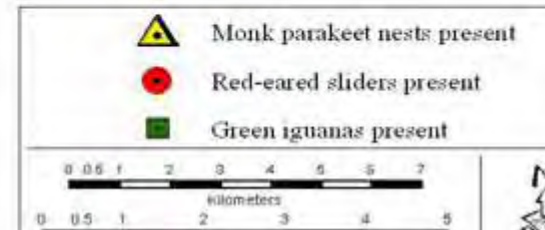
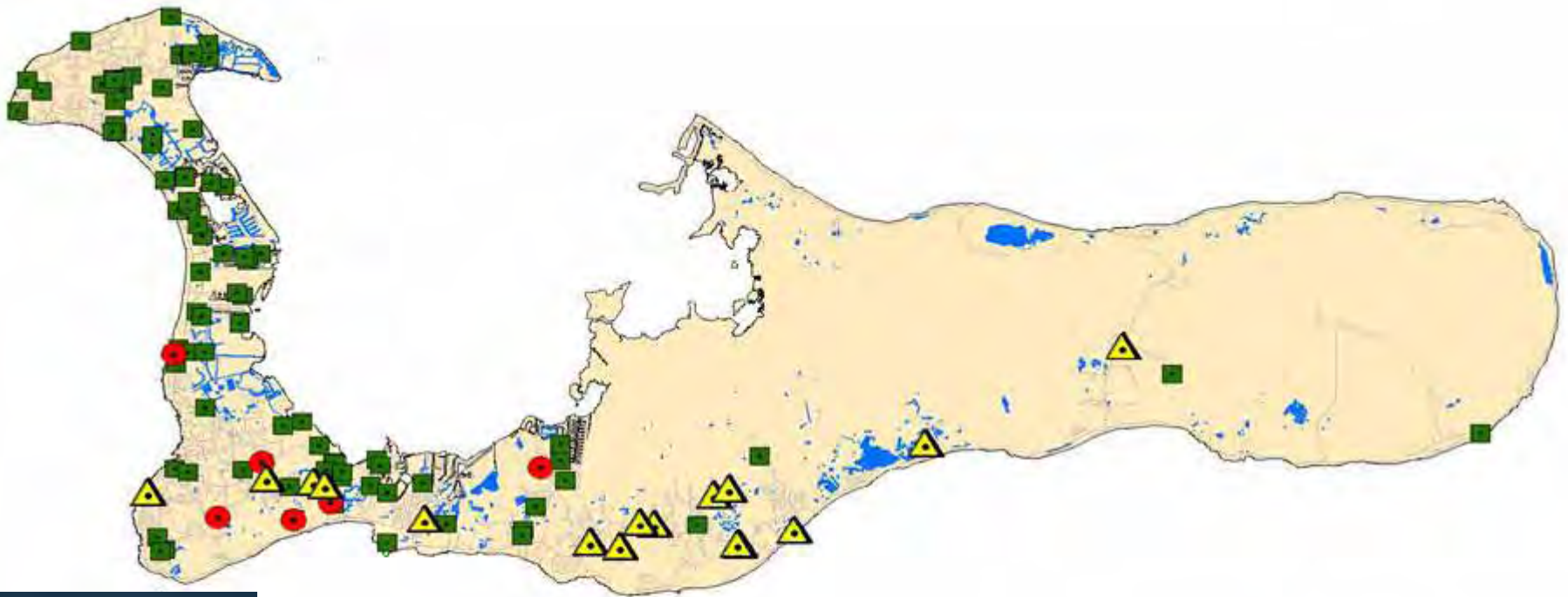
Red-eared sliders present!



Iguanas detected



All 3



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Kristen D. Godbeer



<100 and easy

Low hundreds and
???

Low thousands and
very hard



Kristen D. Godbeer



Godbeer



Public opinion
 Welfare
 Legislation
 Hazard
 Ecological impact
 -cats
 -rats
 Feasibility
 Finances
 Priorities
 -cats
 -green iguana

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