

ANIMAL BEHAVIORAL STUDY

MESH FENCING VS. *Animex*



Conducted by: John Carlos Milburn Rodríguez

Presented by: Steve Béga

WHY?

- **REPORTS OF ANIMALS ENTANGLED, TRAPPED + CLIMBING MESH**
- **ANIMALS FOUND DEAD ON ROADS DESPITE FENCING BEING ERECTED**
- **FENCES ARE NOT MONITORED 24/7 TO OBSERVE ANIMALS BEHAVIOR**



Credit: J.C Milburn Rodríguez



Credit: Kari Gunson



Credit: J.C Milburn Rodríguez







UNKNOWN: BC, CANADA

[HTTP://SPLATFROGTUNNEL.BLOGSPOT.CO.UK/](http://splatfrogunnel.blogspot.co.uk/)

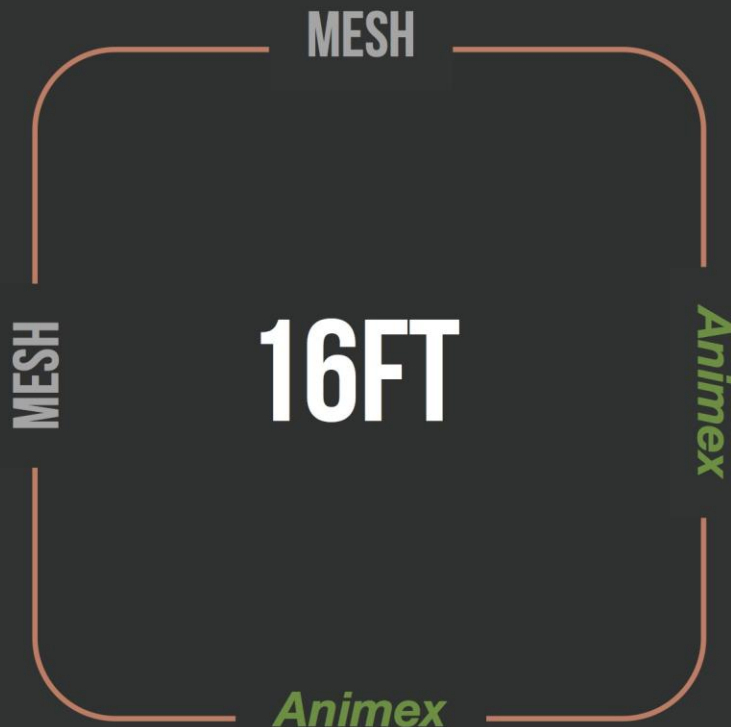
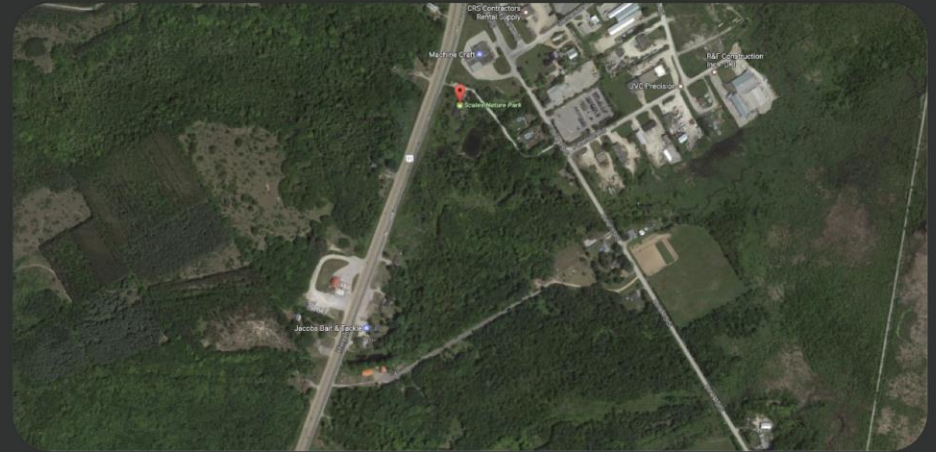




"WE WANTED TO SEE WHAT REALLY
HAPPENS WHEN HERPETOFAUNA
ENCOUNTER FENCING..."

METHODOLOGY

- 16FT PEN
- 24" HIGH
- 2 SIDES ¼ STEEL MESH 2 SIDES ANIMEX
- VEGETATION KEPT LOW ADJACENT TO FENCE
- ANIMALS CAPTURED THEN RETURNED AFTER 24HRS
- OBSERVED FROM A DISTANCE TO ENCOURAGE NATURAL BEHAVIOR



FROGS: 20

18 GREEN FROGS, 2 NORTHERN LEOPARD

- 1HR @ SUNSET
WILD

SNAKES: 17

16 EASTERN GARTER, 1 RED-BELLY

- 1HR AM & 1HR PM
WILD

TURTLES: 14

7 MIDLAND PAINTED, 7 SNAPPING

- 1HR AM & 1HR PM
CAPTIVE

All common species

OBSERVATIONS

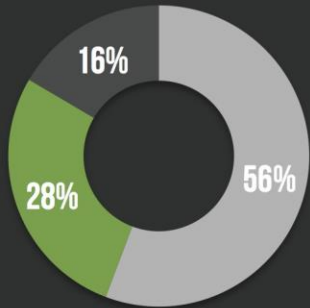
- 1. TIME SPENT IN EACH FENCE ZONE**
- 2. TYPICAL INTERACTIONS WITH FENCING**
- 3. CLIMBING + ESCAPE ATTEMPTS**

KEY

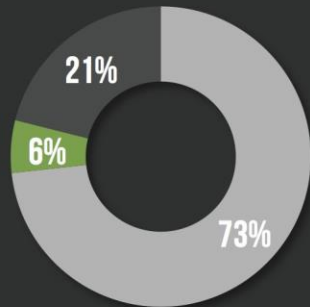
● MESH

● *Animex*

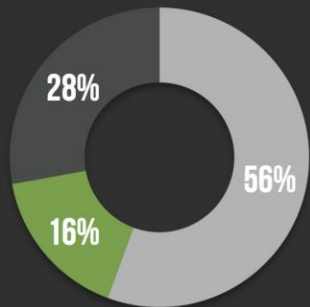
TIME AT EACH FENCE AREA



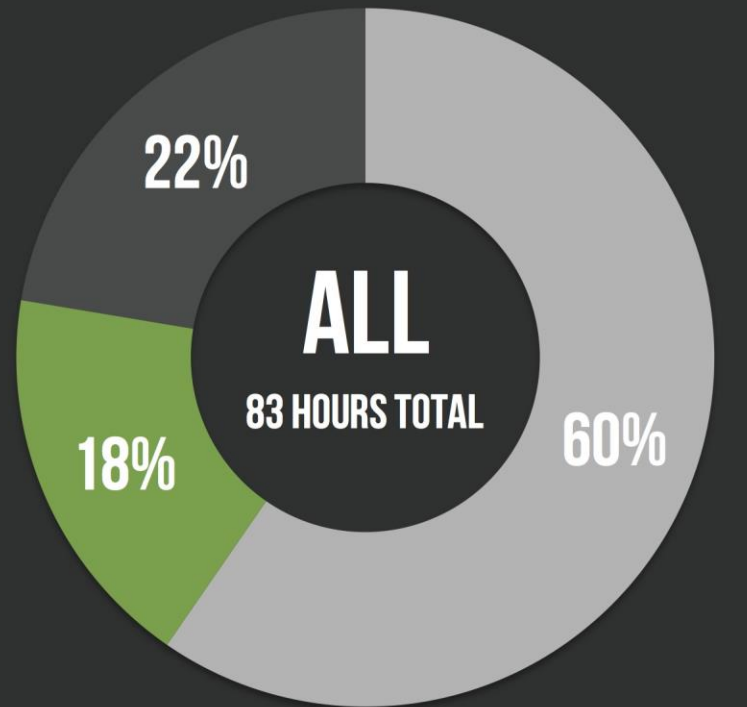
TURTLES



FROGS



SNAKES



● MESH ● *Animex* ● BETWEEN

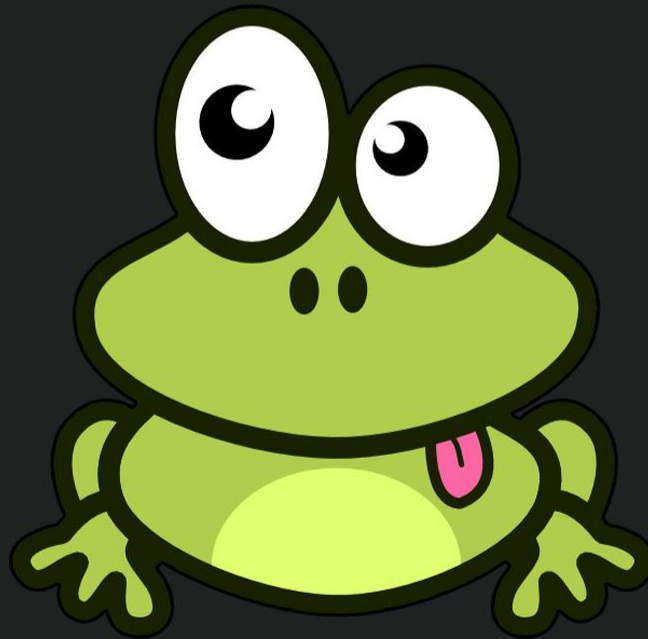
WITHIN 40CM OF THE FENCE LINE

TYPICAL INTERACTIONS WITH FENCING

% OF TRIALS WITH OBSERVED BEHAVIOR

ATTENTION!

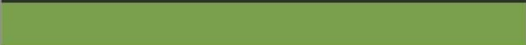
NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED IN THE
MAKING OF THIS PRODUCTION



(SORRY FOR THE SHAKEY FILM, WE ARE BIOLOGISTS NOT CAMERA OPERATORS)

TURTLE INTERACTIONS

Search for shade



25%

Grabbing mesh



64.28%

Speed x1.5



MIDLAND PAINTED TURTLE

FROG INTERACTIONS

Jump at Animex 5%



Jump at mesh 90%



90%



GREEN FROG

Search for shade



44.44%

SNAKE INTERACTIONS

Stuck snout at mesh



94.44%

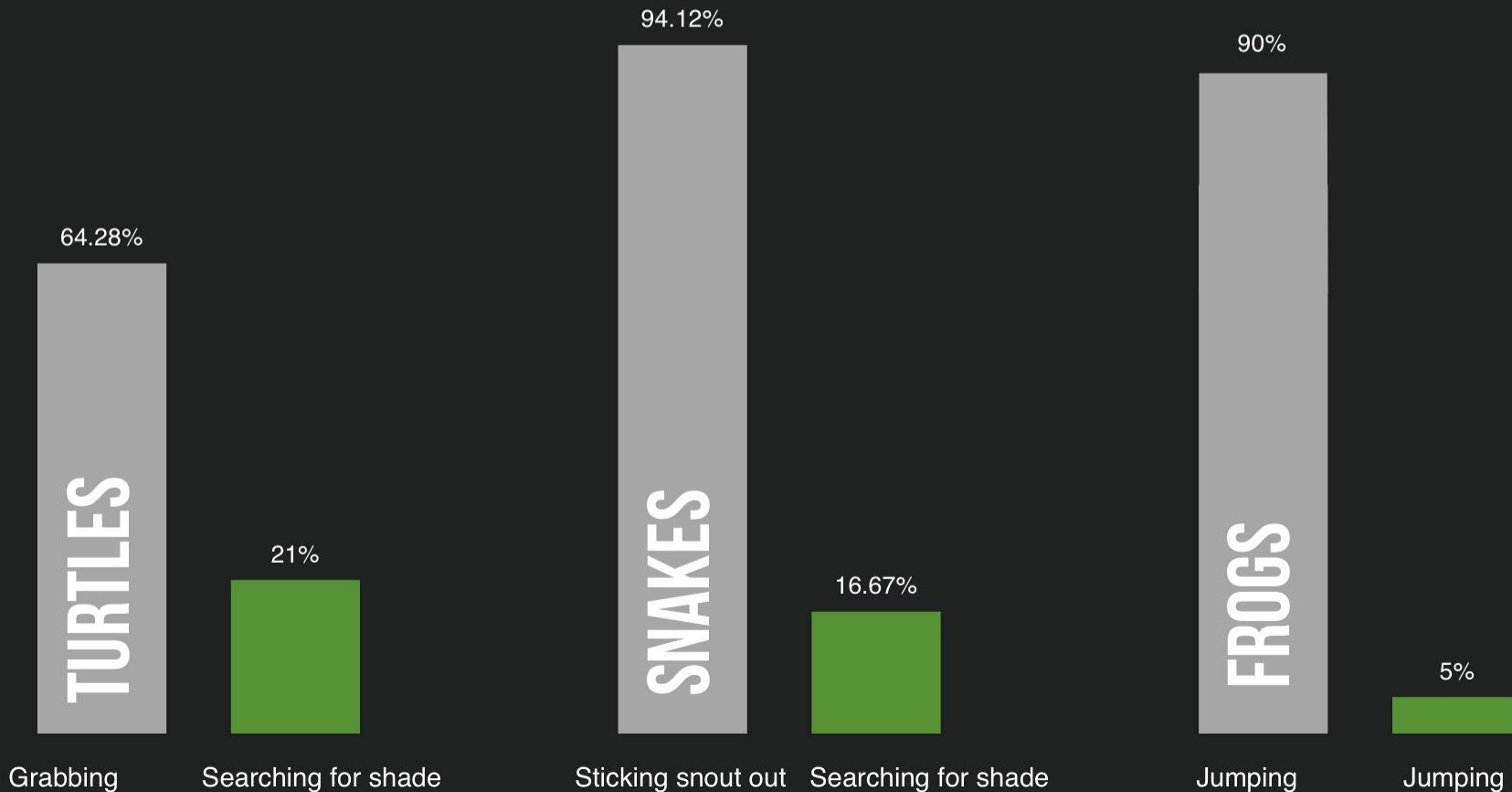


EASTERN GARTER SNAKE

INTERACTIONS

% TRIALS WITH OBSERVED BEHAVIOR

● MESH ● *Animex*



CLIMBING + ESCAPE ATTEMPTS

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL ATTEMPTS

SNAKES CLIMBING

28 MESH ESCAPES

Animex 17

Mesh 186



EASTERN GARTER SNAKE

Animex 0

Mesh 5

FROGS CLIMBING

3 MESH ESCAPES



NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG

Animex 23

Mesh 179

TURTLES CLIMBING

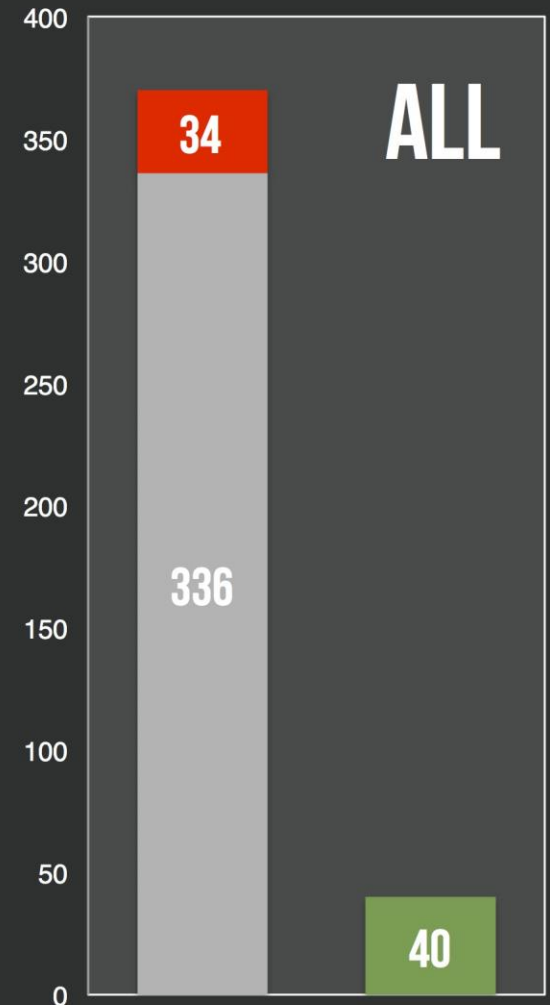
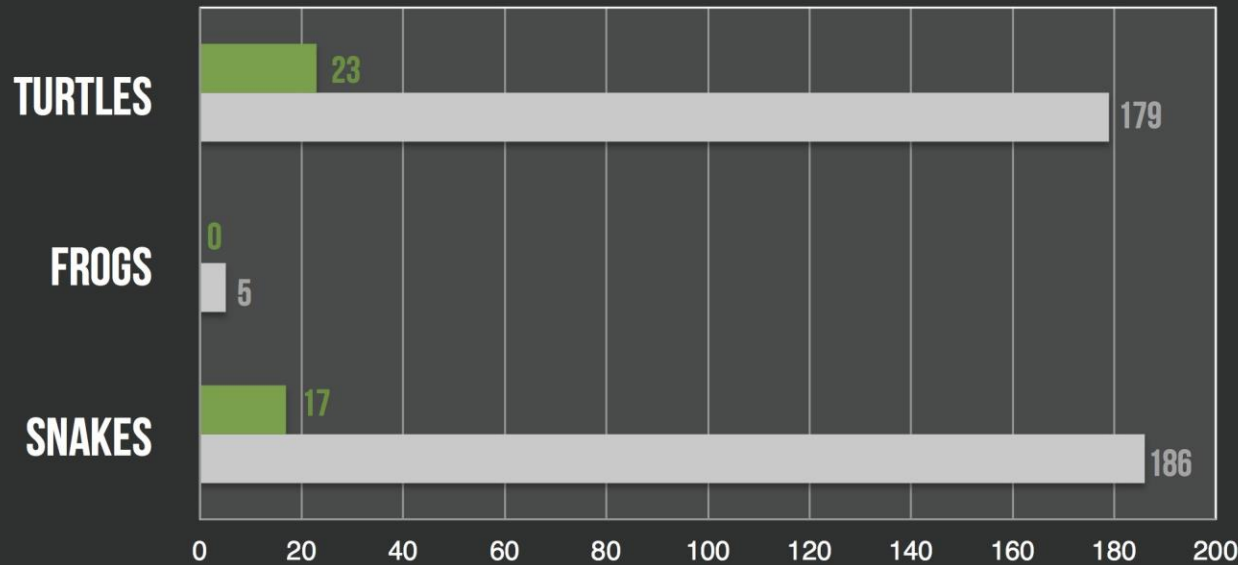
3 MESH ESCAPES



SNAPPING TURTLE

ATTEMPTS TO CLIMB

● MESH ● Animex



	T	F	S
ANIMEX	23	0	17
MESH	179	5	186
ESCAPE	3	3	28

CONCLUSION

1. ABILITY TO SEE + SMELL THROUGH = MORE TIME AT MESH
2. RISK OF LACERATIONS, ENTRAPMENTS + ESCAPES = MESH
3. ABILITY TO CLIMB ELIMINATED = **ANIMEX GLOSSY SURFACE**



FURTHER STUDY

THIS STUDY HAS INFLUENCED FURTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS COMPARING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DIFFERENT FENCING MATERIALS AND OPACITIES TO HELP INFORM FUTURE MITIGATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HERPS ACROSS CALIFORNIA.



THINK ABOUT FENCING...

Thank You!

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