



Dena Dickerson – (ERDC 1984 to present) Research Biologist, USACE ERDC – Environmental Laboratory, Coastal and Wetlands Branch.

Ms. Dickerson is the team leader of ERDC’s Sensitive Species Navigation Support Team which conducts environmental assessment and impact studies on coastal threatened and endangered species. Ms. Dickerson has spent much of the past 33 years at ERDC investigating environmental impacts from coastal development and dredging activities. Some of the diverse species studied include North Atlantic right whales, West Indian manatees, least terns, shortnose sturgeon, American crocodiles, gopher tortoises, and sea turtles. She frequently serves as a technical advisor for domestic and international dredging projects to develop methods to mitigate dredging impact on sea turtles and other imperiled species. She served as a lead advisor for assessing oil impacts to sea turtles during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Ms. Dickerson is also a professional dog trainer in addition to her ERDC responsibilities. In 2015, she developed the USACE program for using border collies for nuisance bird control at lock and dam facilities.