A long-term turtle nesting ecology study was conducted between 2013 and 2019 at Mt. View Sanitary District’s Moorhen Marsh, Martinez, California, USA. Individual *A. pallida* were closely observed and tracked during their breeding season, and nest locations were located, marked, and protected from disturbance (Alvarez and Davidson 2018. Herpetol. Rev 49:101–103; Davidson and Alvarez 2020. West. Wildl. 7:42–49). Although 102 detected nests, only seven (6.8%), including the one reported here, were found in areas not within the typical known nesting area. Female pond turtles likely select nesting sites that meet the microhabitat requirements for nest placement and construction, however, some females will undoubtedly find suitable conditions in isolated locations in relatively cryptic habitat. This level of unpredictability (i.e., the expectation of outliers) in nest site location should be considered in mitigation measures and species management.

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**APALONE FEROX** (Florida Softshell). **PREDATION.** On 17 October 2008, while driving on the Tamiami Trail (Route 41), near Big Cypress National Preserve in Collier County, Florida, USA, we observed a Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) on the side of the road with something in its beak that did not appear to be a fish. The egret was standing ca. 1 m from the edge of a roadside canal on the north side of the road. We stopped the vehicle to get a closer look at what the egret was eating, and saw it was a juvenile *Apalone ferox,* which is a common species in south Florida (Conant and Collins 1998. A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America. Third edition. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Massachusetts. 450 pp.). The diet of Great Egrets typically consists of various fish, frogs and crayfish. They also are known to eat snakes, hatching alligators, small birds and mammals, snails, and insects (Peterson 2012. Birds of Florida. Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt Publishers, Boston, Massachusetts. 480 pp.). They usually hunt in shallow waters, either moving around slowly with the neck extended searching for prey or

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**ACTINEMYS PALLIDA** (Southwestern Pond Turtle). **NEST DESTRUCTION.** *Actinemys marmorata* is a species of special concern in California (Spinks et al. 2014. Mol. Ecol. 23:2228–2241; Thompson et al. 2016. California Amphibian and Reptile Species of Concern. University of California Press, Berkeley, California. xiv + 390 pp.). Bury et al. (2012. Northwest Fauna 7:1–128) and Thompson et al. (2016, op. cit.) have suggested that declines in the species’ range may be attributable to aspects of the nesting ecology (e.g., destruction or loss of nesting habitat, absence of protections for nesting sites, putative lack of information on nesting ecology). Herein, we report on the destruction of a nest of *A. pallida* during soil grading activity.

Prior to the commencement of habitat restoration activities designed to benefit *A. pallida* at this pond, we observed daily (i.e., 6 h/d for six weeks) for actively nesting turtles. Additionally, a turtle exclusion fence was installed to protect the documented nesting area. During restoration activities, a small grader, which was actively hatching underground.

This observation indicates that females from even a very closely monitored population of *A. pallida*, for which typical nesting behavior is relatively well understood, can easily construct undetected nests. Further, it appears in this case that an undetected nest was made within an active construction area that, although thoroughly surveyed and closely monitored, was destroyed by activities designed to enhance their habitat. Our long-term study suggested that the vast majority of known pond turtle nests were along the western boundary of the project area. Among 102 detected nests, only seven (6.8%), including the one reported here, were found in areas not within the typical known nesting area. Female pond turtles likely select nesting sites that meet the microhabitat requirements for nest placement and construction, however, some females will undoubtedly find suitable conditions in isolated locations in relatively cryptic habitat. This level of unpredictability (i.e., the expectation of outliers) in nest site location should be considered in mitigation measures and species management.

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