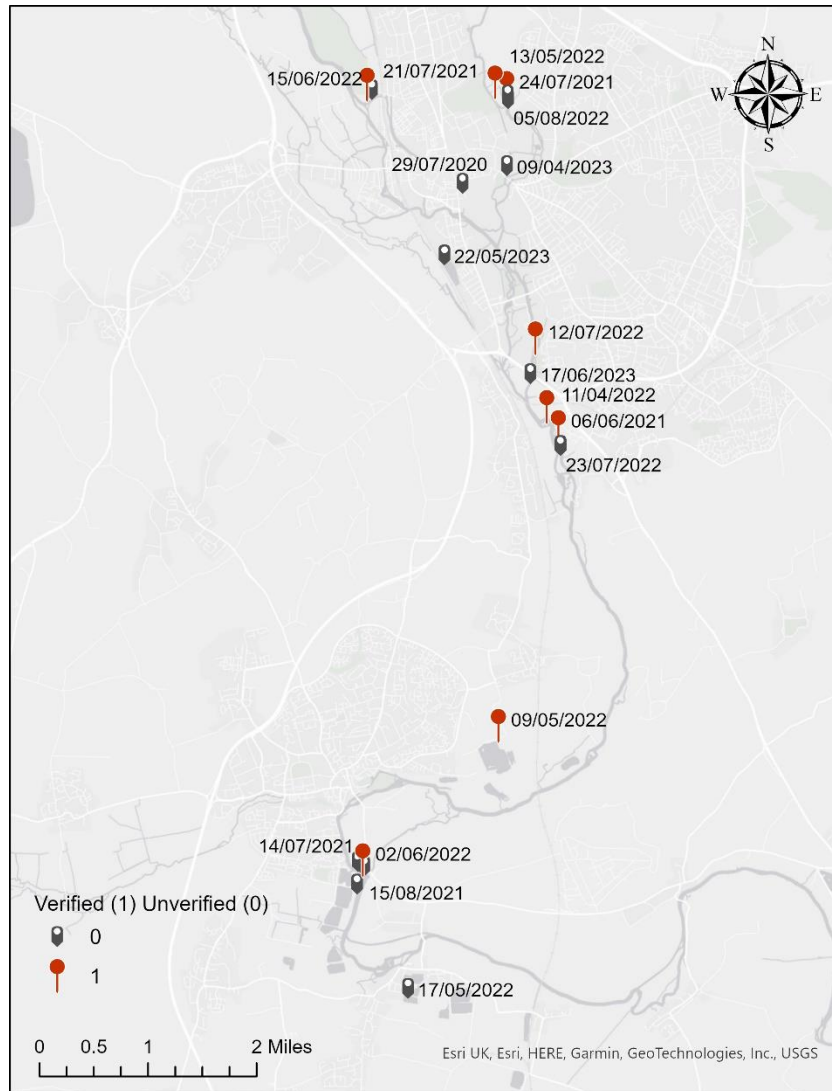


Distribution of released pet turtles in the UK: a citizen science survey

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A focal sample extract showing localised sighting locations in Oxford over the study period. This stretch of river includes 20 sightings submitted by participants, eight with photographic evidence provided. Turtles identified included five *T. s. scripta*, one *T. s. elegans* and two 'slider/cooters'. All sightings submitted were sent by different participants, with no multiple sightings registered by the same individual. The dates range from 2020-2023, in different locations along the ~11-mile waterway. With this extract, verified sightings (1) sit alongside unverified sightings (0) which could indicate that these unverified sightings might be good indicators of turtle presence. These may also indicate the same small number of individuals inhabiting and moving along a waterway, being sighted at different dates in different years by different observers.