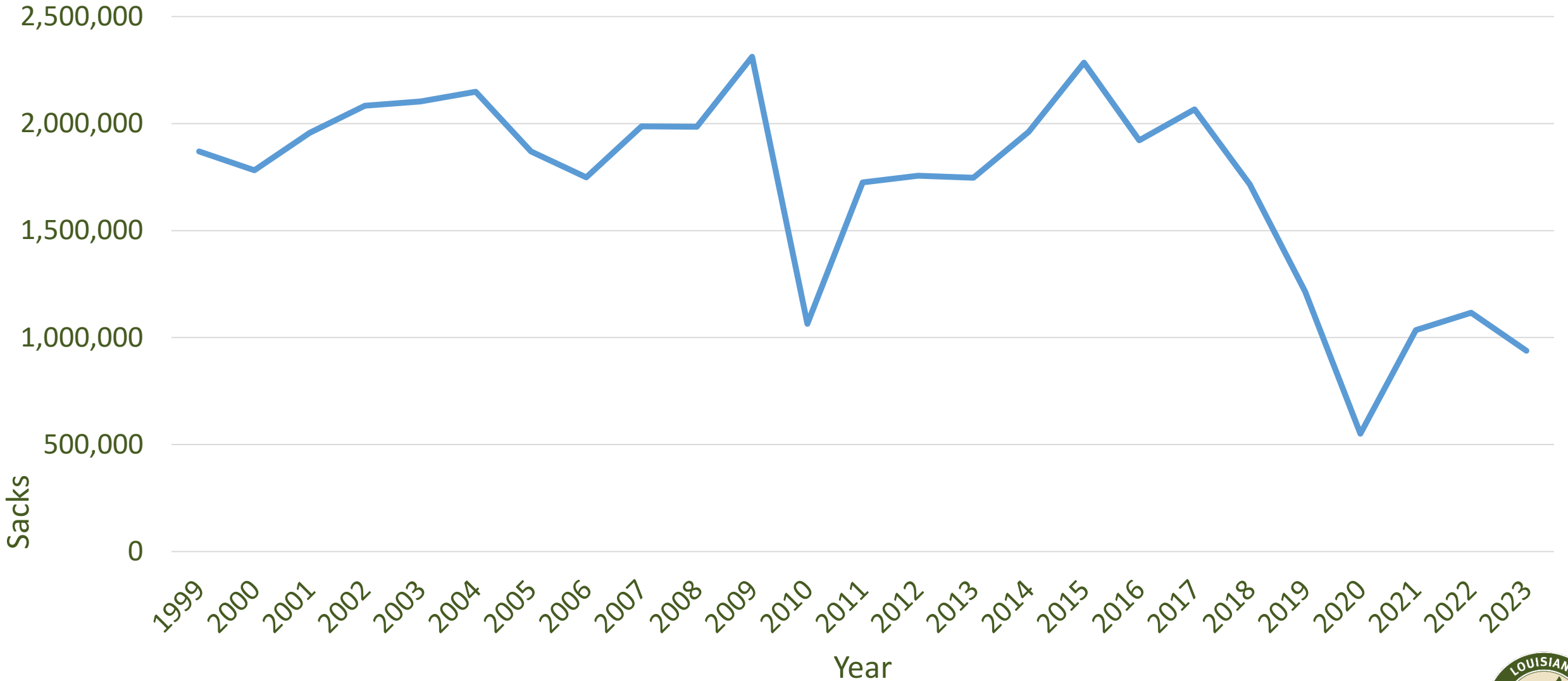




Louisiana Oyster Updates

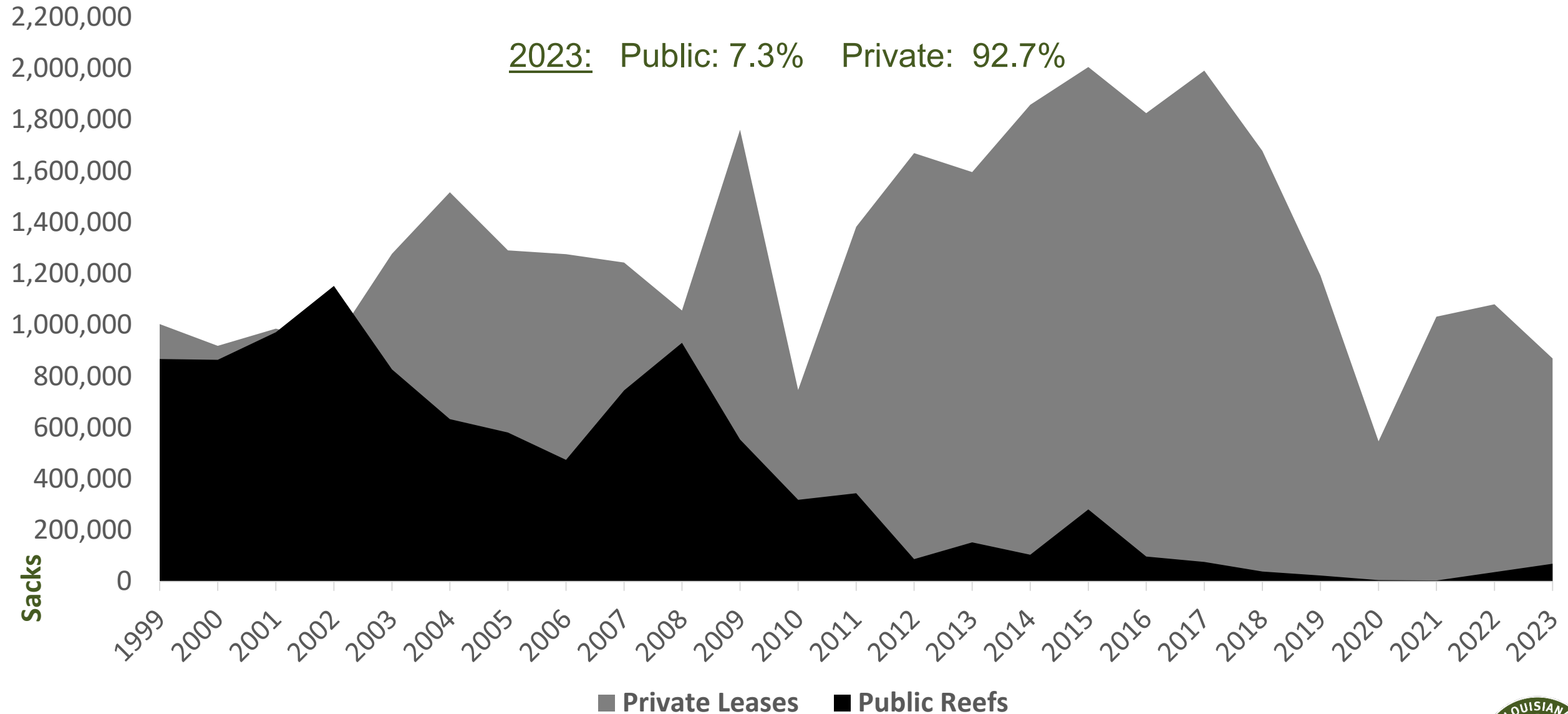
Robert Caballero | GSMFC Molluscan Shellfish Subcommittee Meeting | October 15, 2024

Historical Louisiana Private and Public (combined) Commercial Oyster Landings



Commercial Oyster Landings: Public vs. Private

2023: Public: 7.3% Private: 92.7%

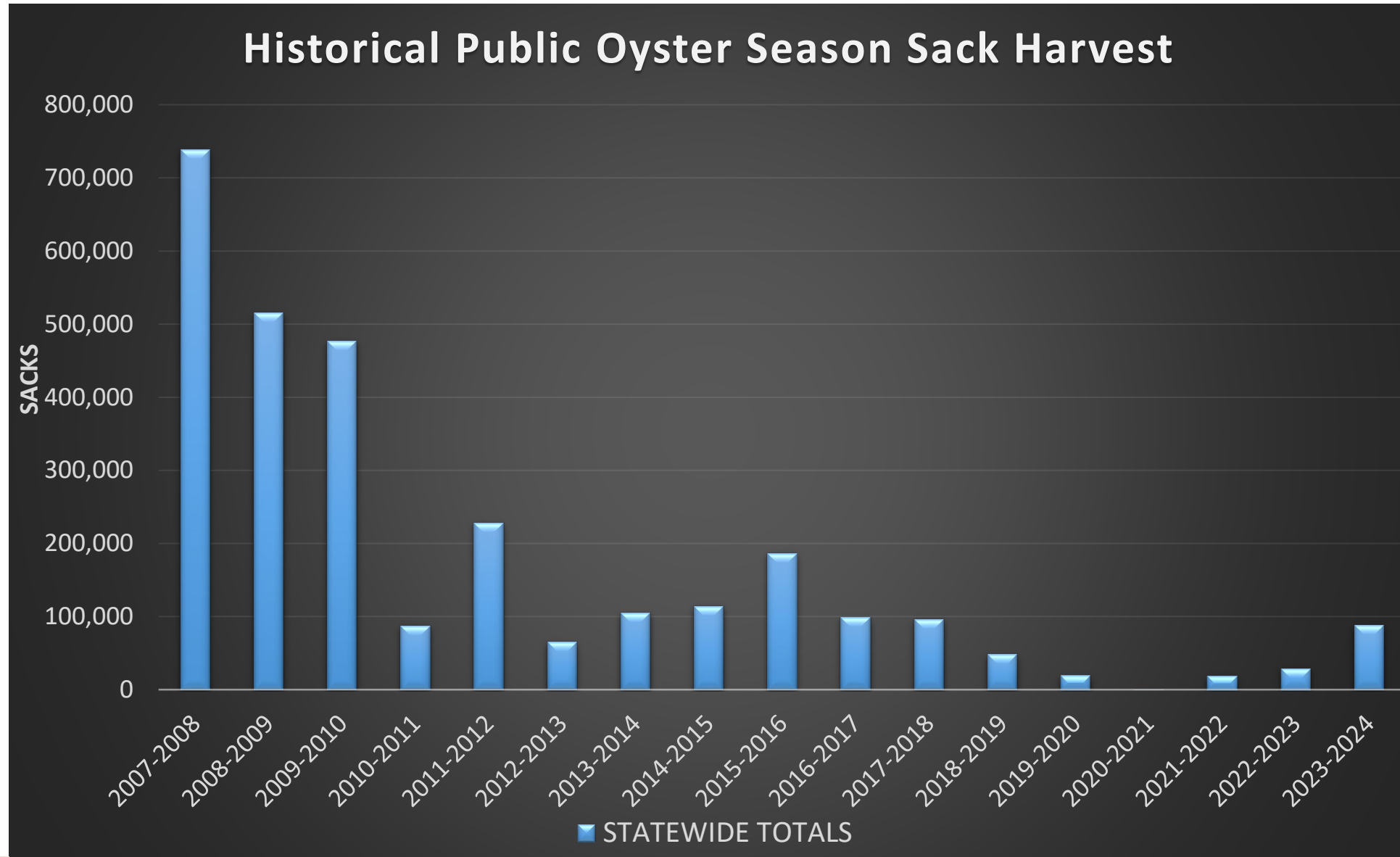


2023-24 Public Oyster Season Observed Harvest

CSA	Area	Season/Type	Days Open	Harvest Reporting	Boarding Report (sacks)	Reporting Compliance
1	POSG East of Mississippi river and North of MRGO	Market Harvest	140	6,395	10,385	72%
	POSG East of Mississippi river and South of MRGO	Market Harvest	140	2,052	3,079	71%
5	Sister Lake	1 day bedding season	1	1,800 bbl	3,650 bbl	45%
		Market Harvest	20			61%
		Market Harvest	7	48,457	69,288	46%
		Market Harvest	7			84%
6	Vermilion/East and West Cote Blanche Bay/Atchafalaya Bay Public Oyster Seed Grounds	1 day bedding season	1	0	0	N/A
		Market Harvest	140	0	0	N/A
7	Calcasieu Lake	East Side: Market Harvest	102/ 121	767	1,738	81%
		West Cove: Market Harvest	155/ 204	2,408	3,948	



Past Seasons Commercial Oyster Harvest



2023-2024 Season Daily Harvest Reporting Requirement

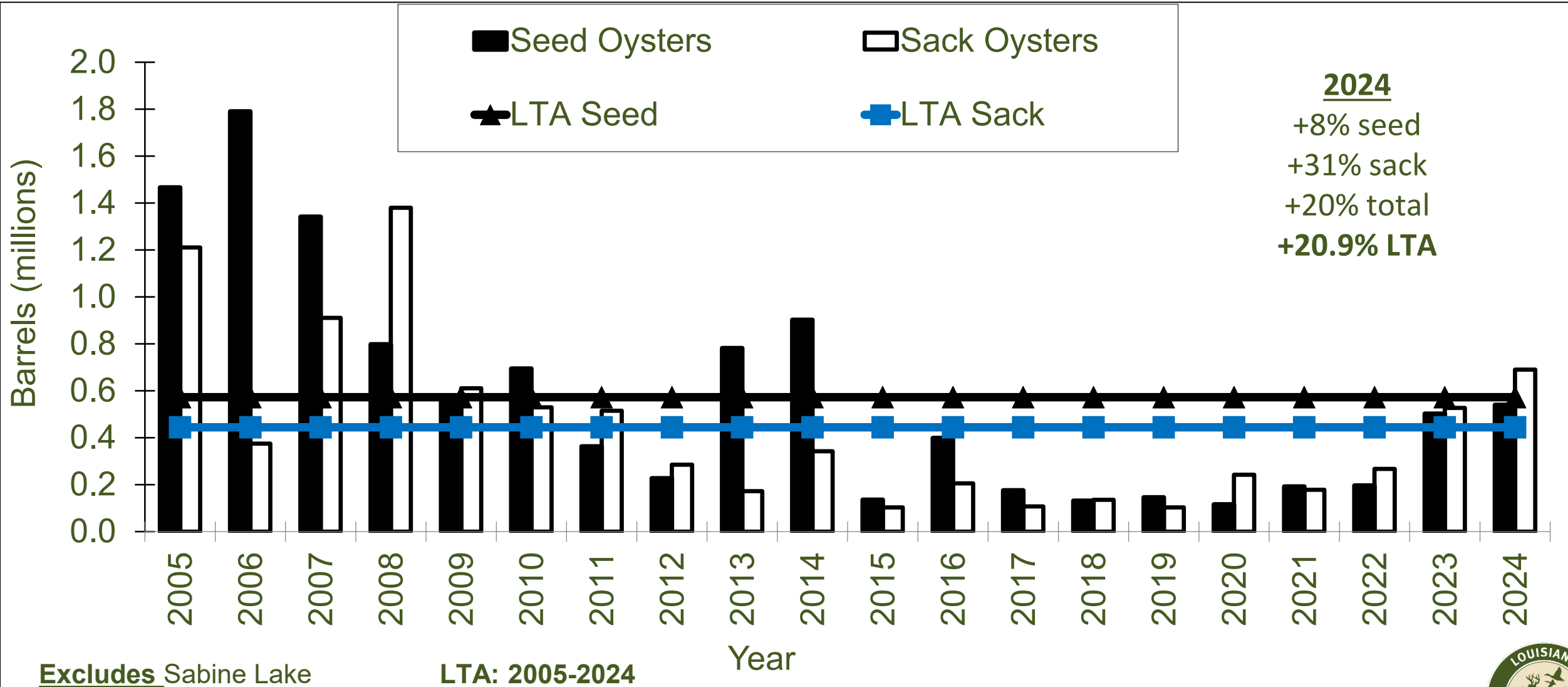
Total Vessels Reporting	202	98%	
Total Vessels Observed	207		
Total Vessels Phone call	175	87%	
Total Vessels eReporting	52	26%	
Vessels Switching Methods	24	12%	
Location	Observed	Reporting	Daily Compliance
Pontchartrain Basin (Biloxi Marsh)	73	58	72%
Pontchartrain Basin (Lake Fortuna)	16	26	71%
Sister Lake	150	147	45-84%
Calcasieu Lake	15	25	81%

LDWF Stock Assessment Sampling

- Sampling performed in July 2024
- 100 sampling sites visited
- 516 total replicate samples collected



Public Seed Grounds Stock Assessment Results: Seed vs. Sack



2024 Public Ground Oyster Stock Assessment

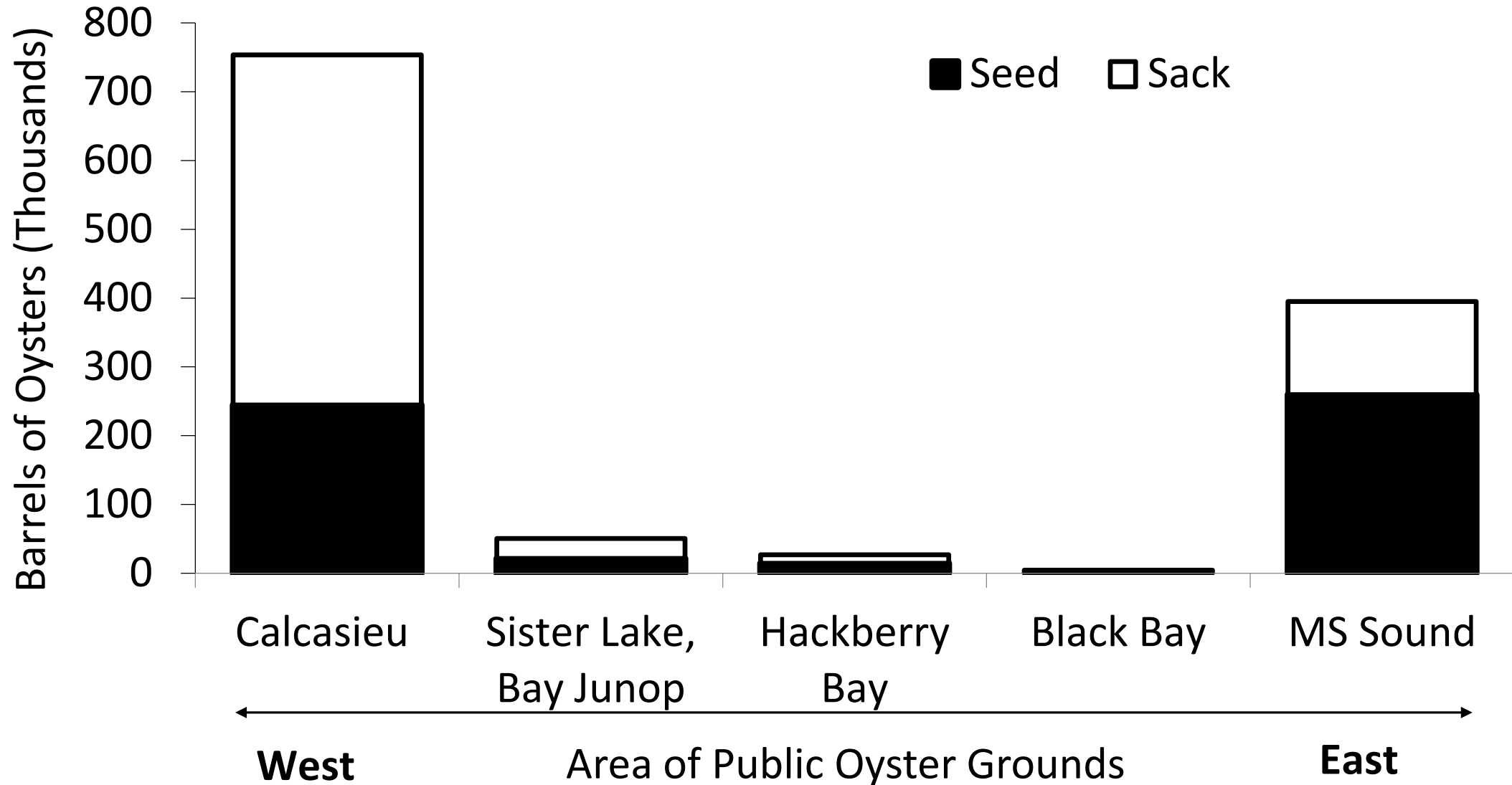
Availability in barrels (1 barrel = 2 sacks)

GREEN = Increase, RED = Decrease compared to 2023

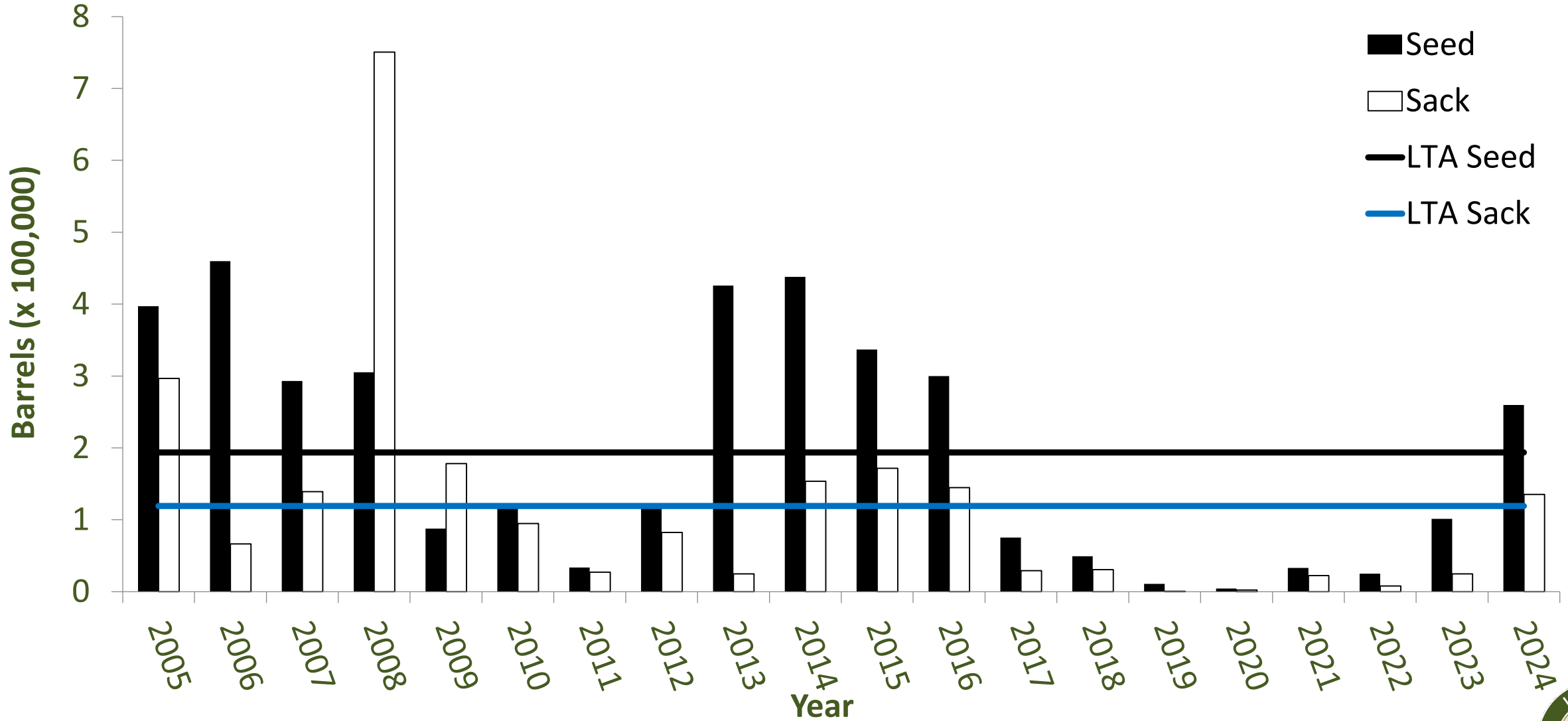
Area	Seed	Sack	Total	Total %
East of MS River, North MRGO	259,736	135,390	395,126	213%
East of MS River, South MRGO	0	4,557	4,557	-89%
Little Lake, Barataria, Hackberry Bay	14,569	12,163	26,732	269%
Lake Chien /Felicity	0	0	0	0
Sister Lake	17,810	27,530	45,339	-87%
Mechant/ Bay Junop	3,743	1,383	5,126	166%
Calcasieu - East Side	34,611	50,903	85,514	109%
Calcasieu - West Cove	209,818	458,337	668,155	42%
Statewide Totals	540,286	690,263	1,230,549	21%



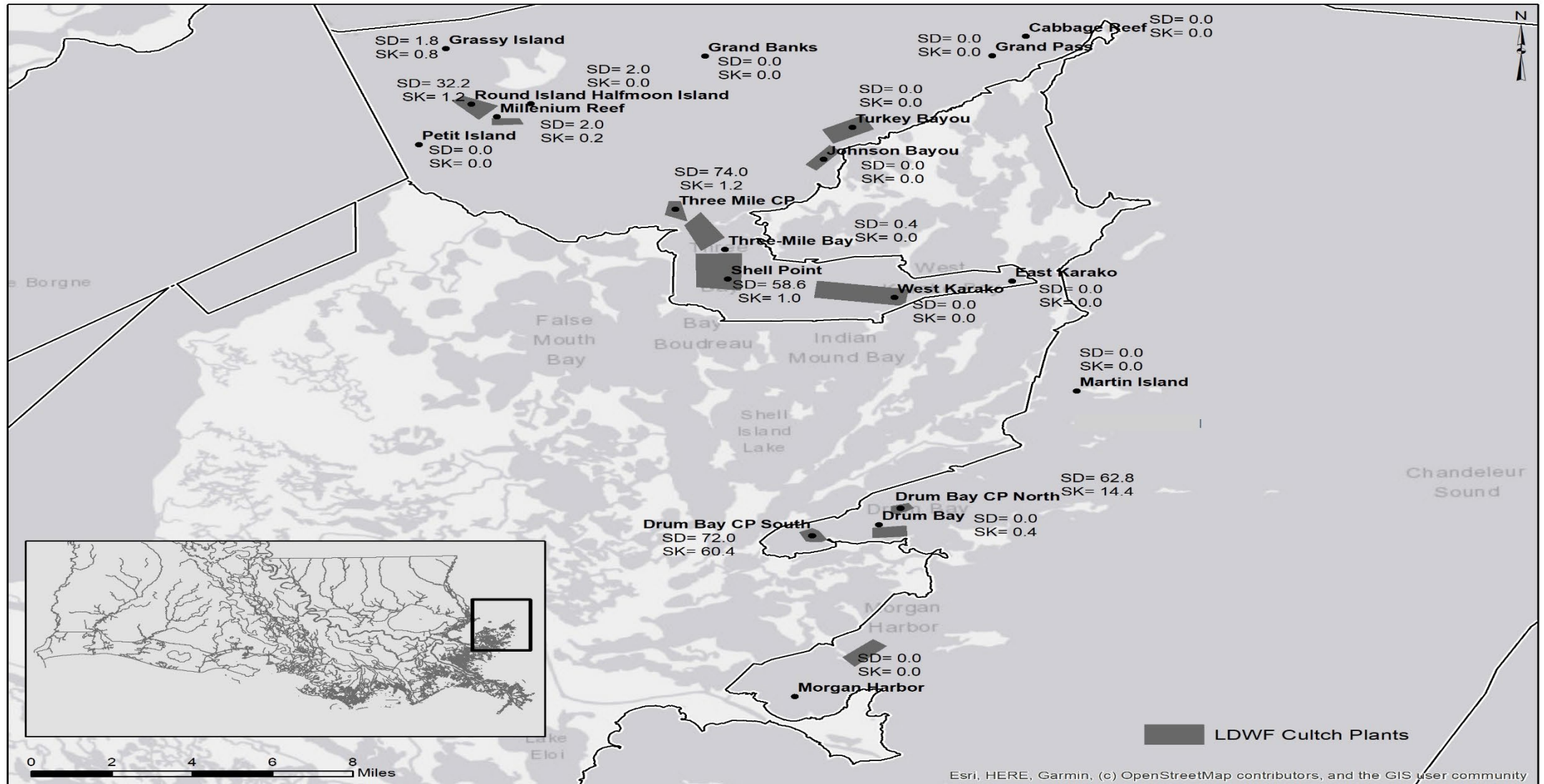
2024 Statewide Oyster Availability



CSA 1 – North (Lake Borgne/MS Sound area)



CSA 1 – North (Lake Borgne/MS Sound area)

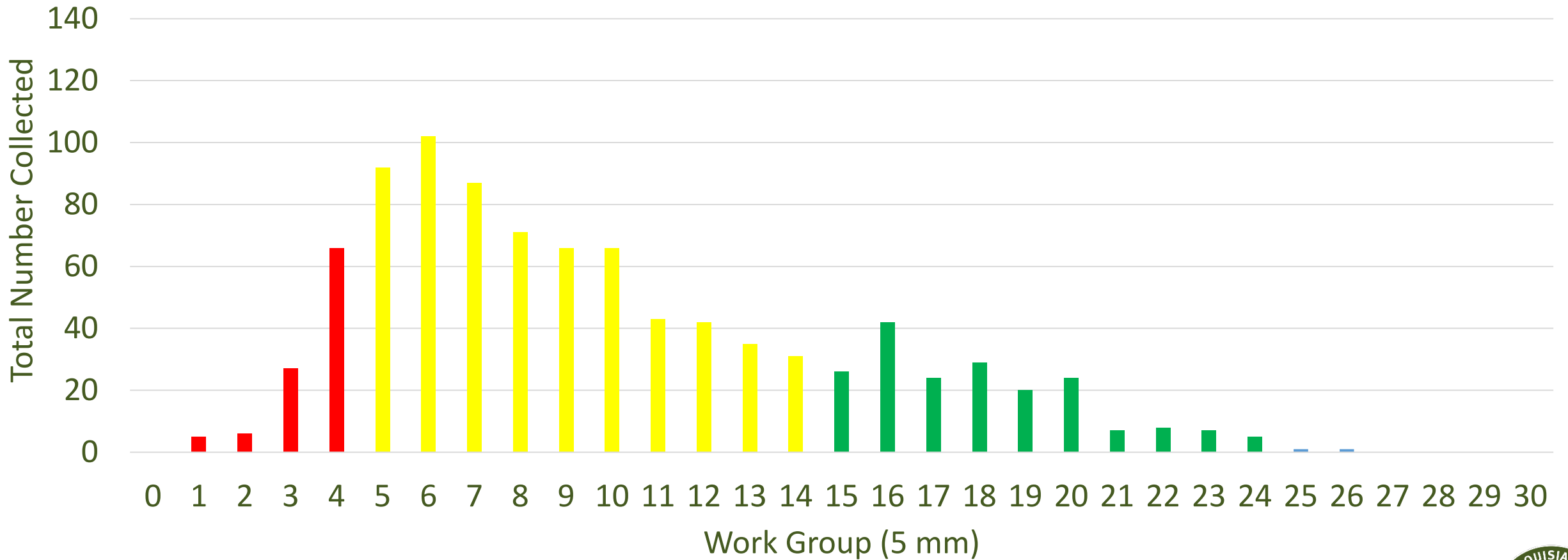


Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

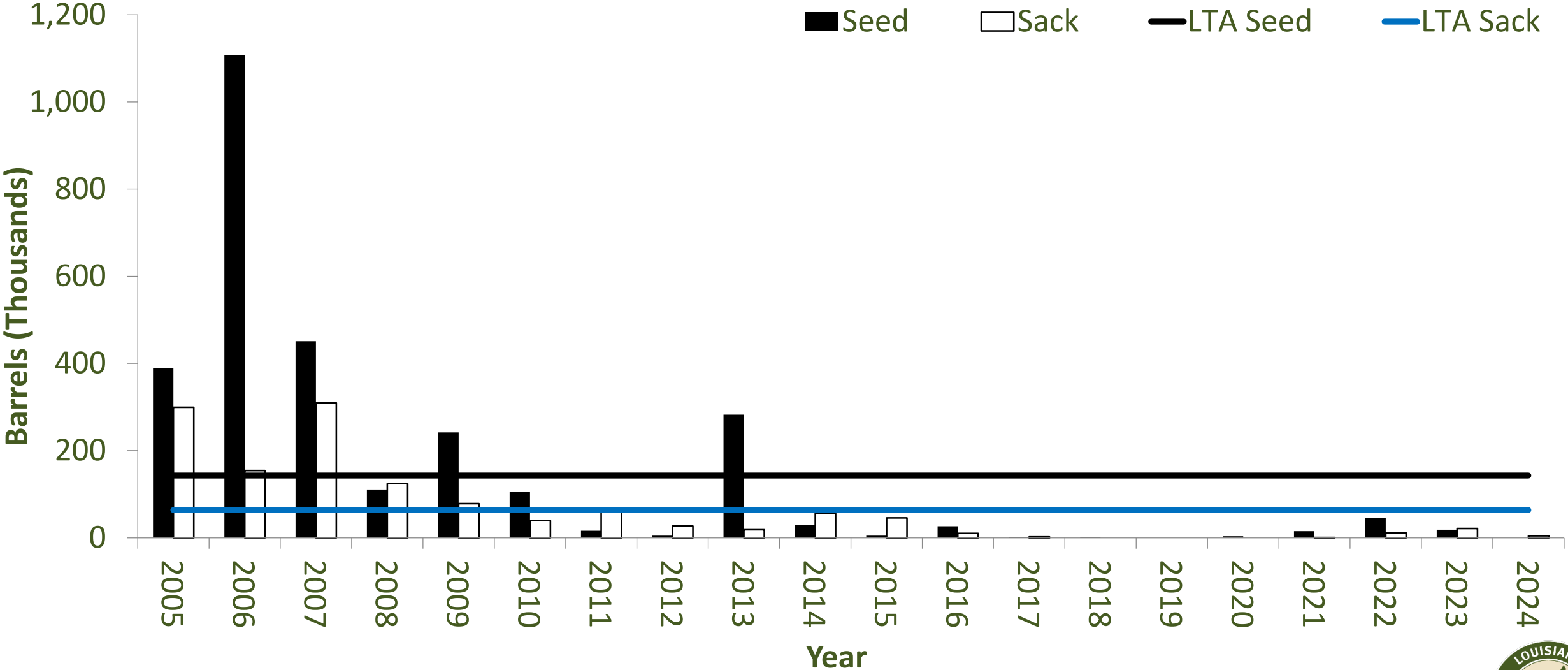


CSA 1 – North (Lake Borgne/MS Sound area)

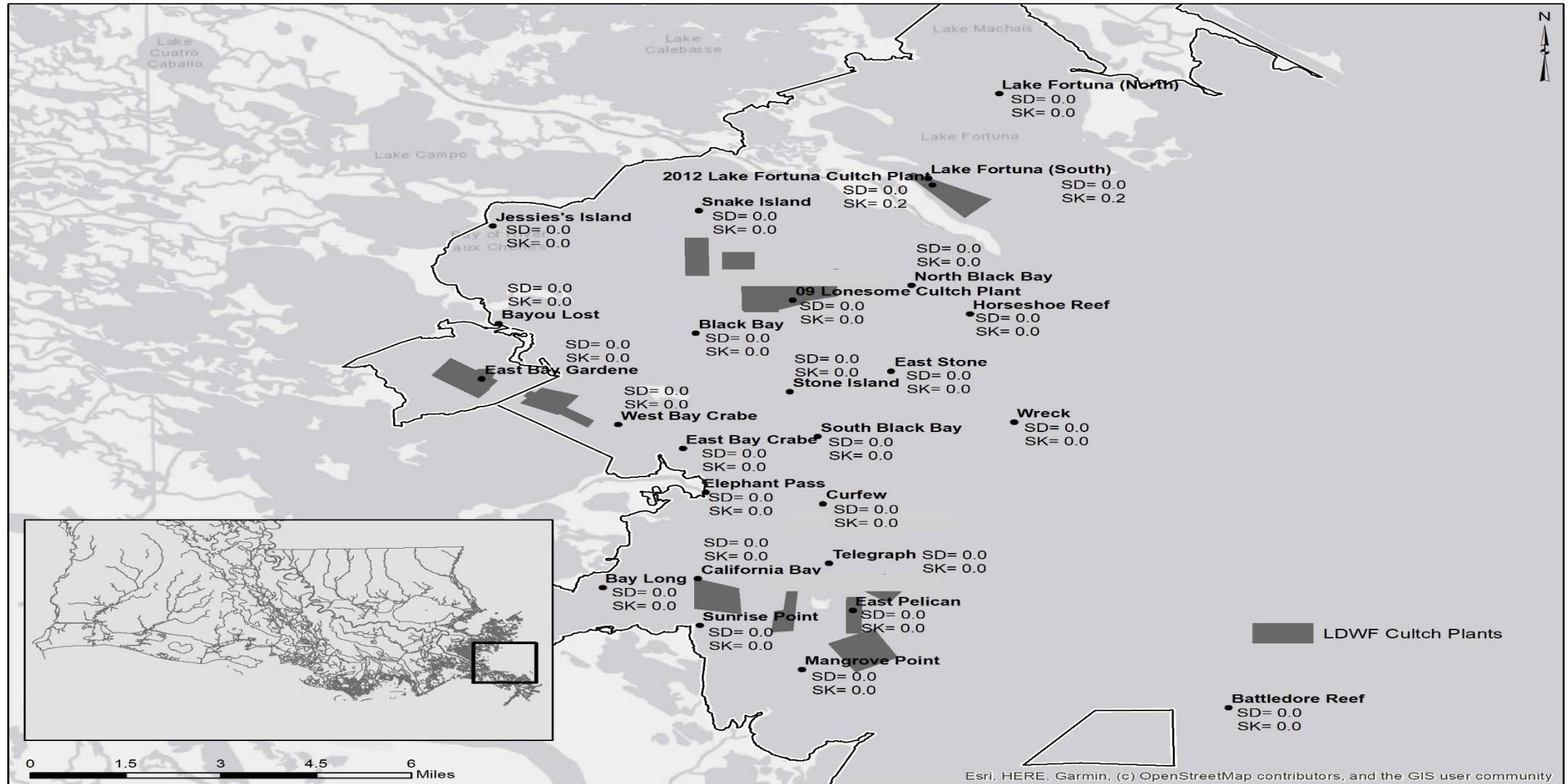
Live Oysters



CSA 1 – South (Black Bay, Bay Gardene, Lake Fortuna)

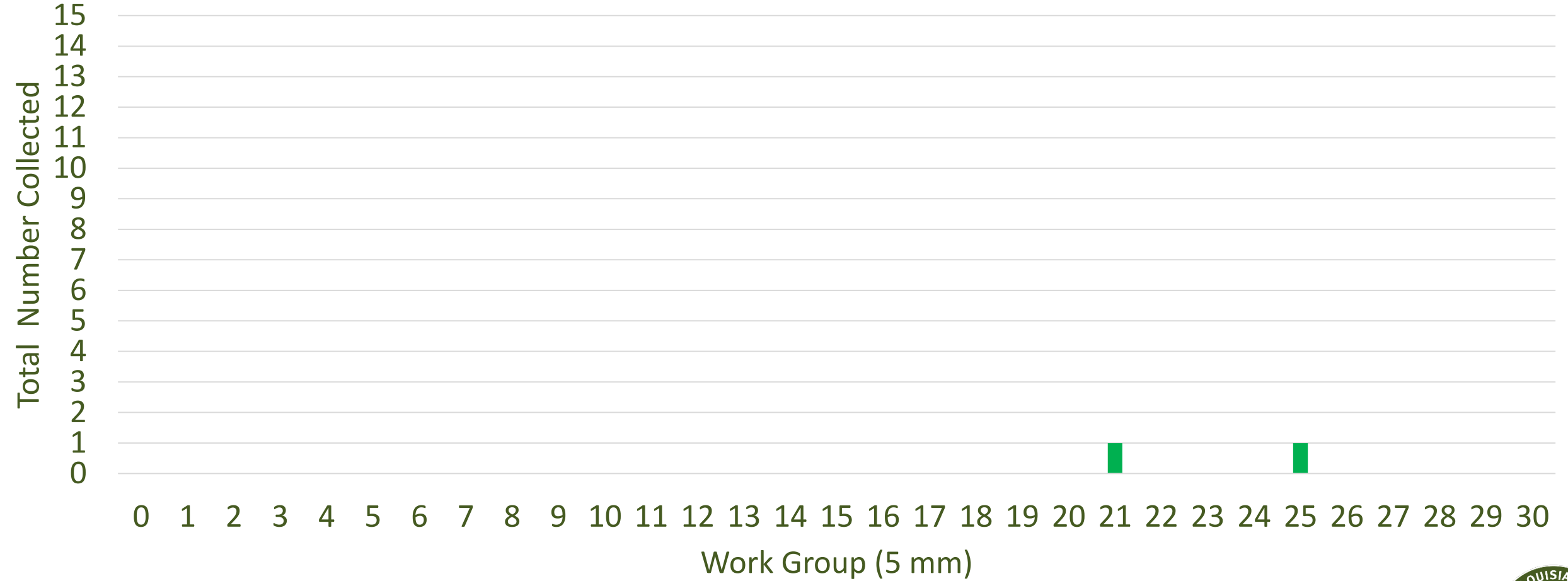


CSA 1 – South (Black Bay, Bay Gardene, Lake Fortuna)

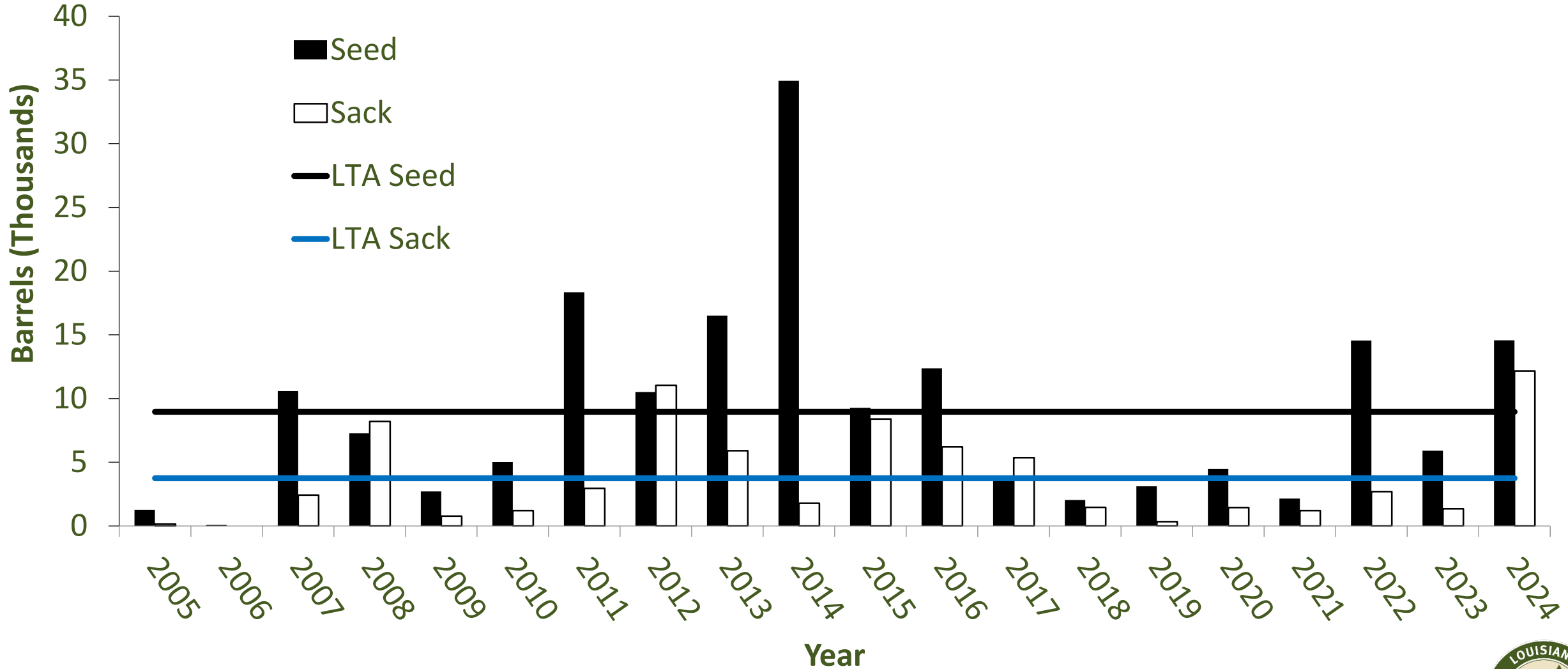


CSA 1 – South (Black Bay, Bay Gardene, Lake Fortuna)

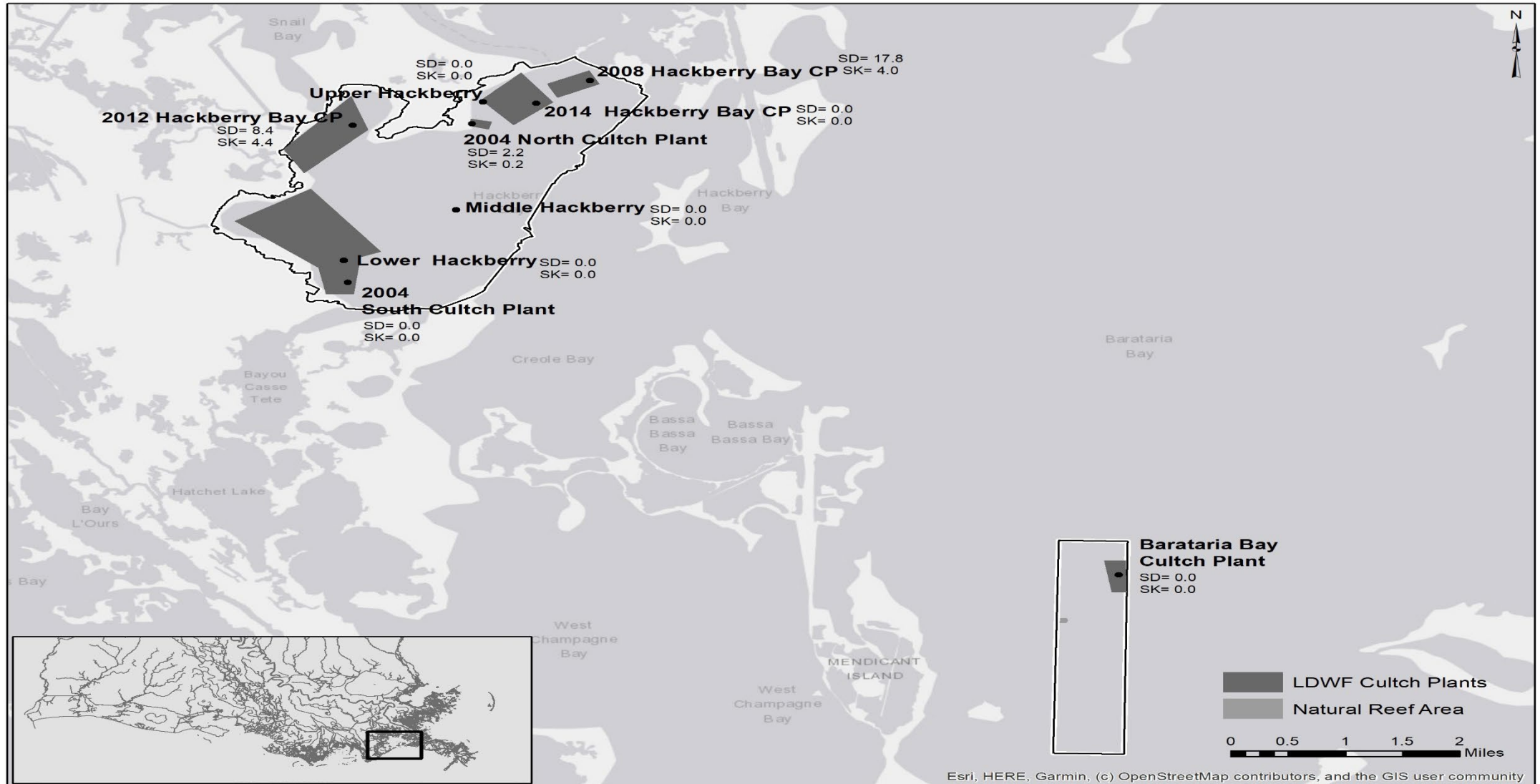
Live Oysters



CSA 3 (Little Lake, Hackberry, Barataria Bay)



CSA 3 (Hackberry Bay & Barataria Bay)

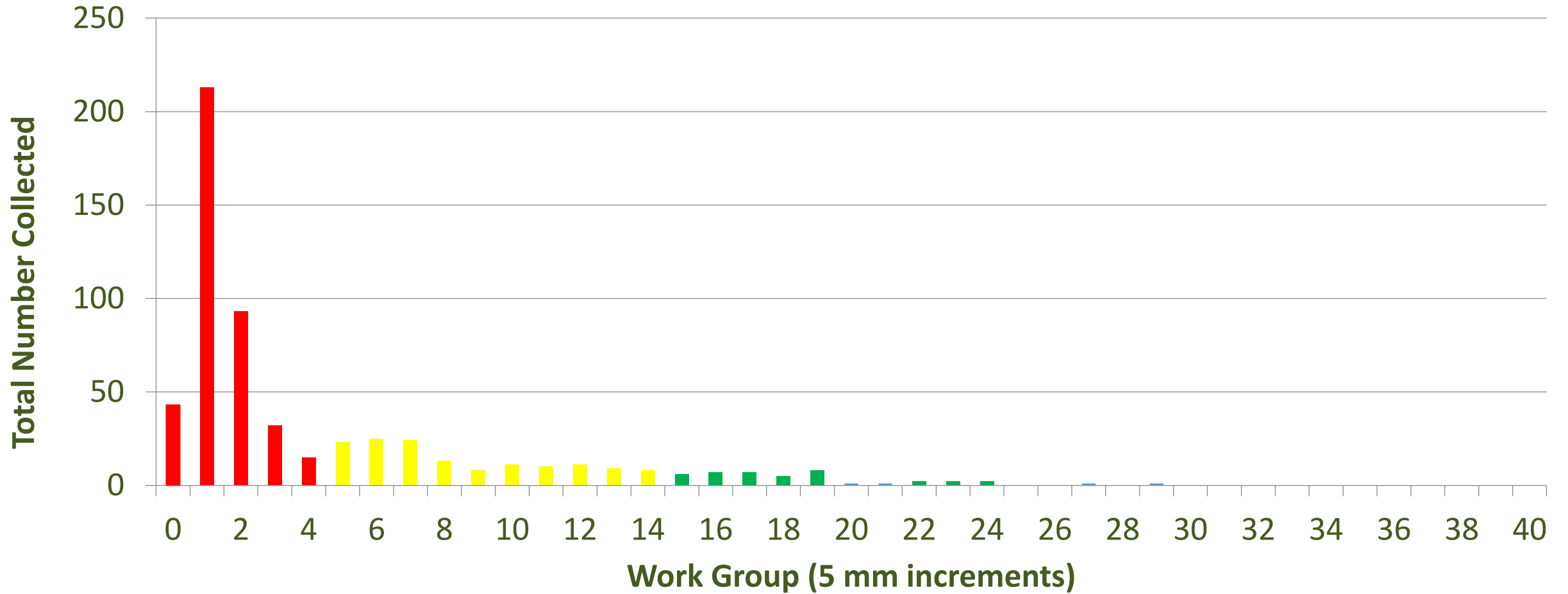


Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

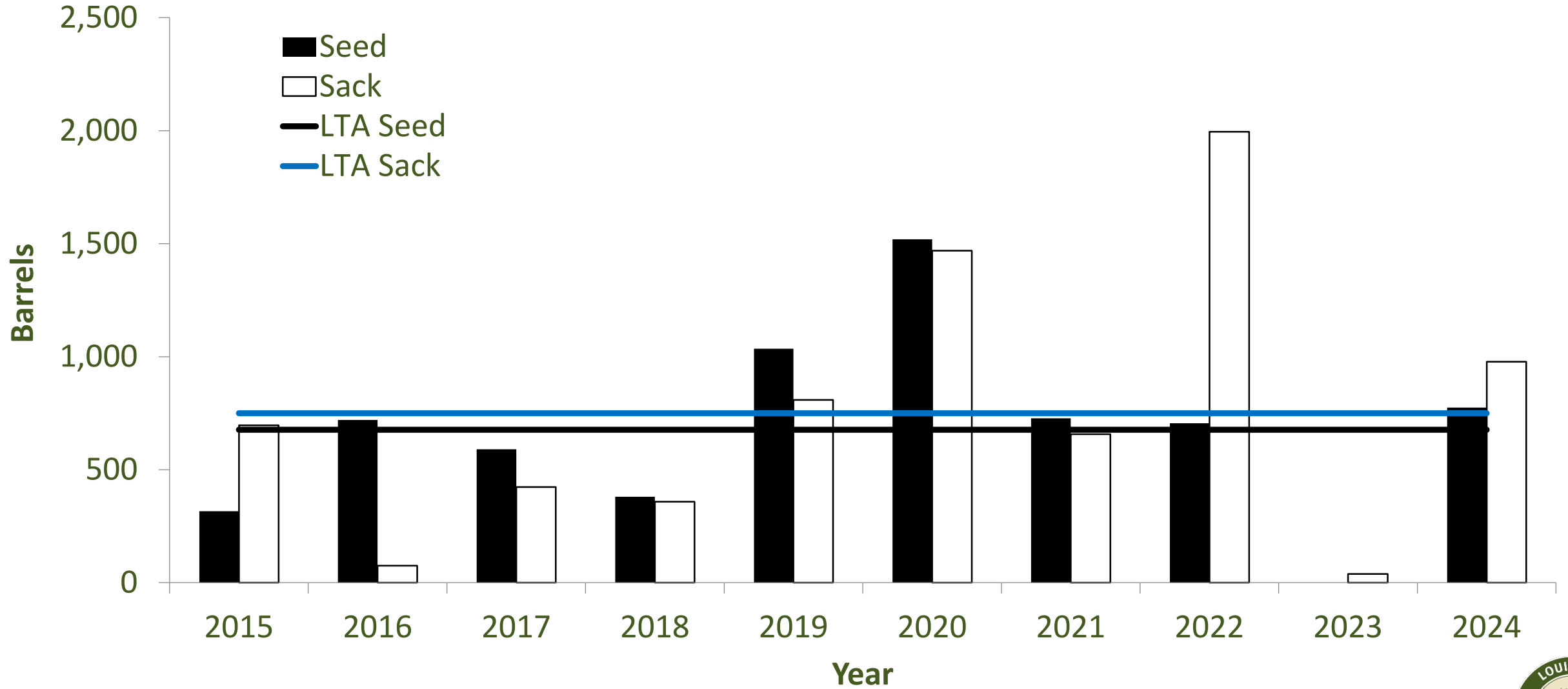


CSA 3 (Hackberry Bay & Barataria Bay)

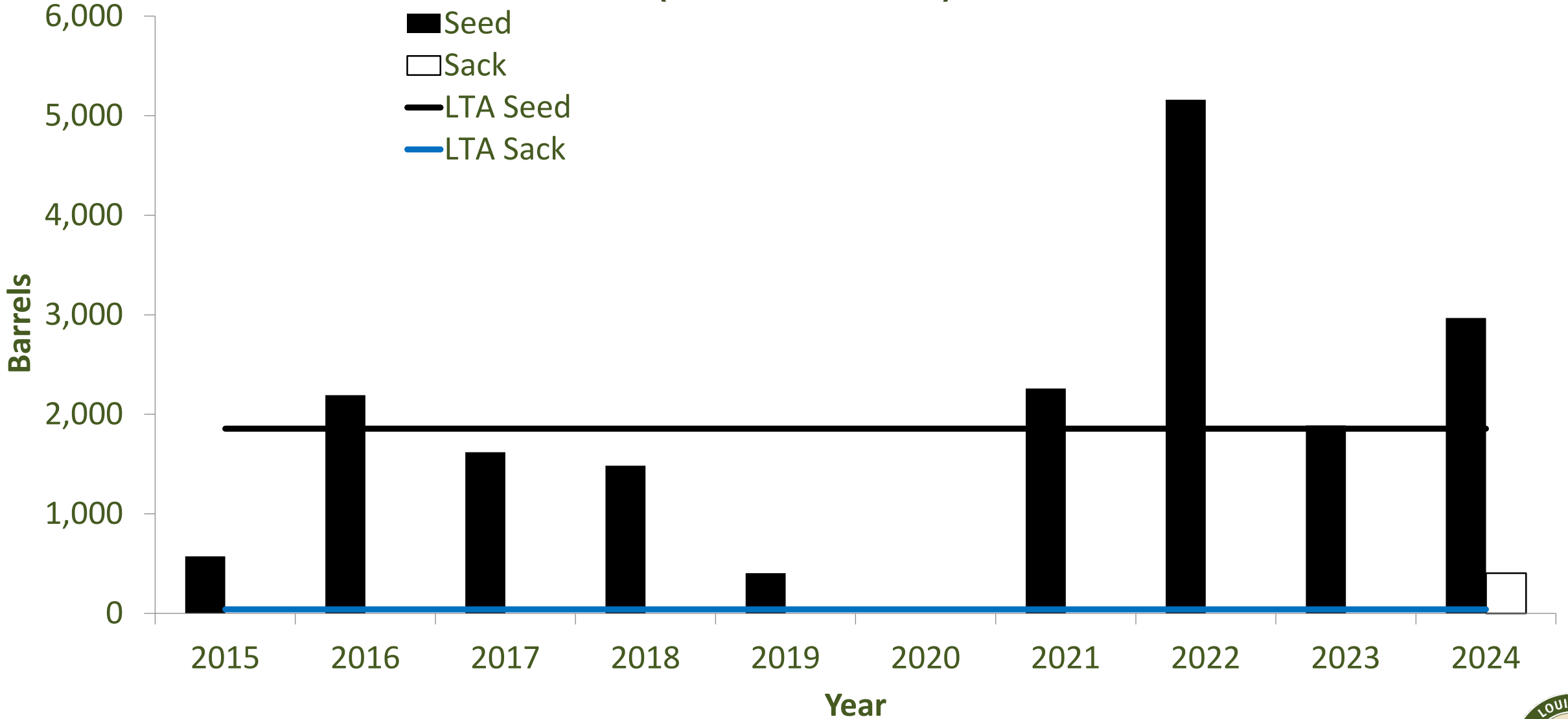
Live Oysters



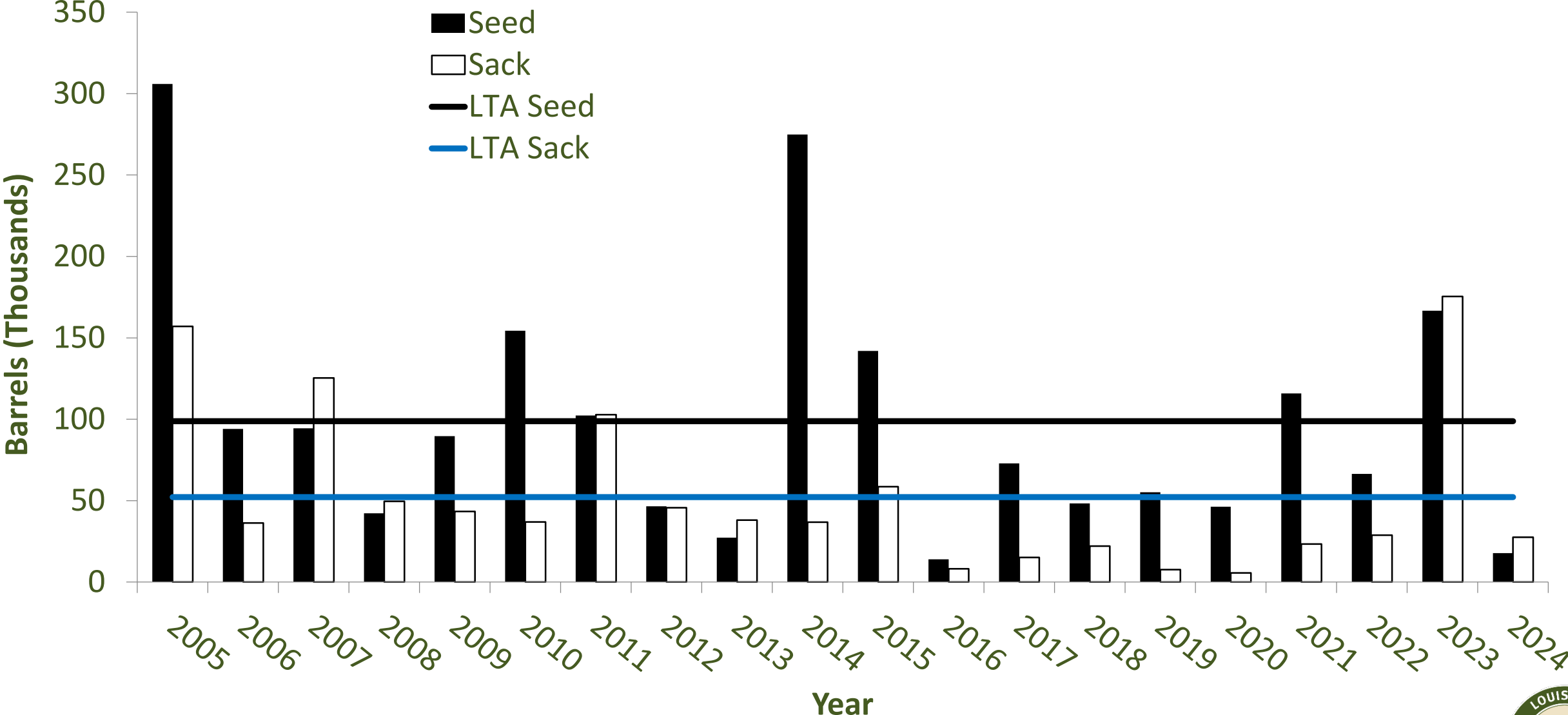
CSA 5-East (Bay Junop)



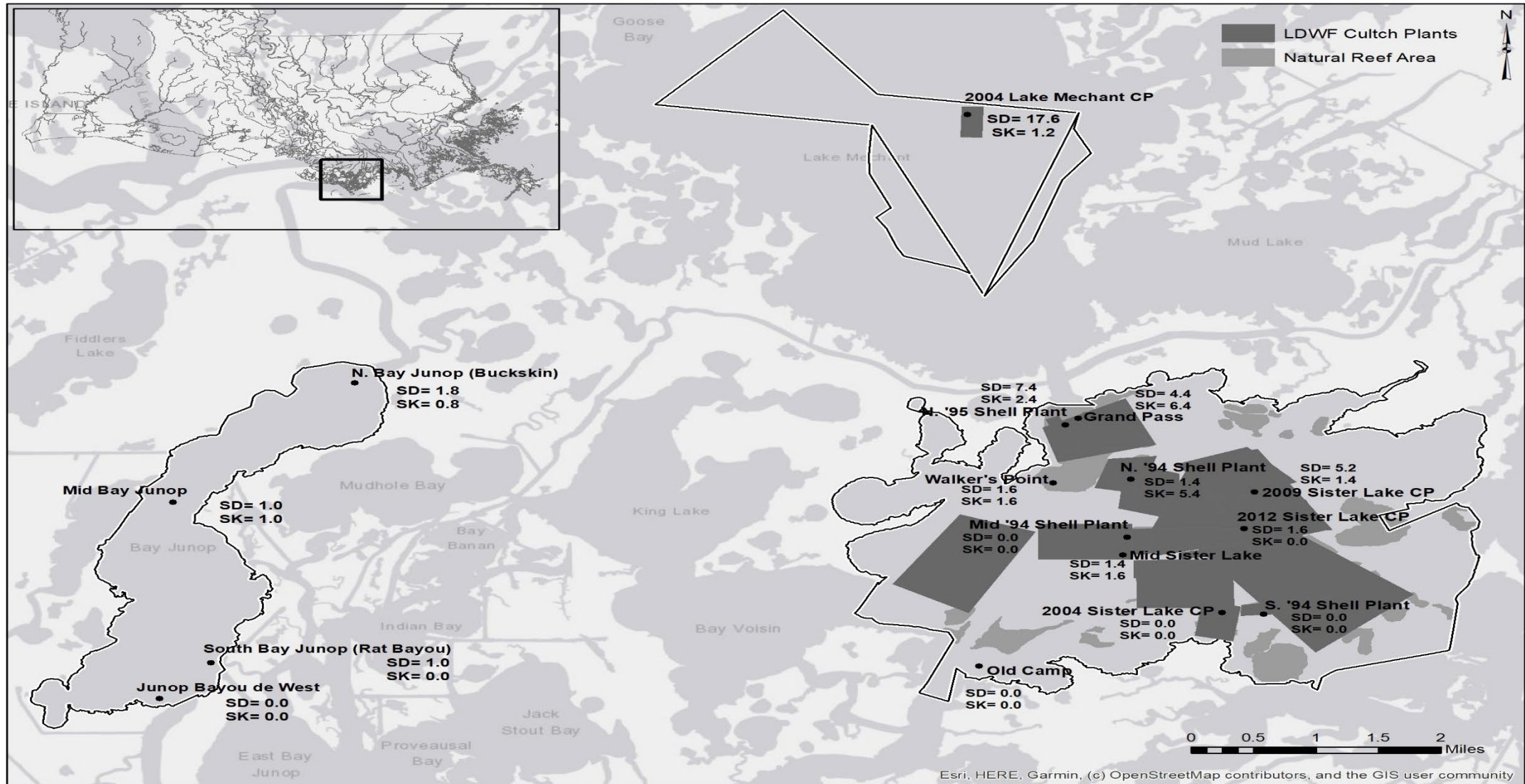
CSA 5-East (Lake Mechant)



CSA 5-West (Sister Lake)

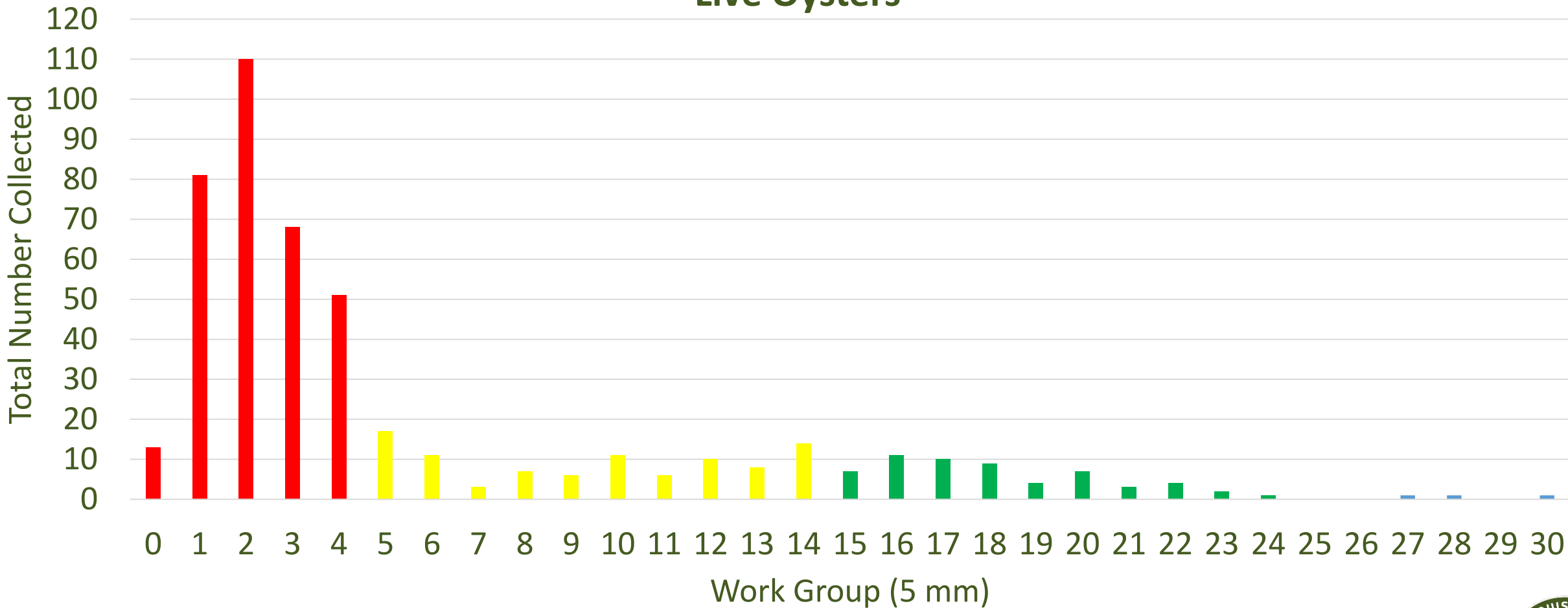


CSA 5-West (Sister Lake, Bay Junop, Lake Mechant)



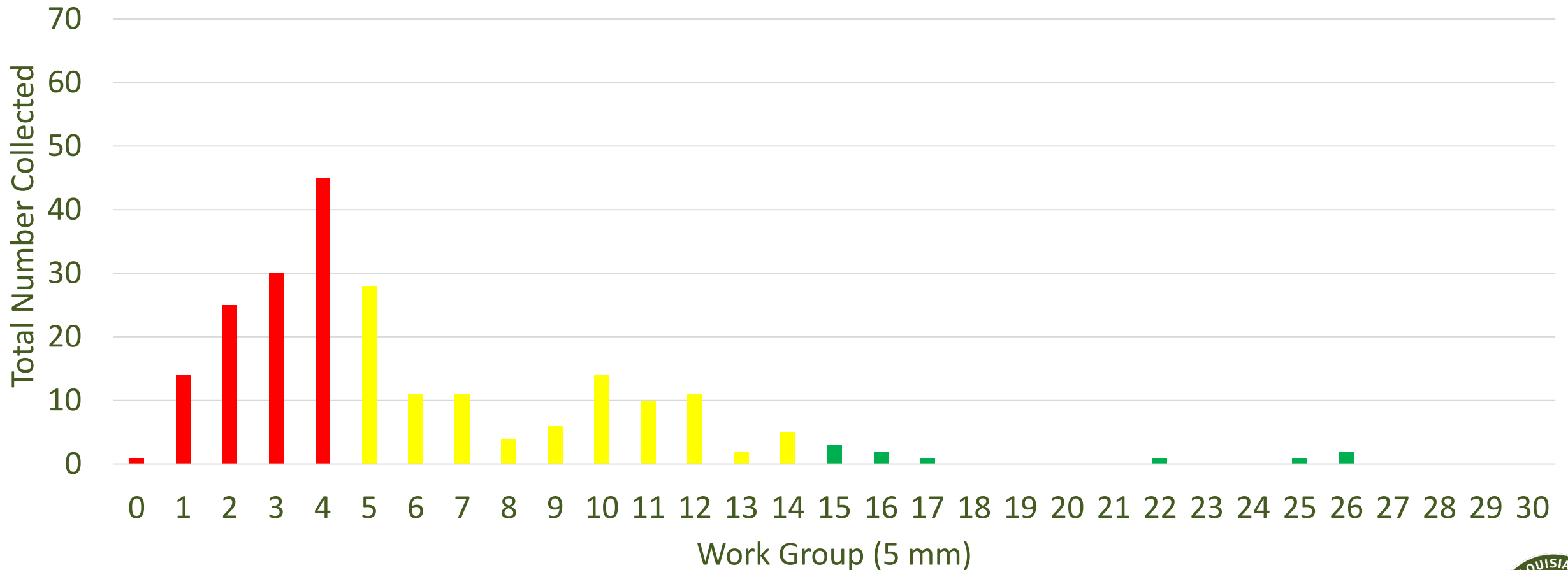
CSA 5-West (Sister Lake)

Live Oysters

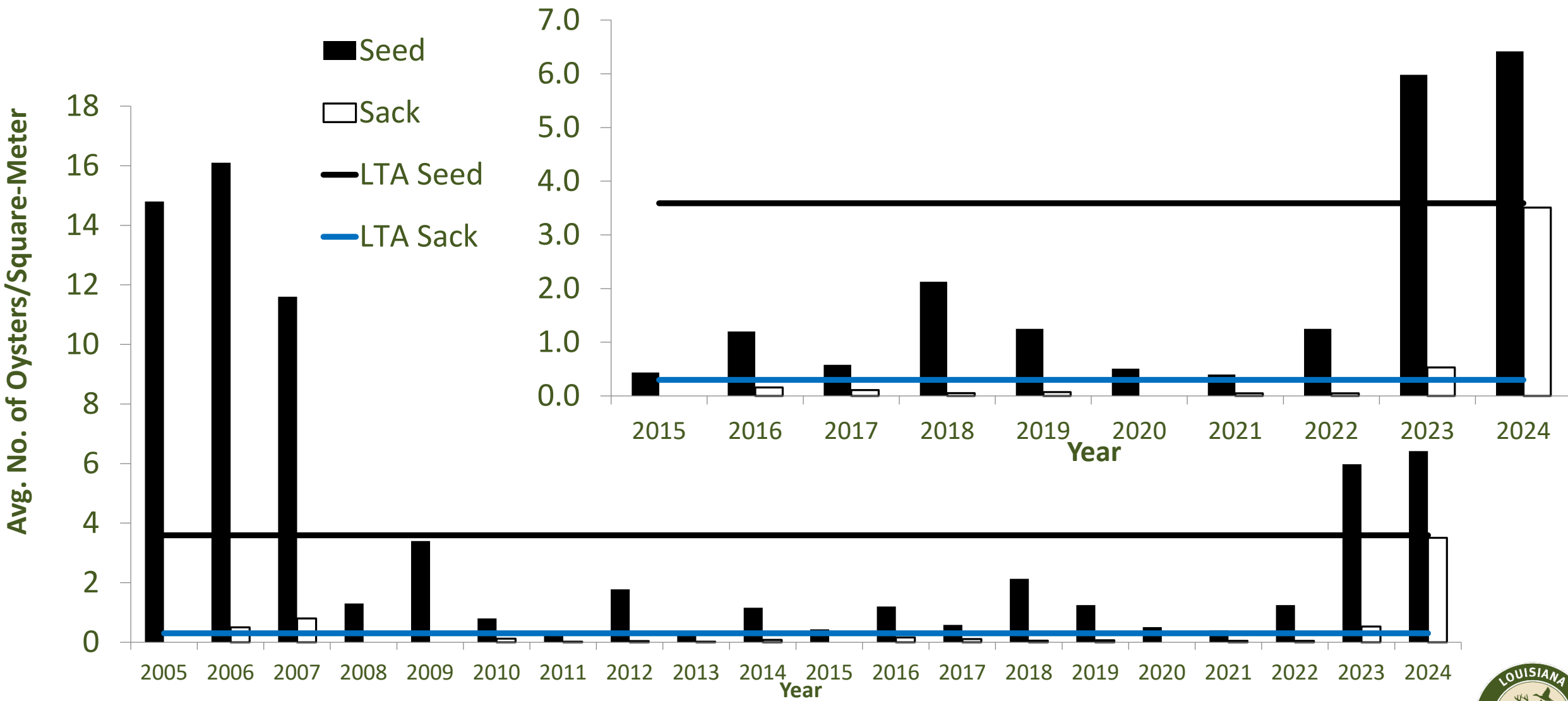


CSA 5-West (Bay Junop, Lake Mechant)

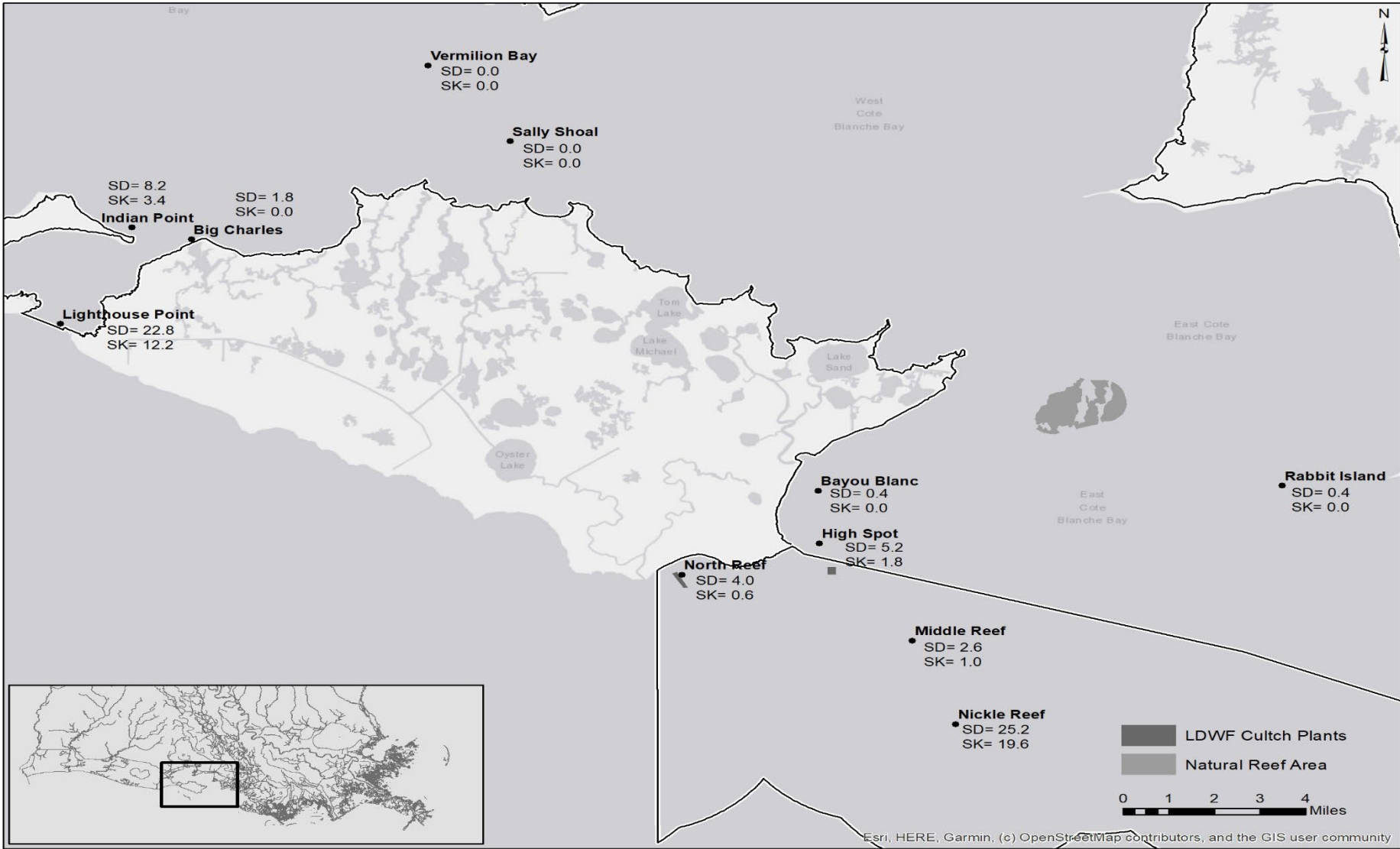
Live Oysters



CSA 6 (Vermilion-Atchafalaya Bay)



CSA 6 (Vermilion-Atchafalaya Bay)

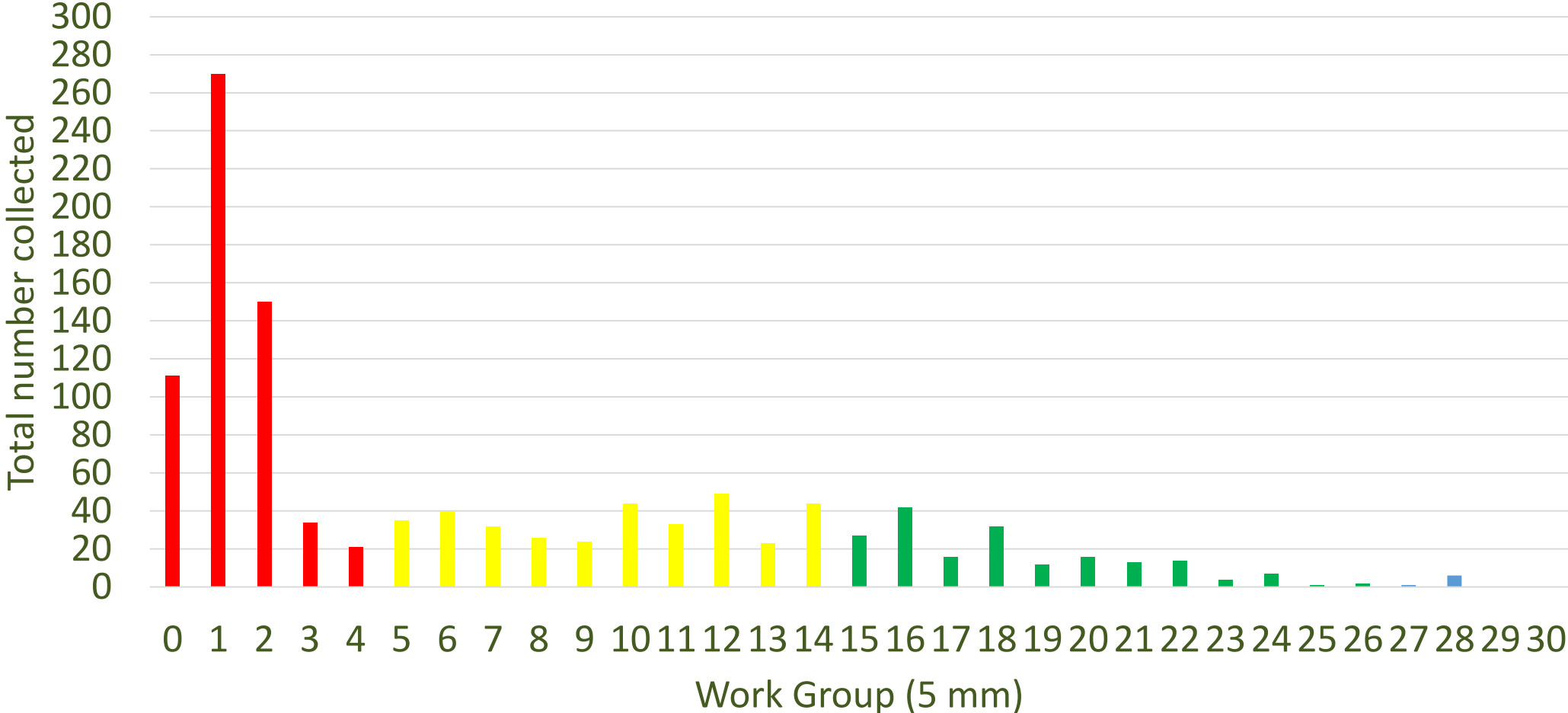


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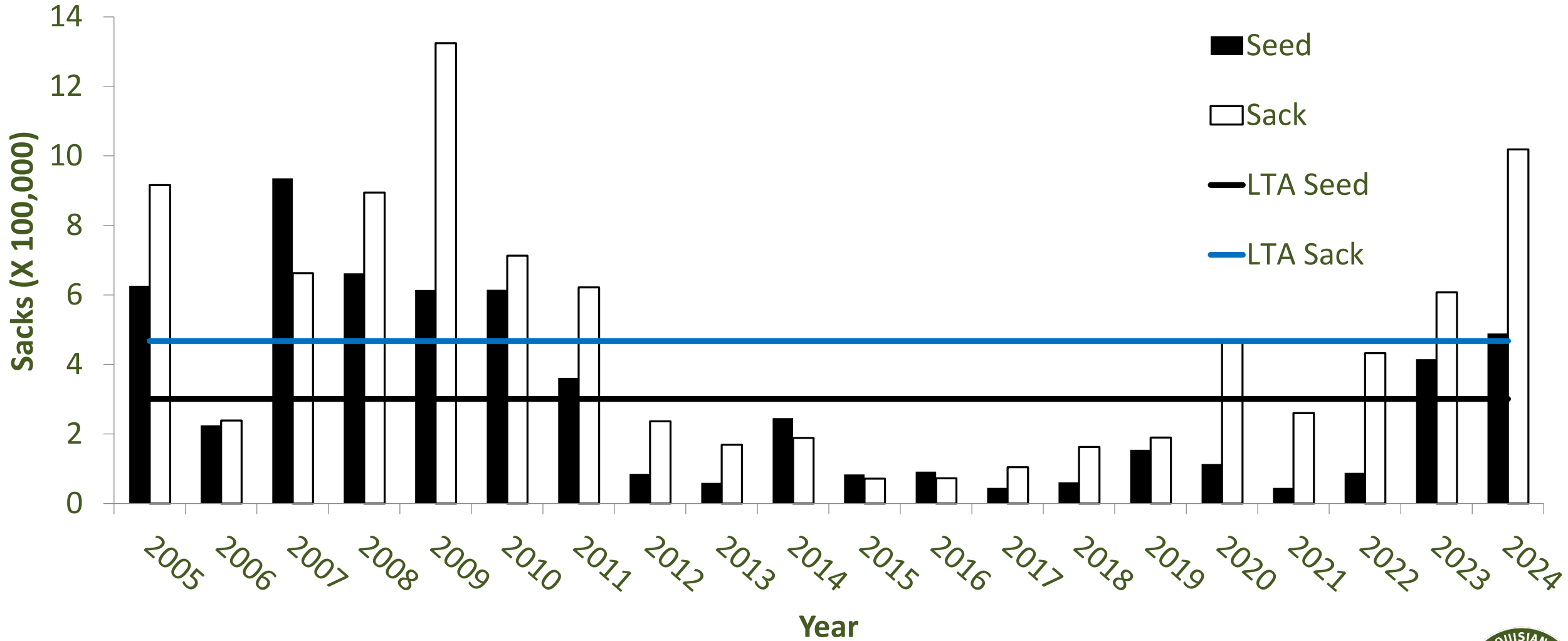


CSA 6 (Vermilion-Atchafalaya Bay)

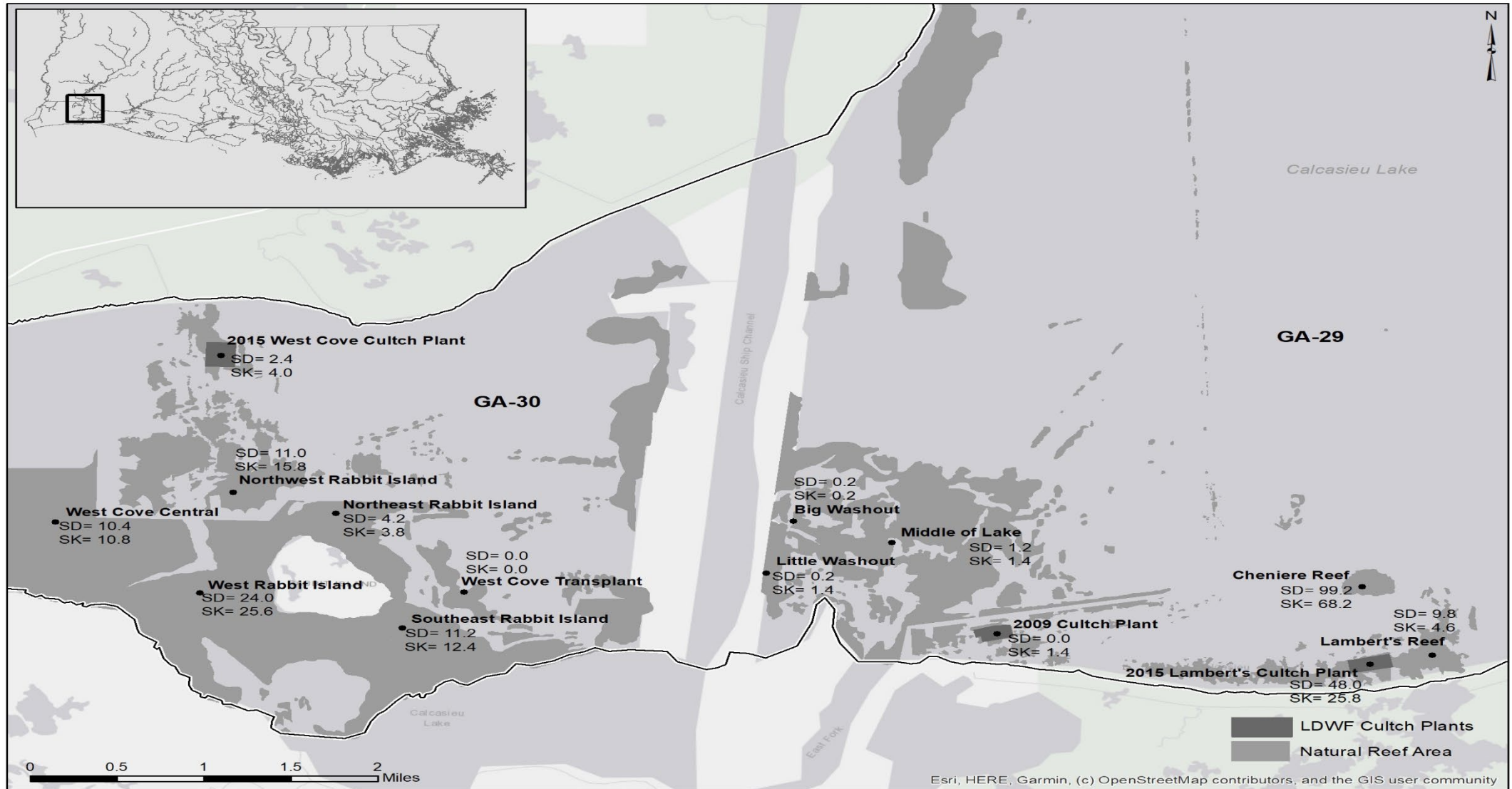
Live Oyster Size-Classes from CSA 6



CSA 7 (Calcasieu Lake)



CSA 7 (Calcasieu Lake)

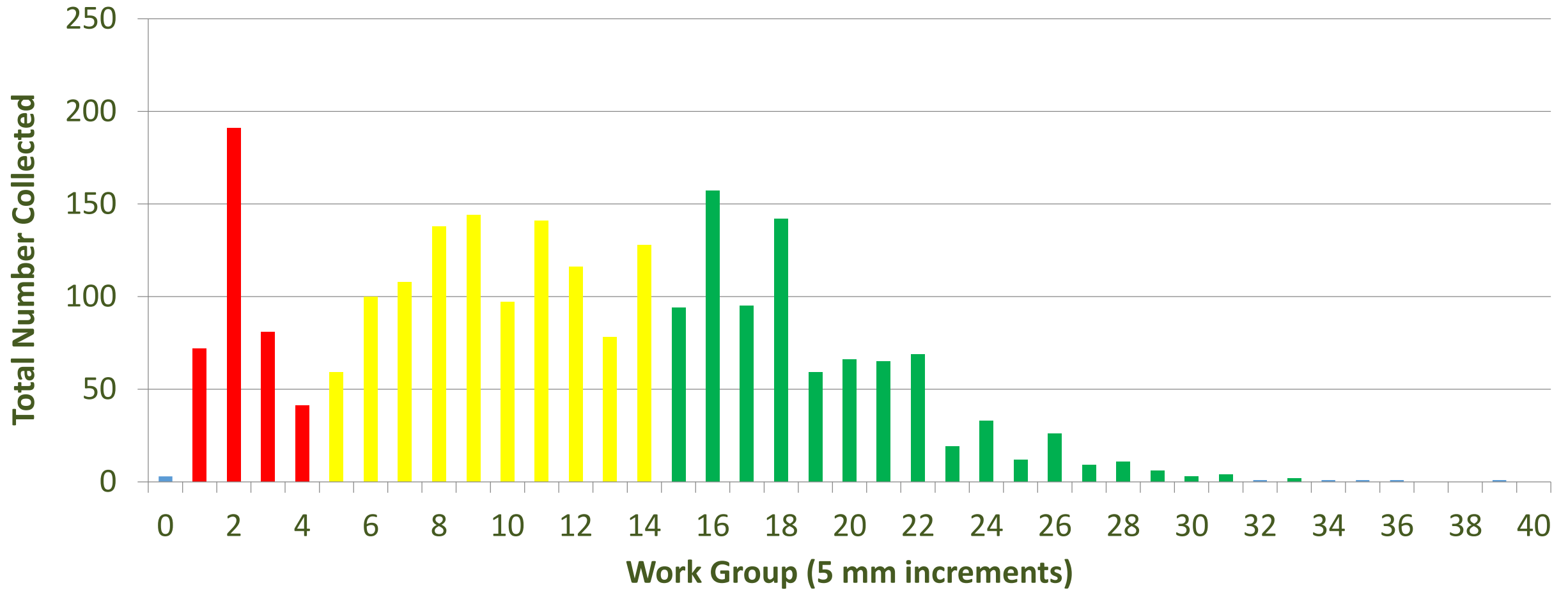


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CSA 7 (Calcasieu Lake)

Live Oysters



2024/2025 LDWF Oyster Season

Area/Public Ground	Season Date	Limit
East of MS River, North of MRGO Sacking	Open November 1, 2024 (Closes April 30, 2025)	30 sacks/vessel/day
Hackberry Bay Sacking	Open November 1, 2024 (Closes April 30, 2025)	30 sacks/vessel/day
Little Lake Sacking	Open October 14, 2024 (Closes April 30, 2025)	30 sacks/vessel/day
Bay Junop, Lake Mechant, Little Lake, Hackberry Bay, East of MS River LDH Areas 1 & 2, Bedding	Open September 23, 2024 (Closes September 25, 2024)	No more than 15% of non-living material allowed in bedding loads
Bay Junop and Lake Mechant	Open October 21, 2024 (Closes October 25, 2024)	30 sacks/vessel/day (take and possession)
Vermilion /Atchafalaya Bay Bedding	Open September 23, 2024 (Closes May 30, 2025)	No more than 15% of non-living material *LDH Permit may be required
Vermilion /Atchafalaya Bay Sacking	Open October 14, 2024 (Closes May 30, 2025)	30 sacks/vessel/day *LDH Permit may be required
Calcasieu Lake (West Cove)	Open October 15, 2024	15 sacks/vessel/day (take and possession)
Calcasieu Lake (East Side)	Open January 1, 2025	10 sacks/vessel/day (take and possession)

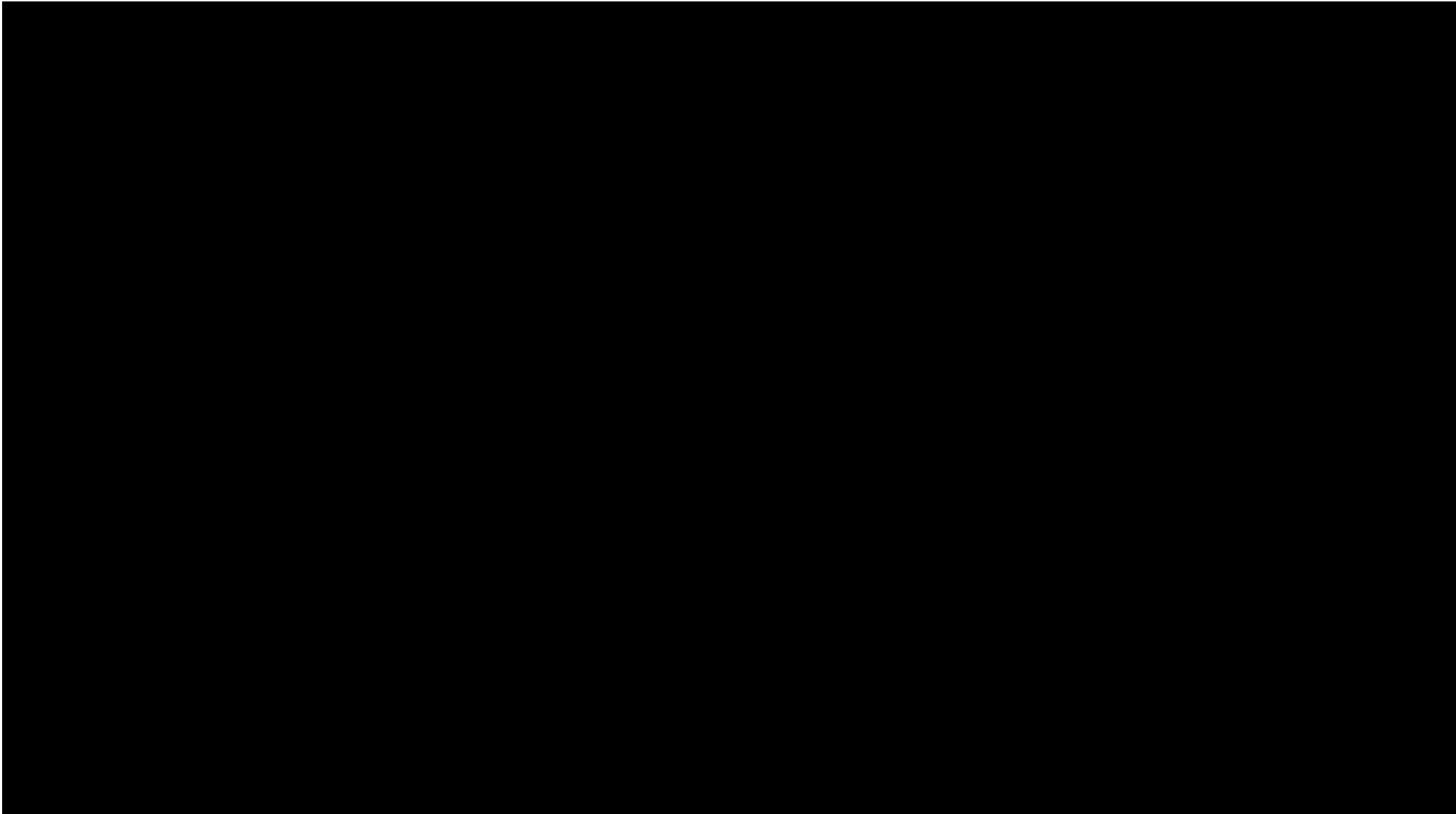


Regulations for Oyster Season Opening

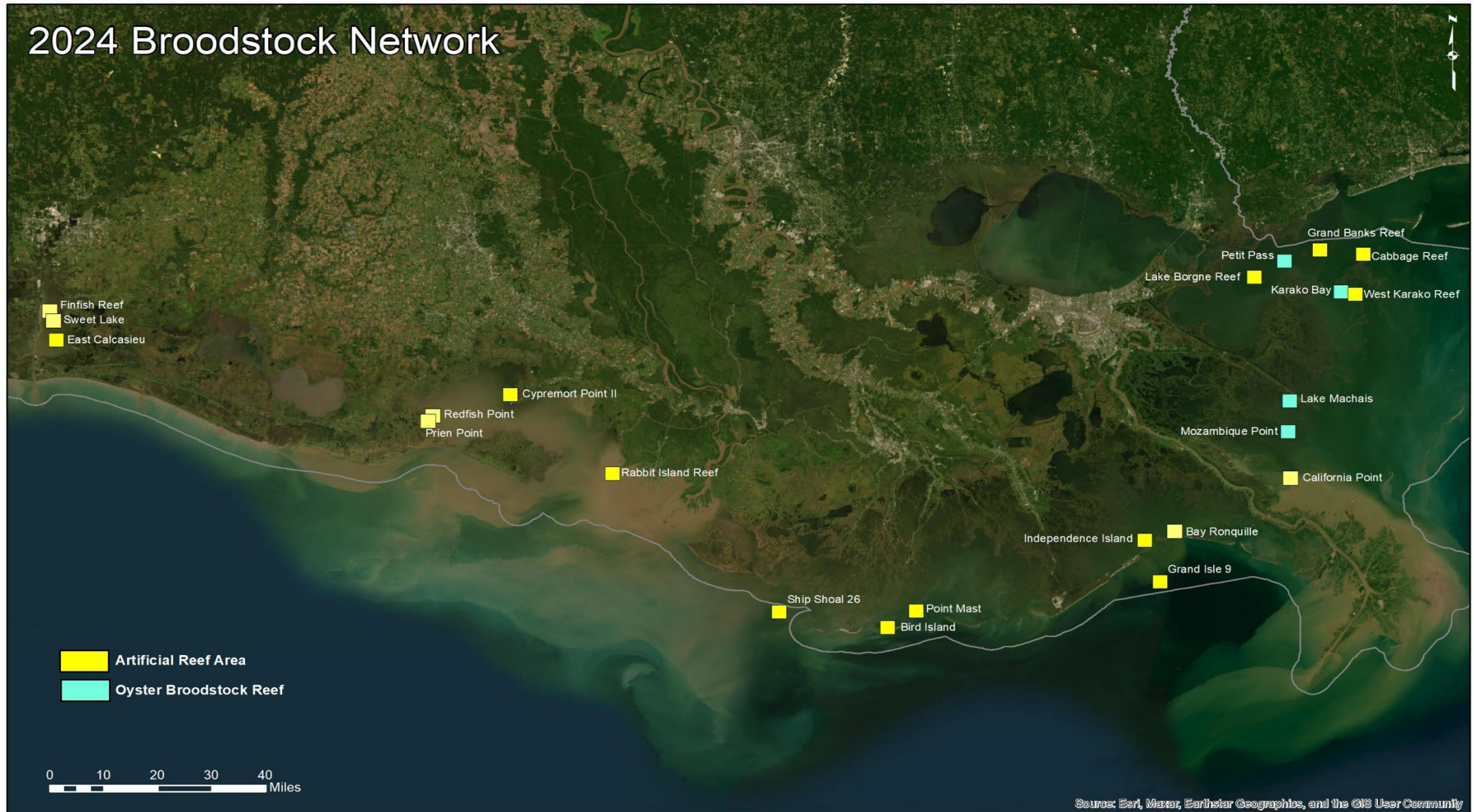
– Electronic Reporting Requirements (eReporting)

- Electronic Reporting will be done through an application by Shellcatch through your smart phone (available for Android & Apple)
- Every vessel harvesting oyster resource from the Public Oyster Areas shall report harvest information to the LDWF before 9 pm each day fished.
- Vessels shall provide the following information: Captain's name, oyster harvester number, vessel number, the total number of sacks harvested that day, total barrels of seed removed, and the public oyster area fished (LDH Harvest Area).
- The registration requires email or phone number, name, oyster harvester license number, and type of license to register. Once the account is created, a fisherman will add their vessels.

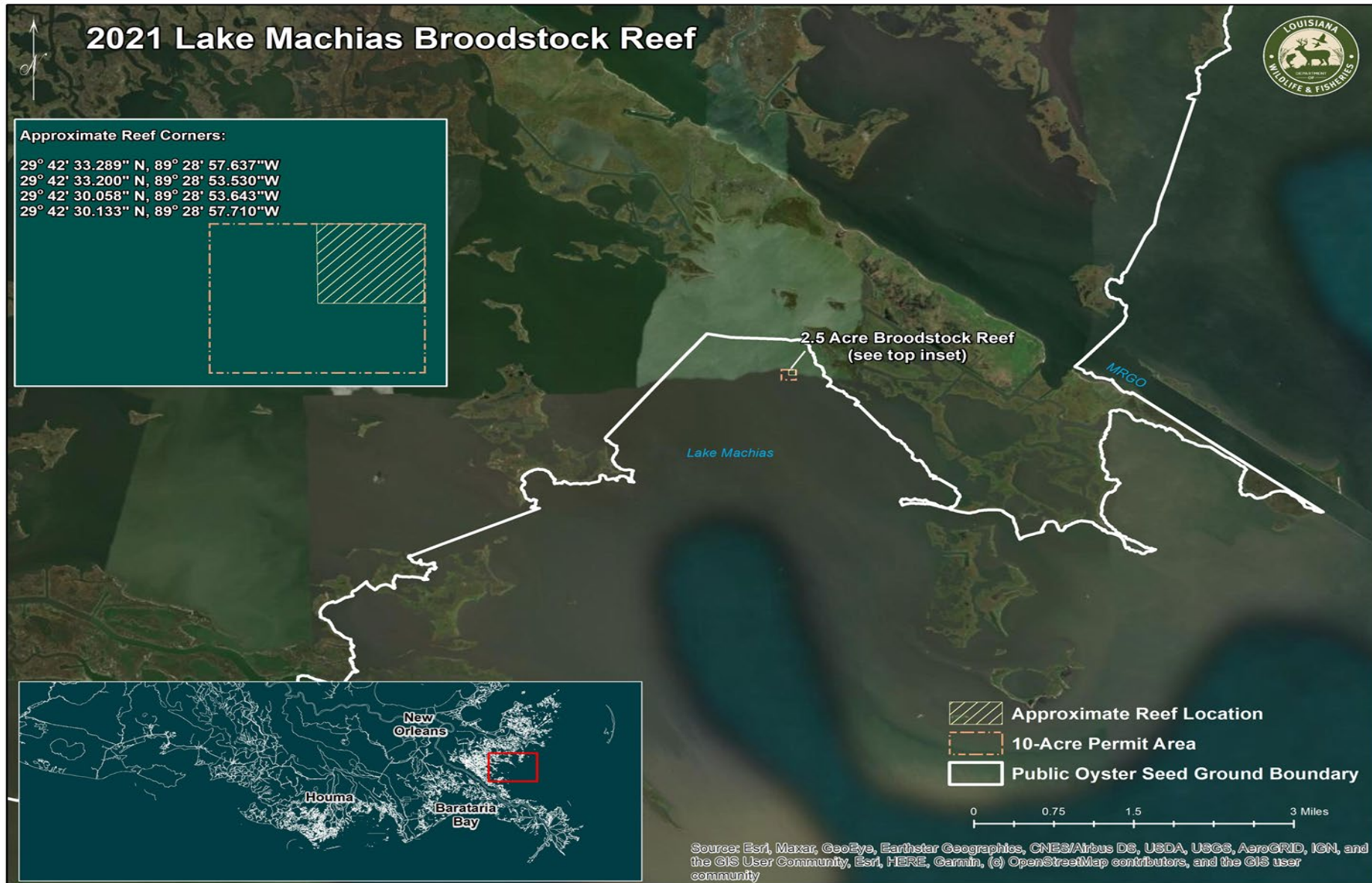
Electronic Reporting Walk-Through



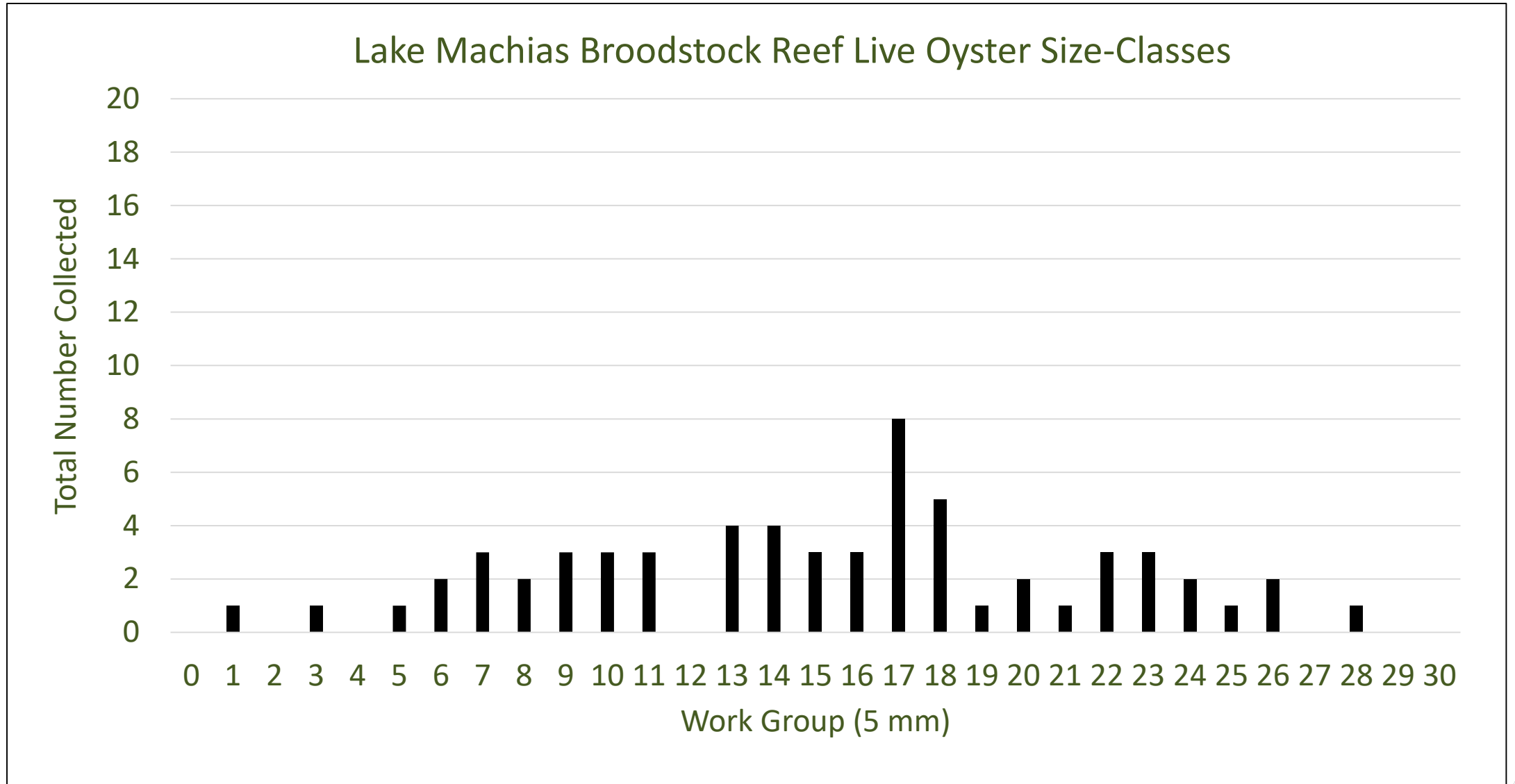
Broodstock Reef Network



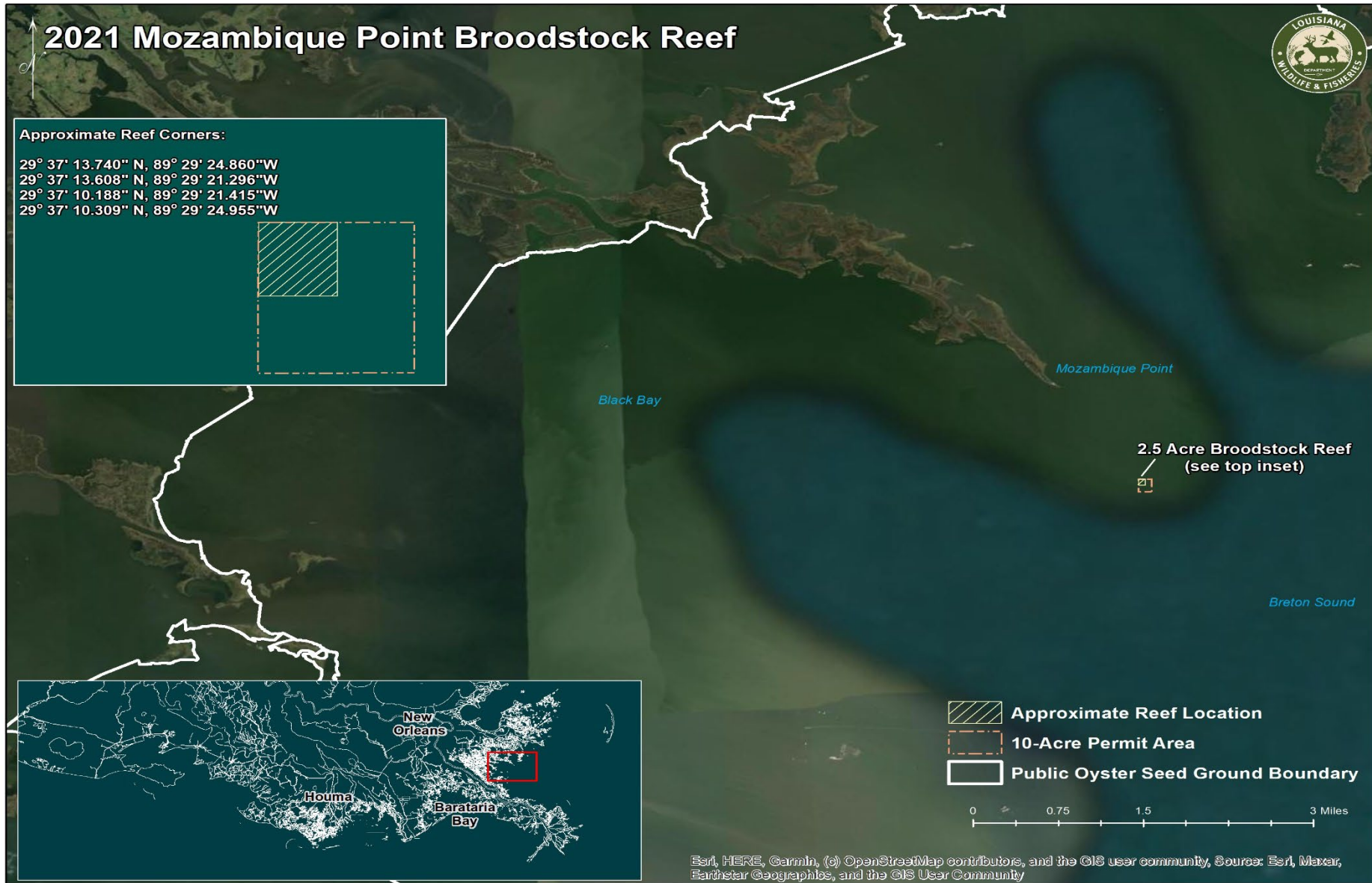
Broodstock Reef Network



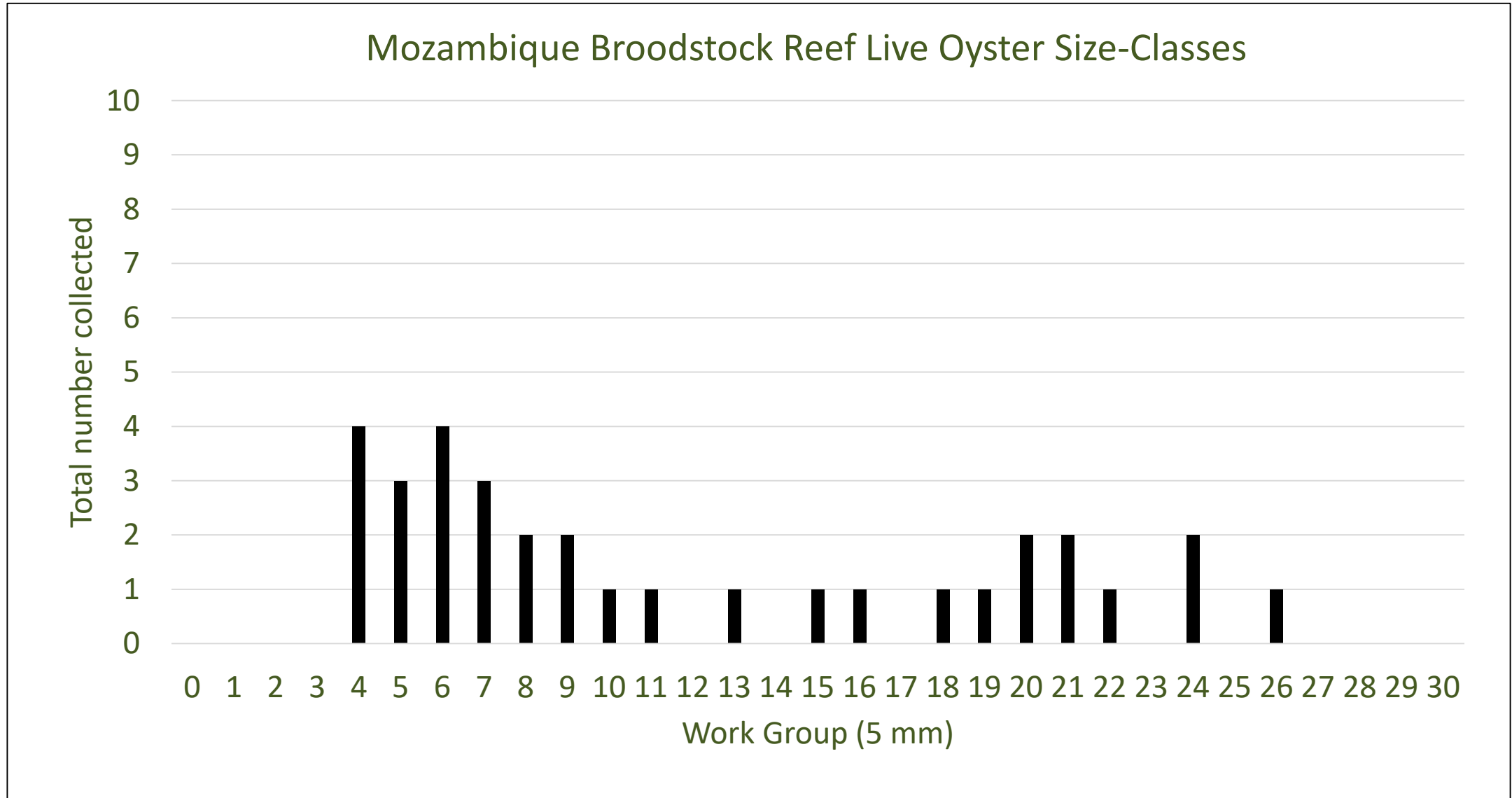
Lake Machias Broodstock Reef



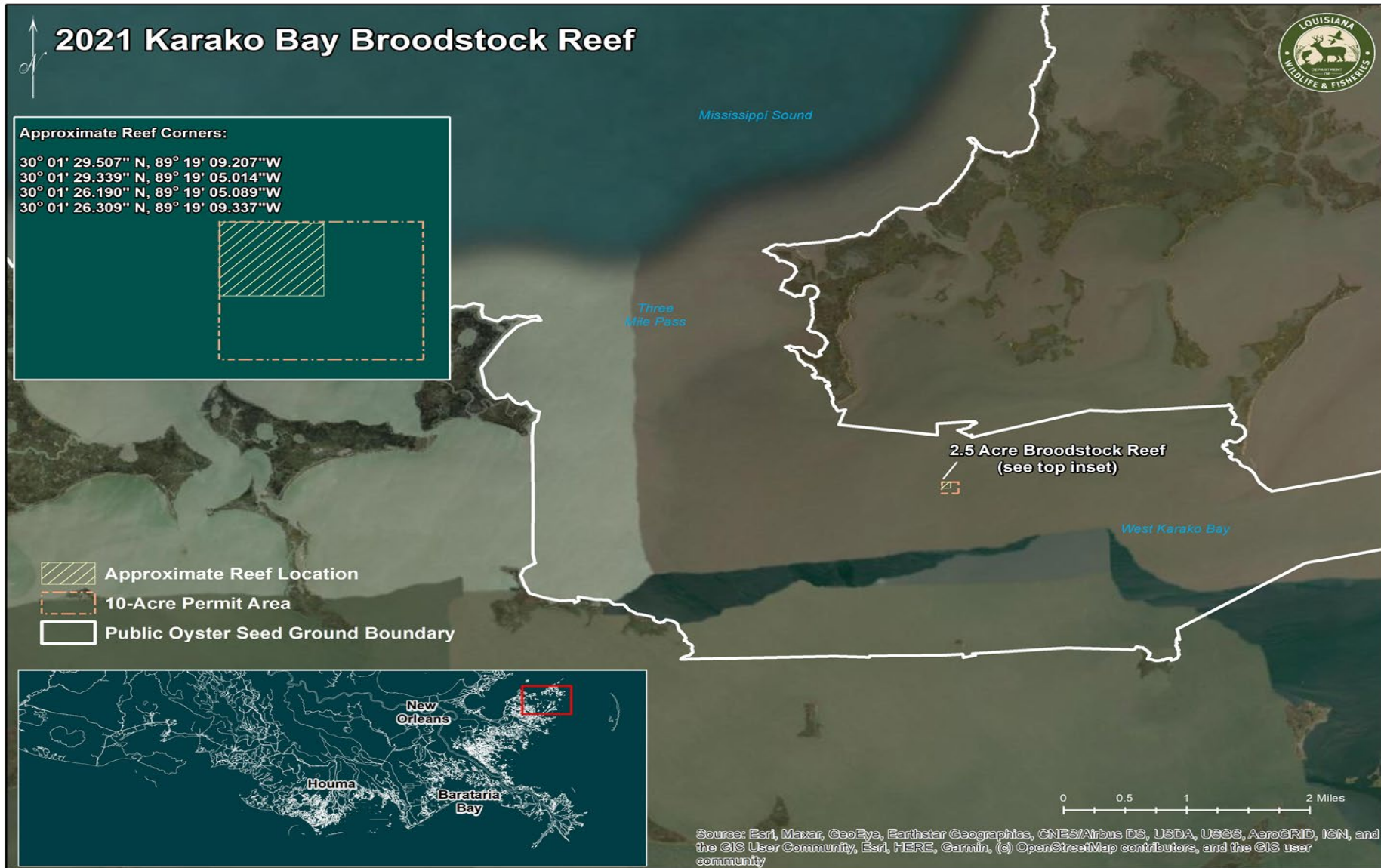
Broodstock Reef Network



Mozambique Point Broodstock Reef

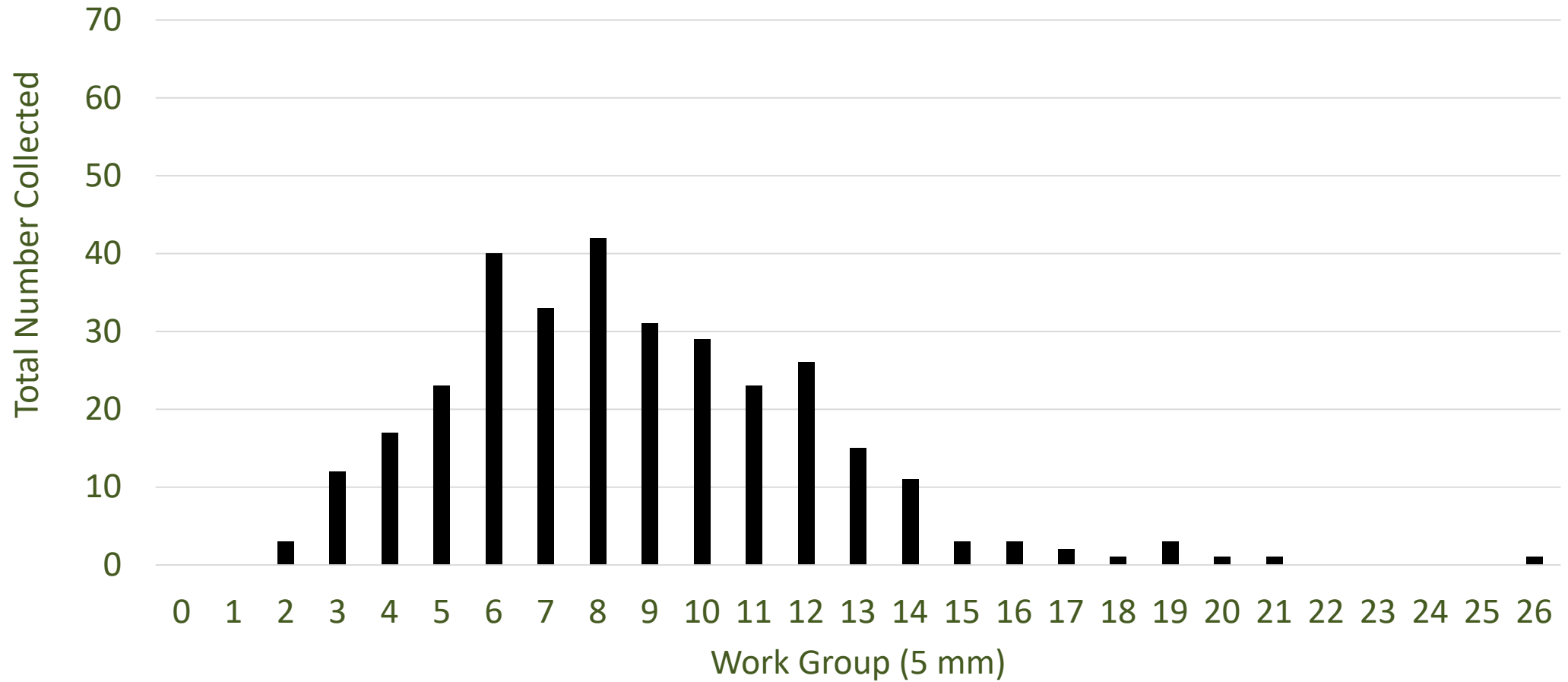


Broodstock Reef Network

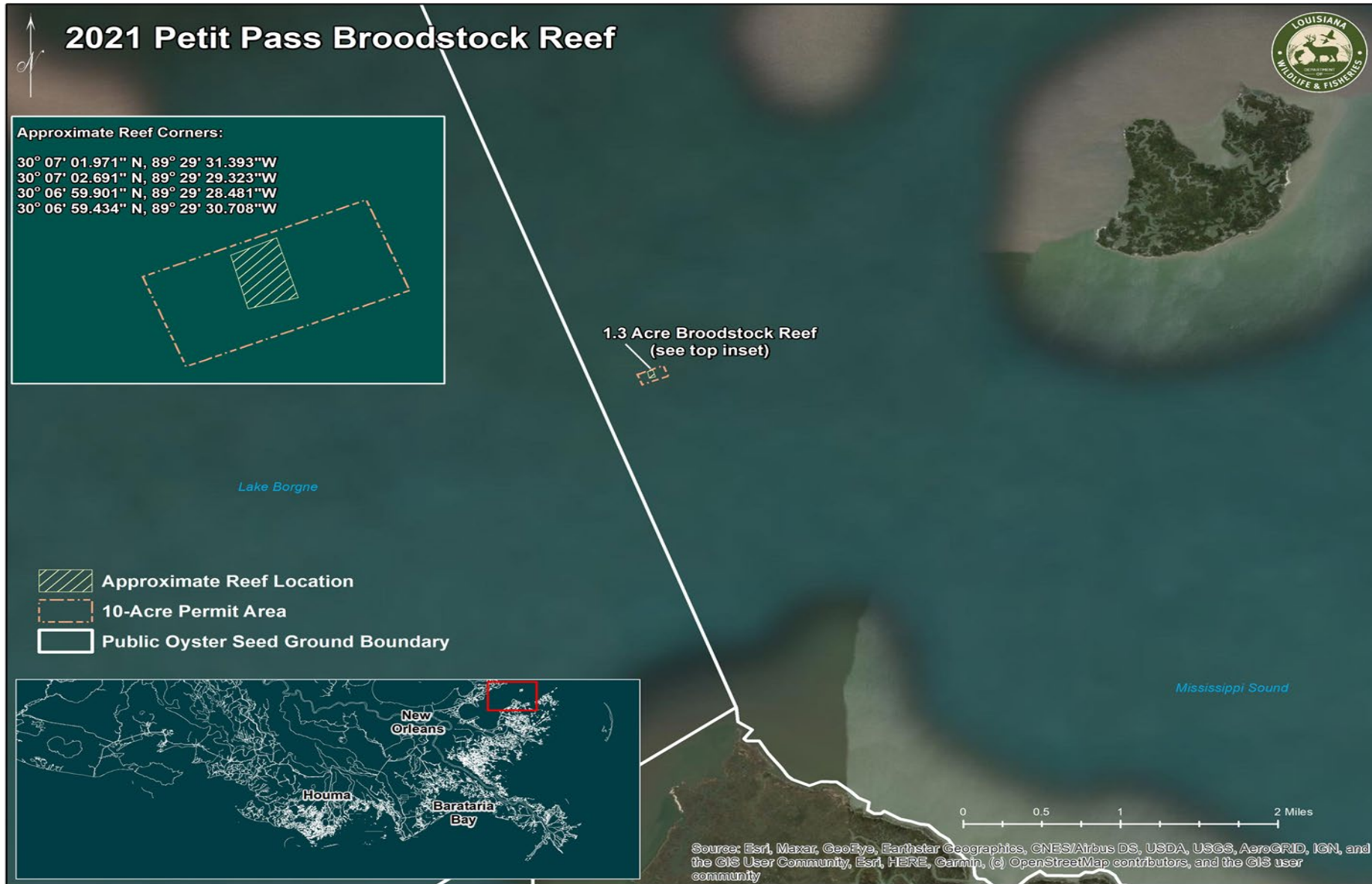


Karako Bay Broodstock Reef

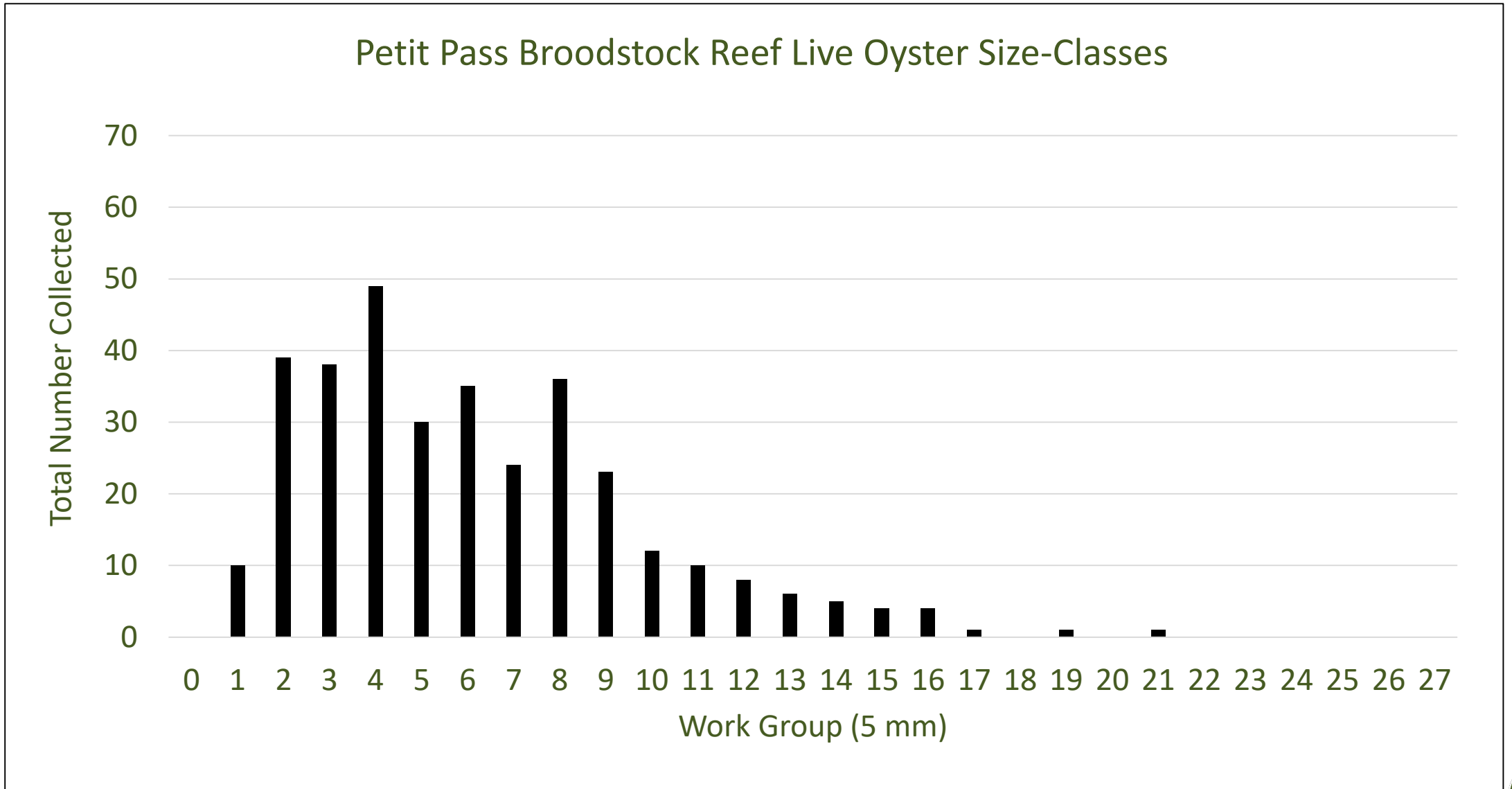
Karako Bay Broodstock Reef Live Oyster Size-Classes



Broodstock Reef Network



Petit Pass Broodstock Reef



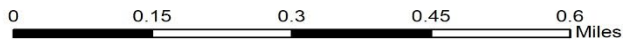
Cultch Plants (2023 Calcasieu Lake Cultch Plant)



Cultch Plants (2024 Morgan Harbor Cultch Plant)



Constructed with 2019 Flood Disaster Funds



**Morgan Harbor 2024 Cultch Plant
(288 Acres)**



Spat on Shell Operations

2023

- **Grand Isle Oyster Hatchery**
 - 122,271,598 Oyster Larvae
 - Deployed to two sites: Petit Pass Brood Reef and Independence Island Artificial Reef
 - SOS & Microcultch
 - 6,181,104 oysters deployed
 - 13.6 cubic yards of reef
- **Contractor**
 - 1,833 cubic yards over 20 acres
 - 32,603,571 oysters deployed

2024

- **Grand Isle Oyster Hatchery**
 - 54,037,666 Oyster Larvae
 - Deployed to four sites: Lake Machias Brood Reef, Lake Borgne Artificial Reef, West Karako Artificial Reef, 2018 Lake Fortuna CP
 - SOS & Microcultch
 - 7,224,467 oysters deployed
 - 47.68 cubic yards of reef
- **Contractor**
 - 2,000 cubic yards over 50 acres
 - In Progress...

Leveraging Opportunities and Strategic Partnerships to Advance Tolerant Oysters for Restoration (LOSPAT)



- Mozambique Point Brood Reef
 - September 2023
 - Low-salinity tolerant study survivor offspring
 - 2,380,000 oysters deployed
- Karako Bay Brood Reef
 - July 2024
 - 600,000 (HBV) oysters deployed
 - 56 cubic yards of cultch

Questions?



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rcaballero@wlf.la.gov