Biological Sampling Update
from the
Louisiana Public Oyster Areas

Office of Fisheries – Fisheries Division

Louisiana Oyster Task Force
March 19, 2013
Historical Louisiana Oyster Landings

LTA = 11.06 million lbs.

2012 is preliminary data.
Historical Louisiana Oyster Stock Size

NOTE: 1994-2004 includes CSA I data revision
*2010 to present data includes Sabine Lake data.
Error bars denote standard error

Data Preliminary - Subject to Change
2012 Statewide Oyster Availability

2012 Stock Assessment Quick Facts
• Overall decrease in availability by 19%
• MS Sound area had large increases in seed and market
• Black Bay area nearly devoid of harvestable quantities
• Sister Lake had large decreases in both seed and market
• Sabine Lake holds 58% of total statewide stock
Coastal Study Area 1-South (South of MRGO)

- 100% of 2,585 spat collected in late September 2012 were from closure area (6 sample sites)
- 99.6% of 642 spat collected in late October 2012 were from closure area (6 sample sites)
- 52%, 27%, and 36% spat mortality in Dec, Jan, Feb, respectively

- Seed present in February samples, but in low amounts
- Seed mortality also elevated
- Very few market-size oysters
Other Areas

**CSA 1-North (MS Sound Area)**
- sampling has shown no obvious issues, but low numbers of oysters in samples

**CSA 3 (Hackberry Bay)**
- sampling has shown some elevated spat mortalities in August and November

**CSA 5 (Sister Lake) and 6 (Vermilion Bay)**
- Sampling has indicated no obvious issues

**CSA 7 (Calcasieu and Sabine Lakes)**
- sampling has indicated continued low oyster numbers in the traditional harvest area on the east side of Calcasieu Lake
- Sabine Lake sampling has indicated healthy oyster population
Calcasieu Lake – February 2013 Sampling

Calcasieu Lake (1,2,3)

Work Group (5 mm increments)

Total Number Collected

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40

150 100 50 0

East Side Harvest Area (1)

Work Group (5 mm increments)

Total Number Collected

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40

0 50 100 150

West Cove (3)

Work Group (5 mm increments)

Total Number Collected

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40

150 100 50 0

East Side of Calcasieu Lake (2)

Work Group (5 mm increments)

Total Number Collected

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40

0 50 100 150

3/19/2013
Data Preliminary - Subject to Change
Summary

- Positive signs of rebound observed in September/October 2012 in CSA 1-South now greatly diminished recruitment.
- Calcasieu Lake east side harvest area continues to show little
- Although stocks remain low, other areas are showing positive signs of oyster recruitment and oyster survival.
QUESTIONS?