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2000/2001 - OYSTER DATA REPORT

Series No. 6

2000 AND 1999 SQUARE METER NUMBERS

PREPARED BY:

RONALD J. DUGAS

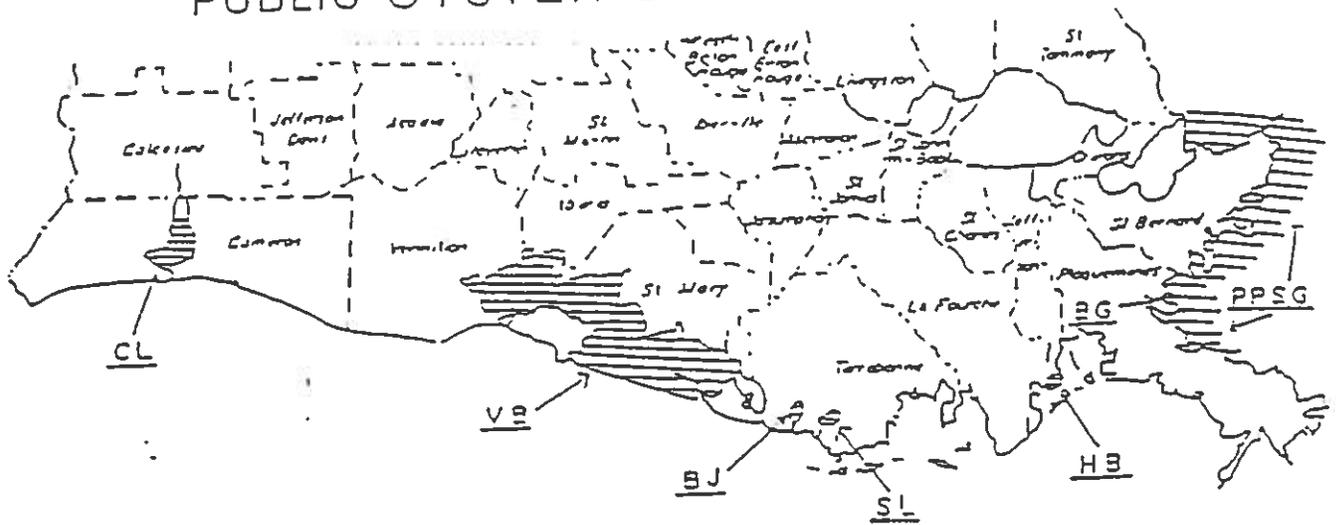
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

August 2000

Introduction

In Louisiana, there are almost 2 million acres of public reef/seed grounds, although only a relatively small portion of this area has the hard bottom substrate necessary for the existence of oysters. These public reefs are opened each year in the fall and winter both to lessees who may wish to transplant oysters to their leases and to other fishermen who may wish to harvest oysters and bring them directly to market. Each year in the summer biological samples (Figure 3) are taken on these reefs and the results used to make recommendations as to opening and closing of areas to harvest and to advise the oyster industry on the availability of oysters on these reefs.

PUBLIC OYSTER SEED GROUNDS



LEGEND

- PPSG—PRIMARY OYSTER SEED GROUNDS
- BG—BAY GARDENS OYSTER SEED RESERVATION
- HB—HACKBERRY BAY OYSTER SEED RESERVATION
- SL—SISTER LAKE OYSTER SEED RESERVATION
- BJ—BAY DU POP OYSTER SEED RESERVATION
- VB—VERMILION BAY OYSTER SEED GROUNDS
- CL—CALCASIEU LAKE PUBLIC TONGING GROUNDS

Figure 1. Louisiana Public Oyster Seed Grounds, Oyster Seed Reservation and Public Tonging Grounds.

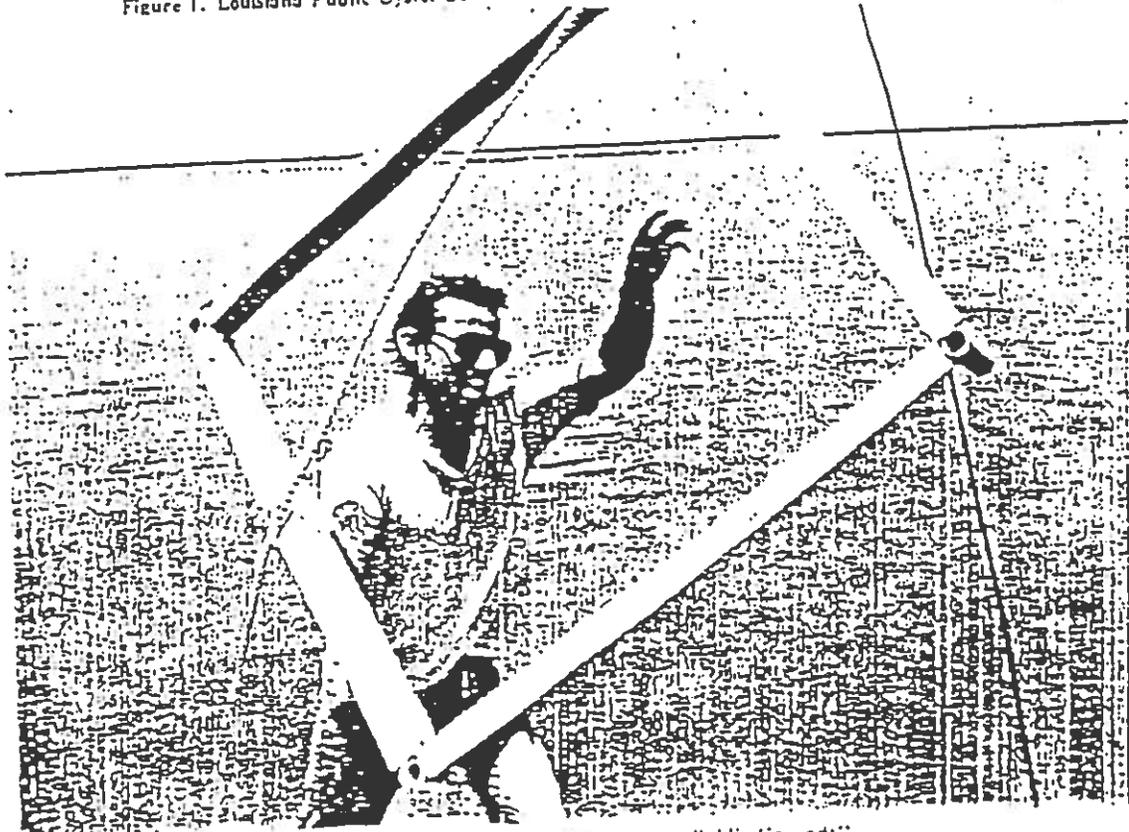


Figure 2. Meter square sampling for oyster densities on the "Public Grounds".

JULY 1999 M² SAMPLES

AND

STOCK ASSESSMENT

1999 CSA 1 Meter Square Results Revised

Station Name	Station Number	Reef Acreage	Reef Sq. Meters	Avg per frame		Bbls Seed	BblsSack	spat	mussels	drills present
				seed	sack					
Hospital	1	376.07	1,521,955.29	0	0	0	0			
Grassy	2	6850.17	27,722,638.00	8.5	8.5					
Halfmoon	3			7	5.5					
Petit	4			14	0					
	2-4			9.83	4.67	378,619	359,368			
3 Mile	5	3058.65	12,378,356.55	7	3	120,345	103,153			
Grand Pass	6	1801.76	7,291,722.72	1.5	0.5					
Cabbage	7			2.5	10					
Turkey	11			9	5					
	6-11			4.33	5.17	43,885	104,650			
Martin Is	9	4155.7	16,818,117.90	0	0					
Holmes Is	10			0	0					
	9-10			0.00	0.00	0	0			
2000 SP	12	70	283,290	0	0	0	0			

Total		542,850	567,170
Combined Total		1,110,020	

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
1600 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504)568-5667

M.J. "Mike" Foster
Governor

July 13, 1999

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ron Dugas, Oyster Program Manager

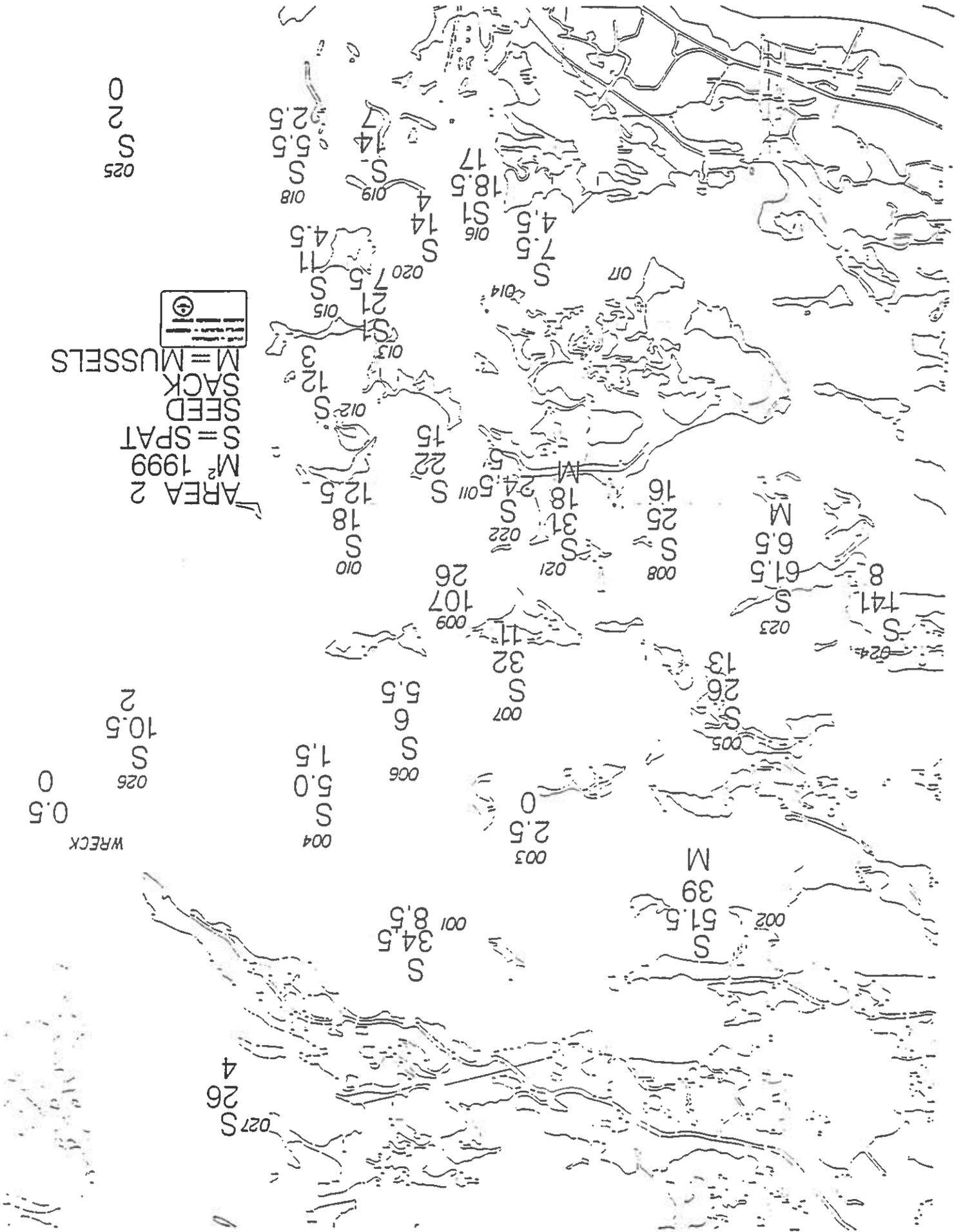
FROM: Clarence Luque, Biologist Supervisor
Coastal Study Area II

SUBJECT: CSA II Meter Square Samples 1999

Personnel from Coastal Study Area II and the Marine Lab completed the 1999 meter square sampling project on June 23, 1999. A total of 28 stations were sampled from Bay Gardane and Northern Black Bay to Breton Sound. The stock assessment for seed oysters was up by 166,670 barrels, and sack oyster availability was up by 217,076 barrels. While the availability increased from last year and we are still above the long term averages, we are about half the availability from the peak years of 94, 95, and 96. We found 1,691,020 barrels of seed oysters and 994,754 barrels of sack oysters. Ample seed oysters were found at most reef west of Stone Island, and were more abundant at West Stone Island, and Bay Gardane. Sack oysters appear to be more numerous at: Bayou Lost, West Stone Island, Bay Crabe, and upper California Bay.

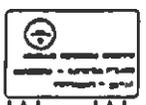
Mussels were encountered at all stations except 28, the wreck, and 25, Battledore Reef. This may be misleading, since only stations 2, and 23 in Bay Gardane had a severe infestation. Counts were made at each station (see attachment) and reported herein.

Assessment by station are presented in tabular form (see table). A map of spat, seed, and sack oysters is included.



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0.2 S
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AREA 2
M² 1999
S = SPAT
SEED
SACK
M = MUSSELS



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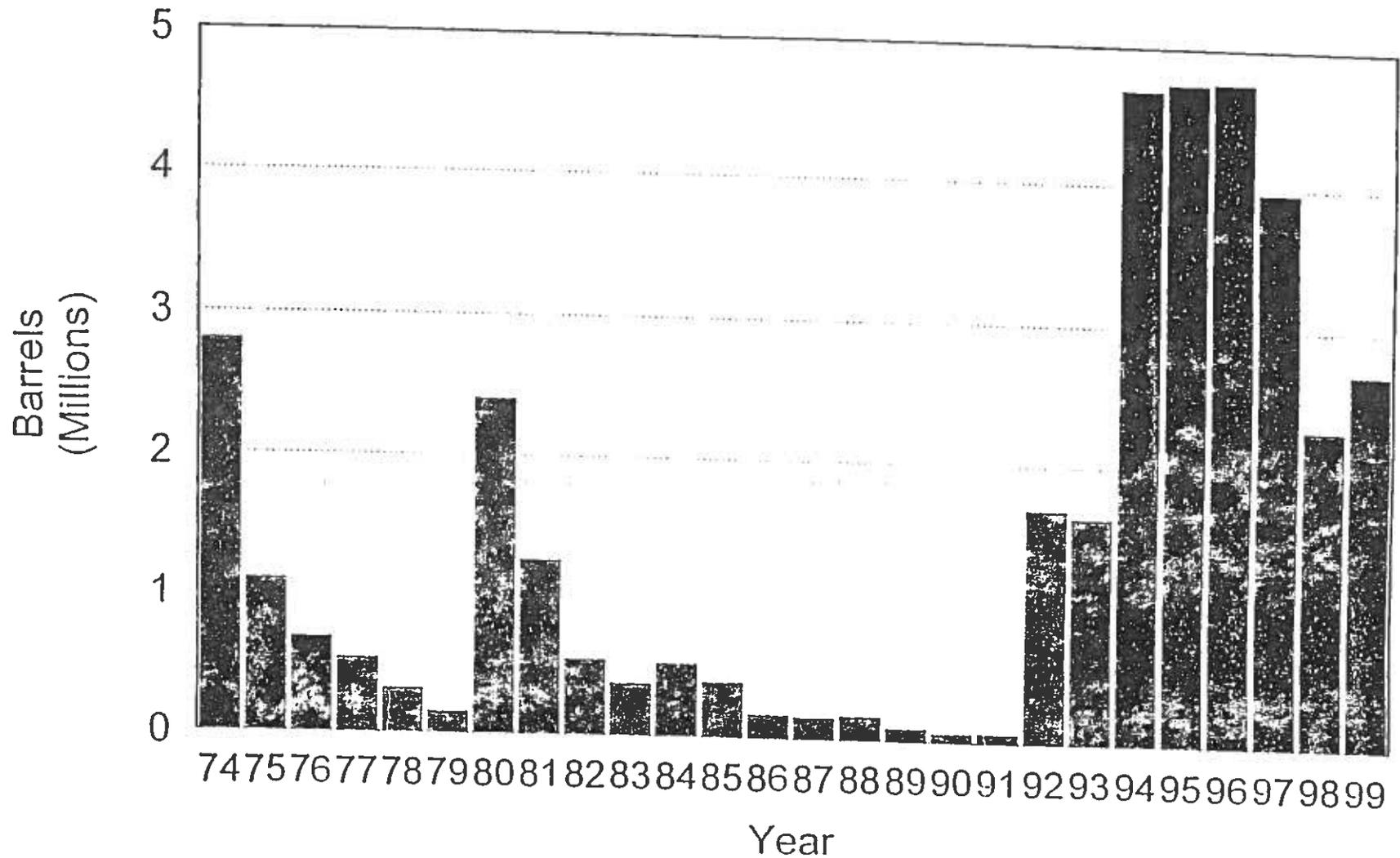
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1999 Meter Square Samples

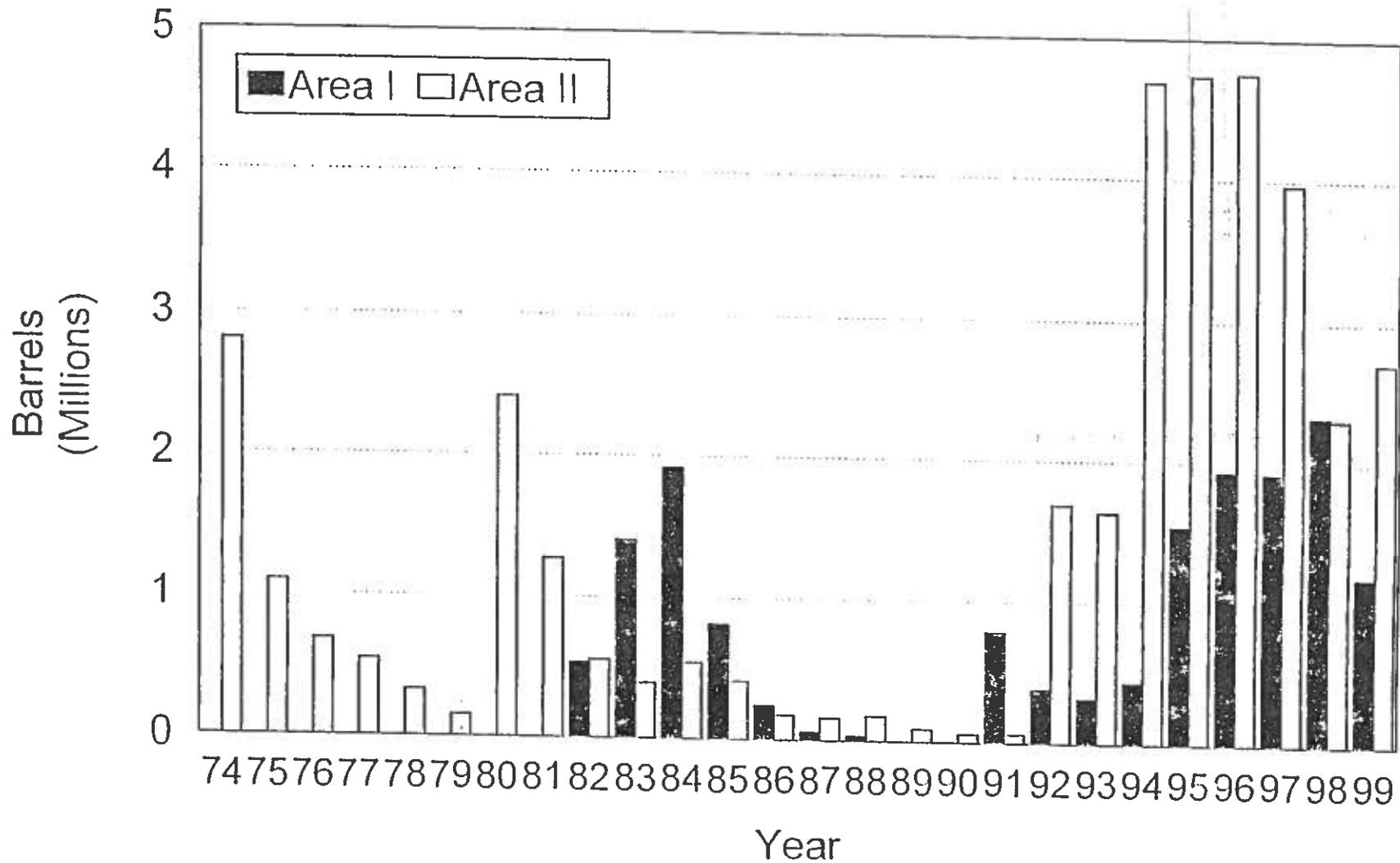
Station	Grids	Acres	Sq Meters	Seed	Sack	Bbls Seed	Bbls Sack
1	1,2,3,4,8,9, 10	506	2,047,782	34.5	8.5	98,123	48,350
2	7,6,5,11, 12	59	283,773	51.5	39.0	20,298	30,742
3	3,14,15	896	3,626,112	2.5	0.0	12,591	0
5	17,18,25,24	118	477,546	26.0	13.0	17,245	17,245
6	20,21,16	716	2,897,652	6.0	5.5	24,147	44,270
7	19,26,27	301	1,218,147	32.0	11.0	54,140	37,221
8	31,36,32	501	2,027,547	25.0	16.0	70,401	90,113
9	33,34,35	461	1,865,667	107.0	25.5	277,259	132,151
10	40,44	145	586,815	18.0	12.5	14,870	20,376
11	42,43,46	339	1,371,933	21.5	14.5	40,967	55,258
12	47	425	1,719,975	12.0	3.0	28,666	14,333
13	50,51	109	441,123	21.0	7.5	12,866	9,190
14	48,49	7	28,329	7.5	4.5	295	354
16	62,63,64	174	704,178	18.5	17.0	18,093	33,253
17	Private Lease		Recalculate			0	0
19	65,66,67,68	937	3,792,039	14.0	7.0	73,734	73,734
20	56,58	293	1,185,771	14.0	4.0	23,057	13,175
21	37,38,41	659	2,666,973	31.0	18.0	114,828	153,349
22	39	122	493,734	24.5	5.0	16,801	6,857
23	30,23	28	113,316	61.5	6.5	9,679	2,046
24	22,29	69	279,243	141.0	8.0	54,685	6,205
4,25	Horseshoe	315	1,274,805	15.5	1.5	27,444	5,312
15	Outside	127	513,969	11.0	4.5	7,852	6,425
18	Outside	1,528	3,164,754	5.5	2.5	24,175	21,977
25	Battledore	1419	5,742,693	2.0	0.0	15,952	0
27	L Fortuna	4288	17,353,536	26.0	4.0	626,655	192,817
28	Wreck	2276	9,210,972	0.5	0.0	6,397	0
Subtotal						1,691,020	994,754
Total						2,685,774	

Oysters Available on the Public Grounds in Coastal Study Area II (Seed and Sack Oysters Combined)



Oysters Available on the Public Grounds East of the Mississippi River

(Seed and Sack Oysters Combined)



State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(504)765-2800

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

Date: June 14, 1999
To: Ron Dugas, Molluscan Programs Manager, Marine Fisheries
From: Randall B. Pausina, Acting Biologist Supervisor, CSA III *RBP 6521*
Subject: 1998-99 Hackberry Bay Square Meter Report

The yearly square meter samples were taken on June 3rd, 1999. One sample and two replicates per station were taken at three stations (upper, mid, and lower). Fig. 1 shows the size ranges of oysters sampled at each of the three stations in 1999. Oysters are classified as: < work group 5 (spat), work groups 5 to 14 (seed), and > work group 14 (sack). Work groups are broken into 5 mm groups. Fig. 2 shows mid and lower stations data for 1999 compared to recent years data. Fig. 3 breaks down the catch into their classifications mentioned above. The upper station is omitted in Figs. 2 and 3 because it is part of a cultch study started in 1994 and would not provide comparable data. The data from the square meter samples for 1999 extrapolates out to 2,396 barrels of seed oysters and 839 sacks of marketable oysters.

Dredge samples for 1999 revealed that oysters are in good health in Hackberry Bay. The data revealed 90% or better live oysters for March, April, and May at each size classification.

The data collected from Hackberry Bay over the last four years supports the oyster fisher's feeling that a new supply of cultch material is needed. With the Davis Pond fresh water diversion project coming on line soon, a shell plant could be placed over the 450 acre 1973 shell plant site or on a mitigation reef to the southeast. These sites provide water bottom and water salinity conducive to oyster reproduction and growth which will keep the Hackberry Bay Seed Reservation productive into the 21st century.

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 189
Bourg, Louisiana 70345
(504)594-4130
June 25, 1999

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

Memorandum

To: Ron Dugas, Programs Manager

From: Martin Bourgeois ^{MB} and Paul Meier ^{PM}

Subject: CSA-V Meter Square Oyster Samples/1999 Stock Assessments

With assistance from Coastal Study Area III personnel, all meter square field sampling associated with the 1999 oyster stock assessment of public reefs in Coastal Study Area V was completed on June 9-10, 1999. A total of 14 stations, 9 in Sister Lake (including the 1994 and 1995 shell plants) and 5 in Bay Junop were sampled with one additional replicate made at each station.

The 1999 stock assessment conducted in Sister Lake indicates an overall increase in oyster stock size from 1998 levels (see tables and figures) with totals of 452,991 barrels of seed oysters and 301,321 barrels of sack oysters available for harvest. Stock levels of legal market size "sack" oysters have declined slightly while stock levels of seed oysters have significantly increased. With the exception of the Camp 1995 shell plant and to a lesser extent the North 1995 shell plant, all shell plants as well as reefs within Sister Lake experienced increases in stock size. Results from the current Sister Lake assessment of shell plant stocks (combined acreage) indicate 254,317 barrels of seed and 170,367 barrels of sack oysters available for harvest, representing a 28% increase in seed oyster and 33% decrease in sack oyster availability from 1998 shell plant stock levels. Likewise, oyster stock levels over natural reefs within Sister Lake indicate 198,674 barrels of seed and 130,954 barrels of sack oysters available for harvest, increases of 47% and 56%, respectively from 1998 stock levels. The current ratio of seed to sack oyster availability within Sister Lake (1.5-1.0), although largely erratic between years, compares poorly with values of 1.0-1.0 and 0.9-1.0 calculated in the 1997 and 1998 assessments.

While stock size in Sister Lake has increased from 1998 levels, stock size has decreased in Bay Junop over the same period. Results from the 1999 Bay Junop stock assessment indicate 63,010 barrels of seed and 28,764 barrels of sack oysters available for harvest; a respective increase and decrease of 17% and 68% from 1998 stock levels. The current ratio of seed to sack oyster availability found within Bay Junop (2.2-1.0) also compares poorly with identical levels of 0.6-1.0 calculated in the 1997 and 1998 assessments.

The total number of hooked mussels were recorded from all samples and replicates. Overall, biofouling

rates of hooked mussels in Sister Lake increased slightly from rates measured in the 1998 assessment while fouling rates in Bay Junop declined from 1998 levels. The frequency distribution of hooked mussels varied significantly between stations with generally higher fouling rates associated with increased salinity. Highest fouling rates were observed in the South 1994 and Camp 1995 shell plants, as well as mid Bay Junop at Hell Hole Bayou, with the largest proportional increase noted in samples collected in Bay Junop at Buckskin Bayou. Increased fouling rates were observed at stations with greater oyster densities and highest fouling rates were associated with clustered oysters.

Average monthly May and June salinity in Sister Lake increased significantly from levels recorded in previous years, however water temperatures have remained at or below seasonal norms during both months. Likewise, average salinity in Bay Junop during May and June also increased from previous years while water temperatures displayed trends similar to those observed in Sister Lake.

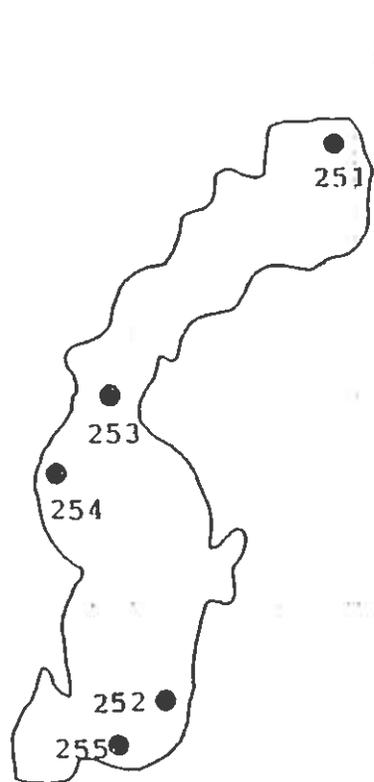
Approximately 30-40 live oysters from north and south Sister Lake and Bay Junop were collected by divers and forwarded to Dr. Tom Soniat at Nicholls State University for "dermo" analysis. Results of the analysis indicate significant increases from recent years in the percentage of infection observed in the samples.

Station	Salinity	Temperature	Percent Infection	Weighed Incidence
Grand Pass (North Sister Lake)	10.2 ppt	28.7°C	90%	1.00
Old Camp (South Sister Lake)	19.0 ppt	29.1°C	100%	1.10
Buckskin Bayou (North Bay Junop)	9.3 ppt	27.7°C	20%	0.13
Bayou DeWest (South Bay Junop)	14.7 ppt	28.7°C	70%	1.40

Tables and figures depicting the 1999 Sister Lake and Bay Junop stock assessments are presented as follows.

cc: Karen Foote
 Claude Boudreaux

COASTAL STUDY AREA 5 METER SQUARE SAMPLE STATIONS



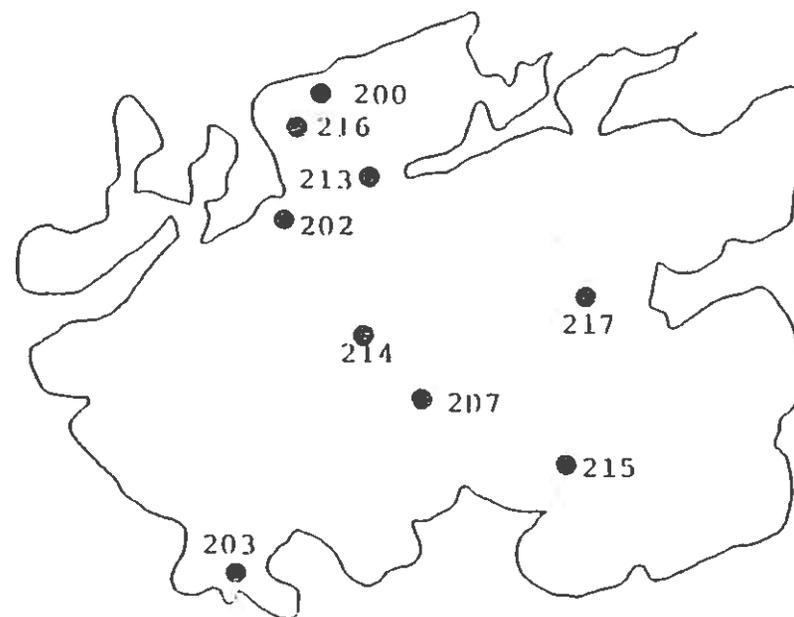
BAY JUNOP

Station Location

- 251 = Buchskin Bayou
- 252 = Rat Bayou
- 253 = Mid Bay Junop
- 254 = Hell Hole Bayou
- 255 = Bayou de West



5 miles



SISTER LAKE

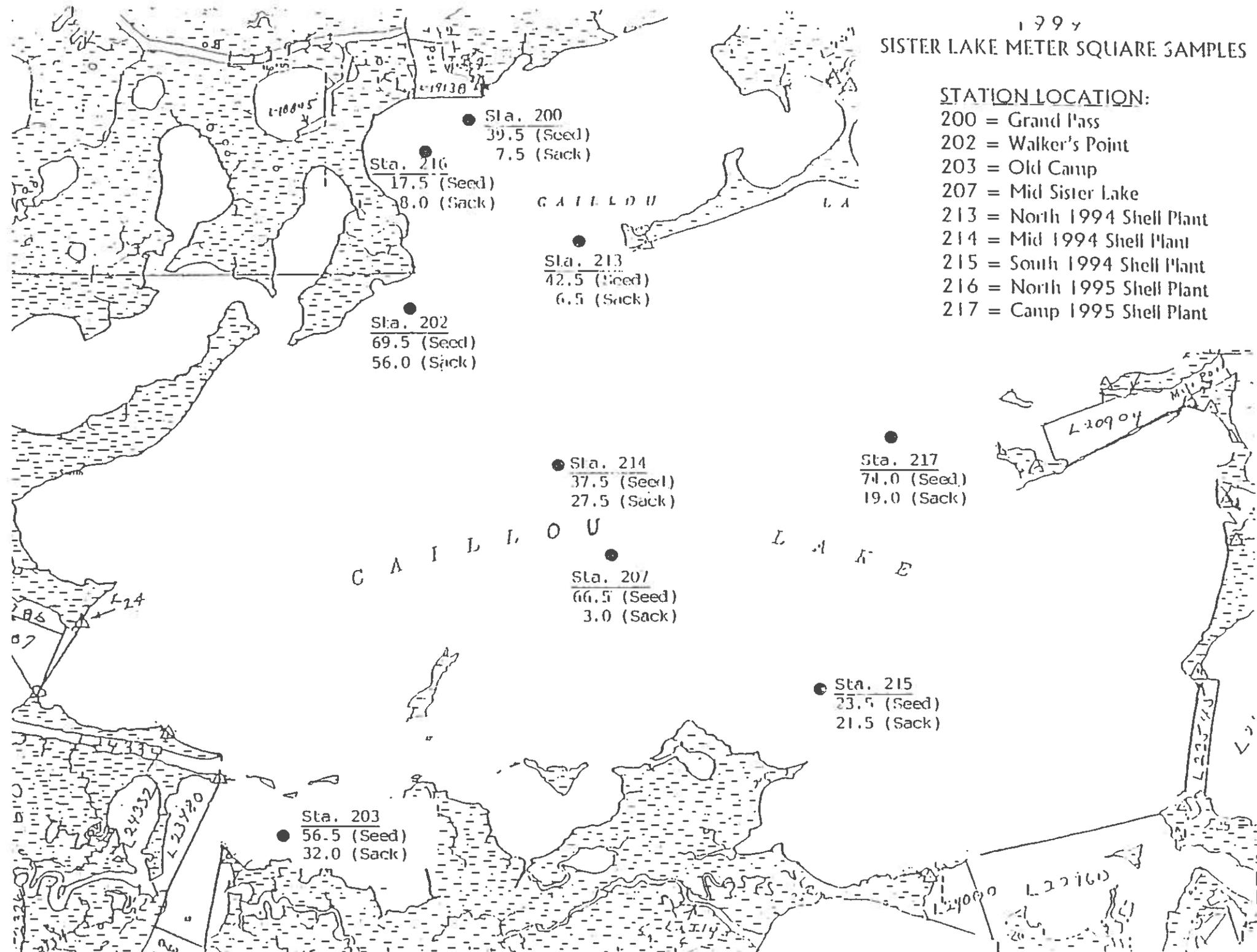
Station Location

- 200 = Grand Pass
- 202 = Walker's Point
- 203 = Old Camp
- 207 = Mid Sister Lake
- 213 = North 1994 Shell Plant
- 214 = Mid 1994 Shell Plant
- 215 = South 1994 Shell Plant
- 216 = North 1995 Shell Plant
- 217 = Camp 1995 Shell Plant

1994
SISTER LAKE METER SQUARE SAMPLES

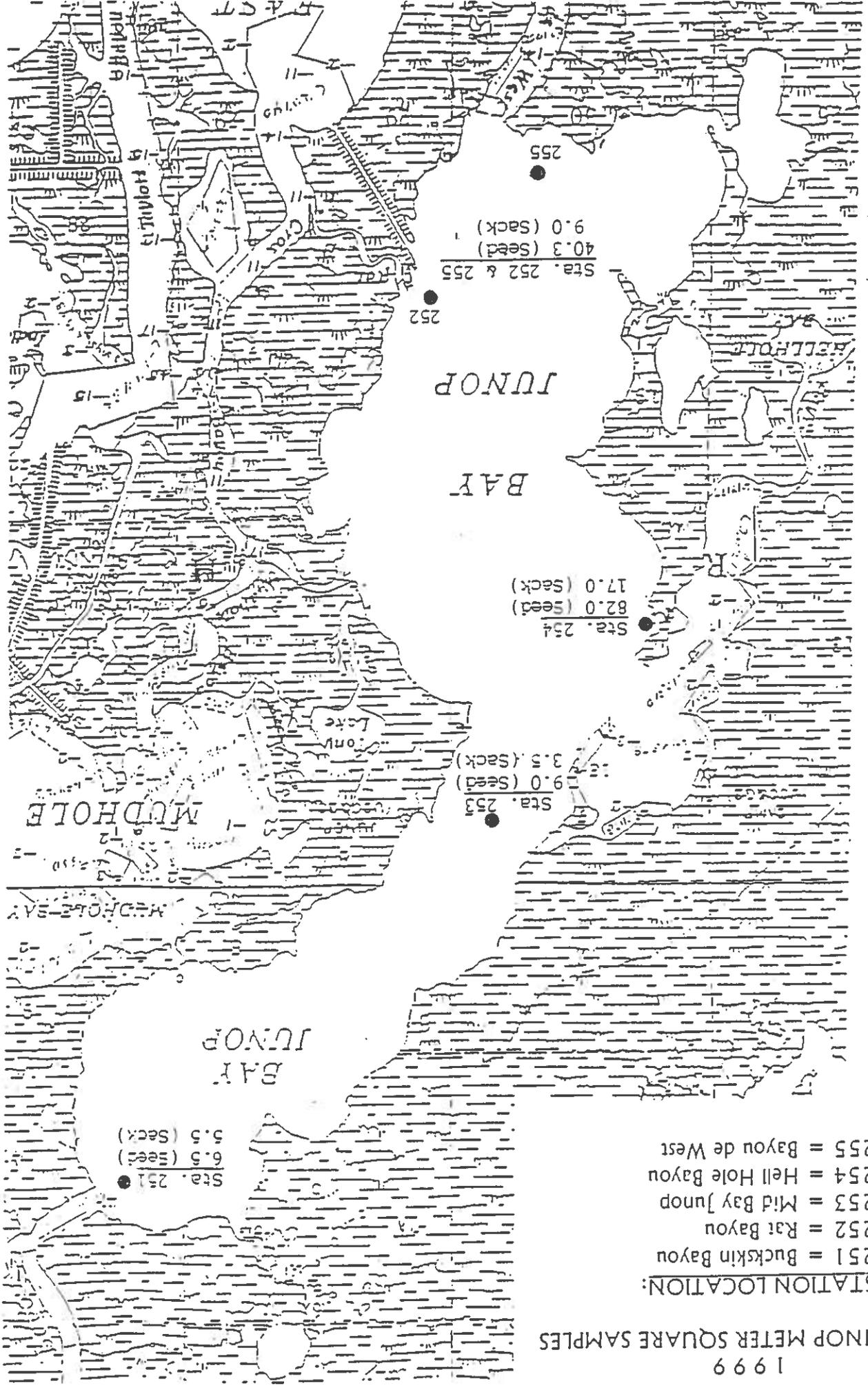
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- 200 = Grand Pass
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- 215 = South 1994 Shell Plant
- 216 = North 1995 Shell Plant
- 217 = Camp 1995 Shell Plant



STATION LOCATION:

- 251 = Bucksin Bayou
- 252 = Rat Bayou
- 253 = Mid Bay Junop
- 254 = Hell Hole Bayou
- 255 = Bayou de West



1999 SISTER LAKE OYSTER AVAILABILITY (Reefs Only)

METER ² STATION	REEF ACREAGE	# METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
200	221.58	896,734.26	39.5	7.5	49,195.8	18,682.0
202	81.93	331,570.71	69.5	56.0	32,005.8	51,577.7
203	151.31	612,352.00	56.5	32.0	48,052.6	54,431.3
207	185.72	751,608.84	66.5	3.0	69,419.4	6,263.4
TOTALS	640.54	2,592,265.7	232	98.5	198,673.6	130,954.4

1999 OYSTER AVAILABILITY SISTER LAKE 1994 SHELL PLANTS

SEED OYSTERS

SHELL PLANT	ACRES	# METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS
North 1994	96	388,512	42.5	22,933.0
Mid 1994	129	522,063	37.5	27,190.8
South 1994	81	327,807	23.5	10,699.3
TOTALS	306	1,238,382	103.5	60,823.1

SACK OYSTERS

SHELL PLANT	ACRES	# METER ²	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
North 1994	96	388,512	6.5	7,014.8
Mid 1994	129	522,063	27.5	39,879.8
South 1994	81	327,807	21.5	19,577.4
TOTALS	306	1,238,382	55.5	66,472.0

1999 OYSTER AVAILABILITY SISTER LAKE 1995 SHELL PLANTS

SEED OYSTERS

SHELL PLANT	ACRES	# METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS
North 1995	115	465,405	31.0	11,311.9
Camp 1995	438	1,772,586	62.0	182,182.5
TOTALS	553	2,237,991	93.0	193,494.4

SACK OYSTERS

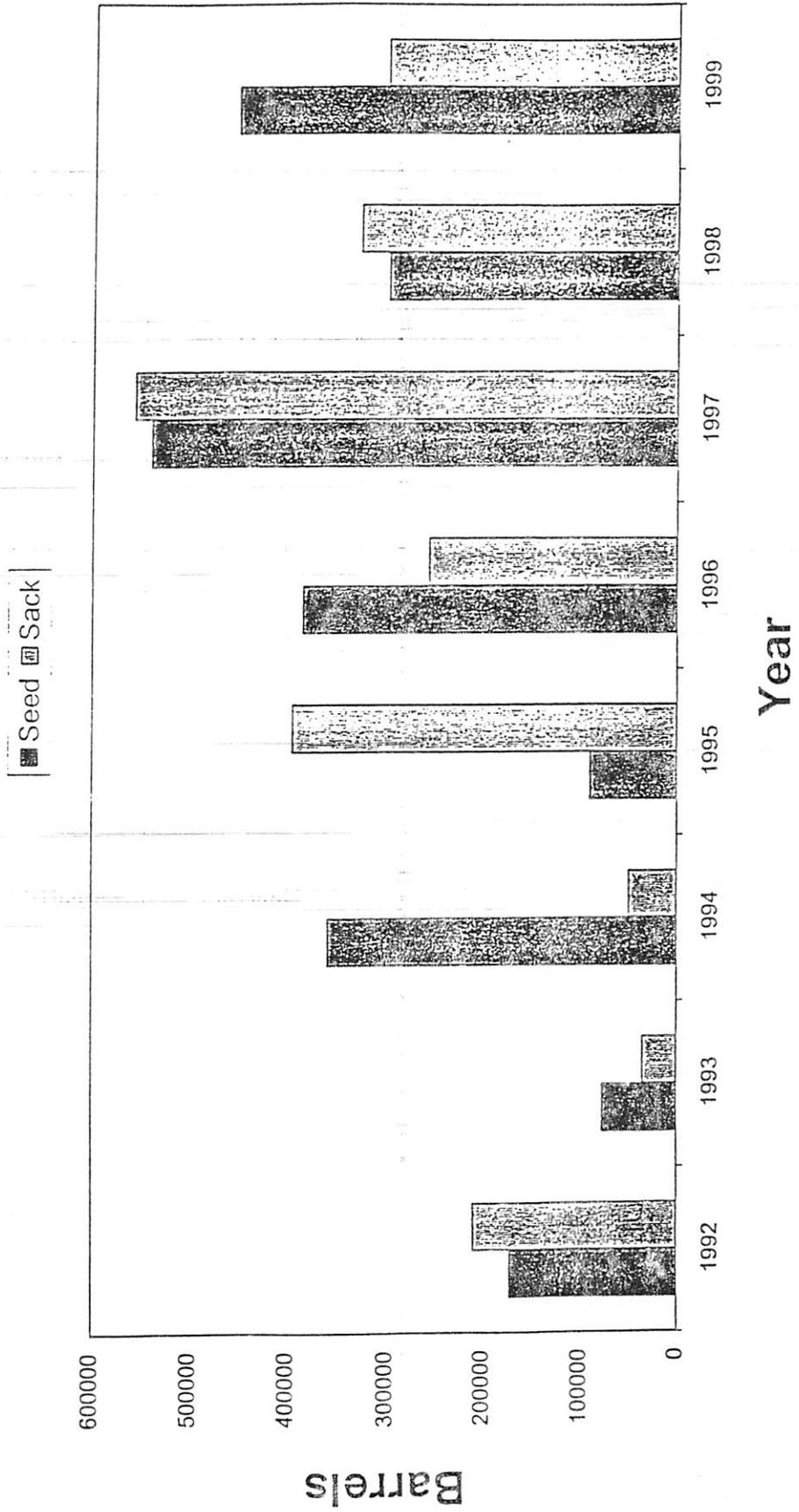
SHELL PLANT	ACRES	# METER ²	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
North 1995	115	465,405	10.0	10,342.3
Camp 1995	438	1,772,586	42.0	93,553.2
TOTALS	553	2,237,991	52.0	103,895.5

1999 BAY JUNOP OYSTER AVAILABILITY

METER ² STATION	REEF ACREAGE	#.METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
251	17.2	69,608.40	6.5	5.5	628.4	1,063.5
252*	67.36	272,605.92	40.3	9.0	15,258.4	6,815.1
253	73.26	296,483.22	9.0	3.5	3,706.0	2,882.5
254	94.20	381,227.40	82.0	17.0	43,417.6	18,002.4
255*						
TOTALS	252.02	1,019,924.9	137.8	35.0	63,010.4	28,763.5

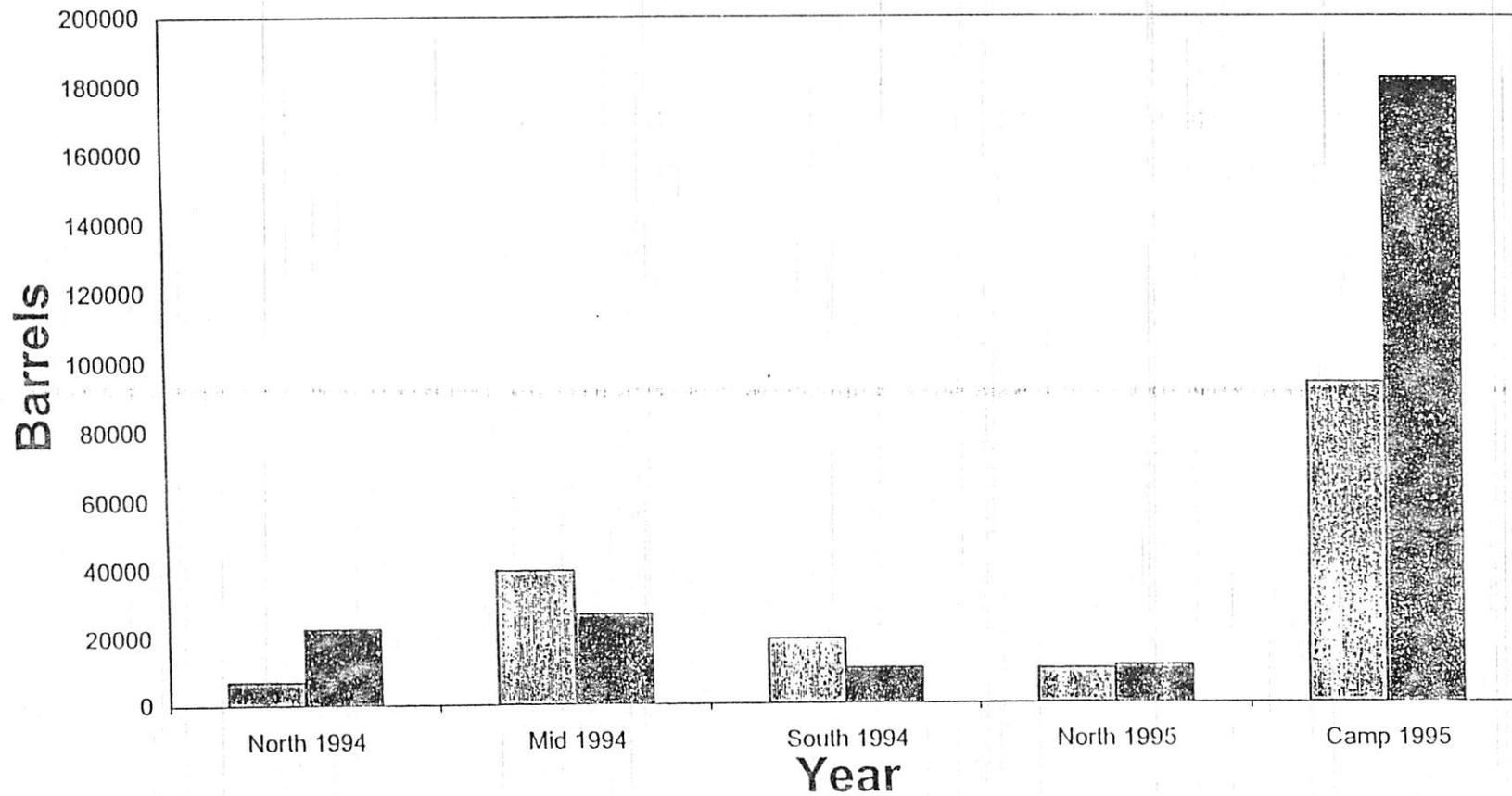
Stations 252 and 255 are combined.

SISTER LAKE HISTORICAL OYSTER AVAILABILITY



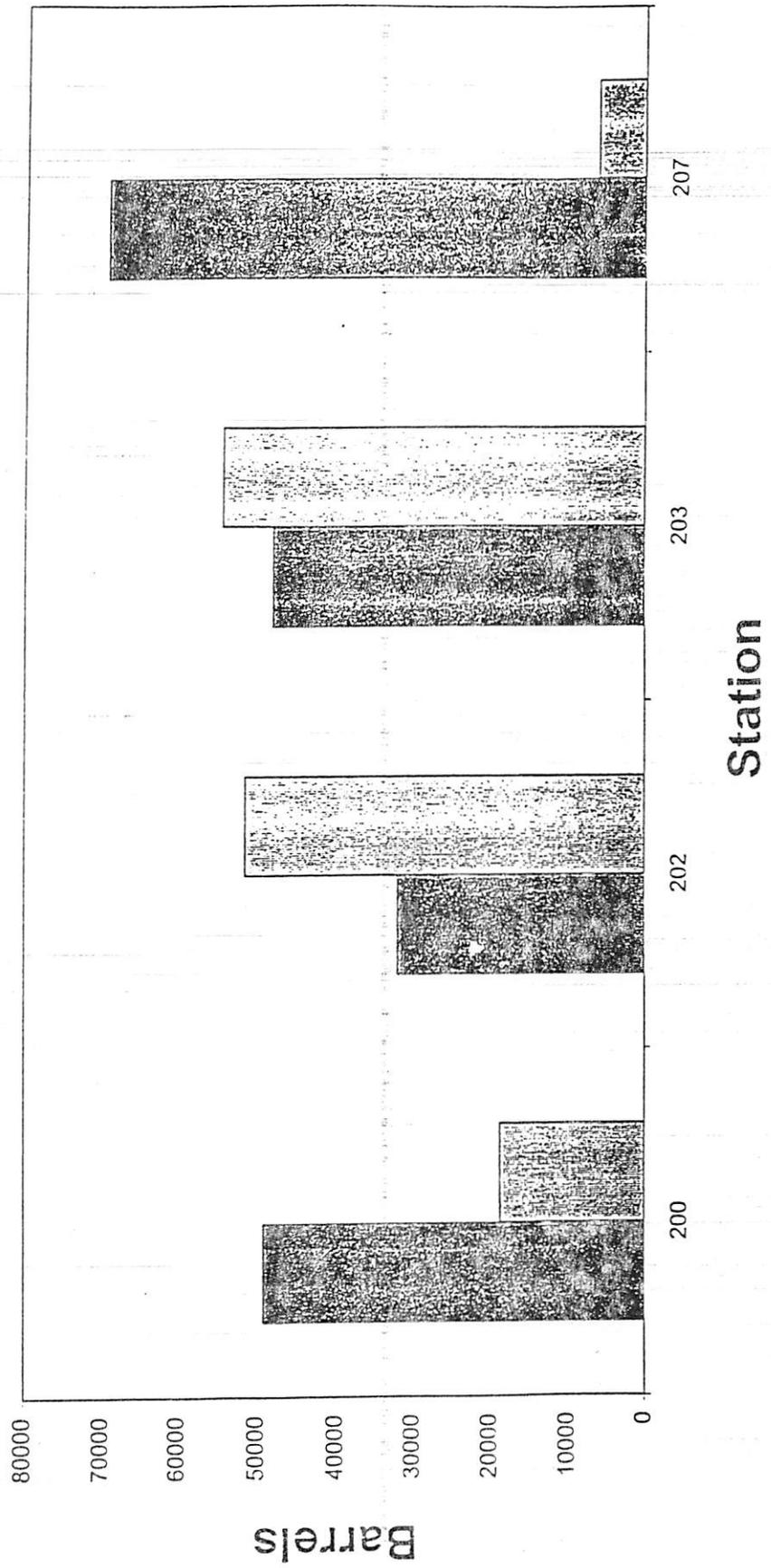
1999 OYSTER AVAILABILITY SISTER LAKE SHELL PLANTS

| Sack | Seed |



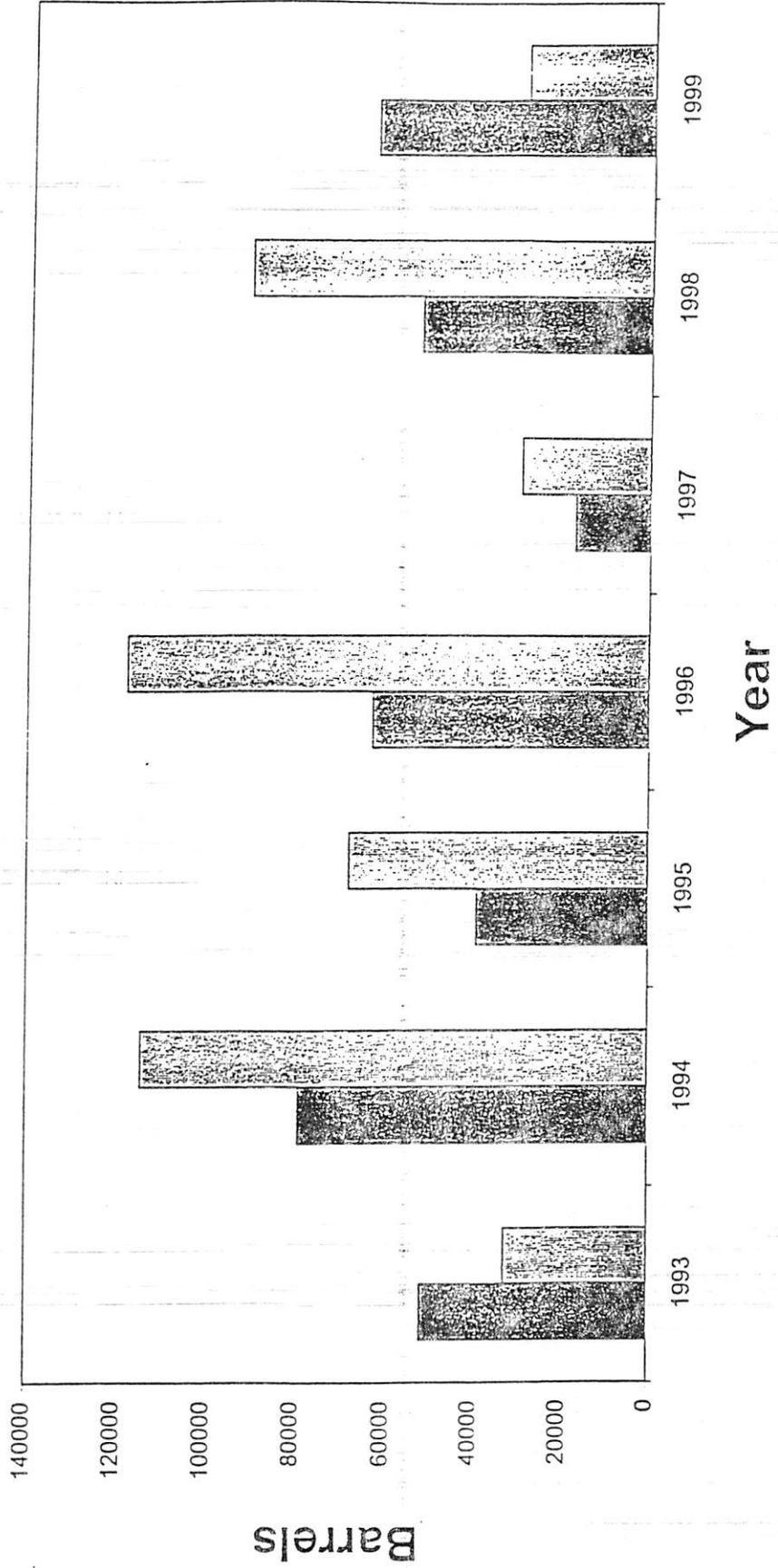
1999 SISTER LAKE OYSTER AVAILABILITY (Reefs Only)

Seed Sack

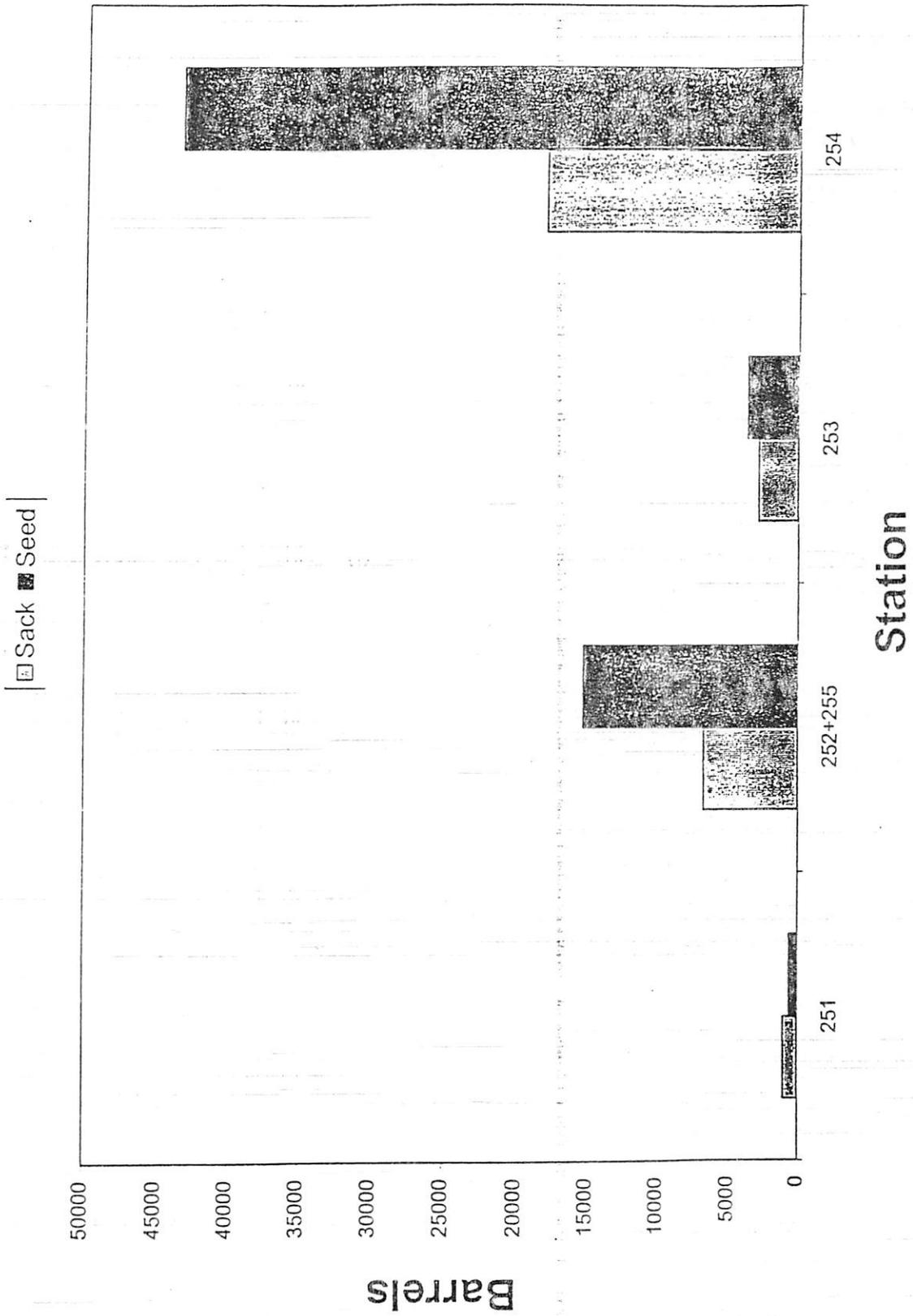


BAY JUNOP HISTORICAL OYSTER AVAILABILITY

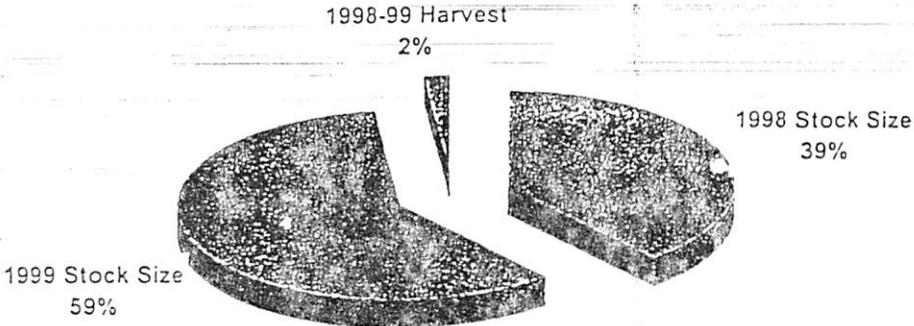
Seed Sack



BAY JUNOP OYSTER AVAILABILITY, 1999



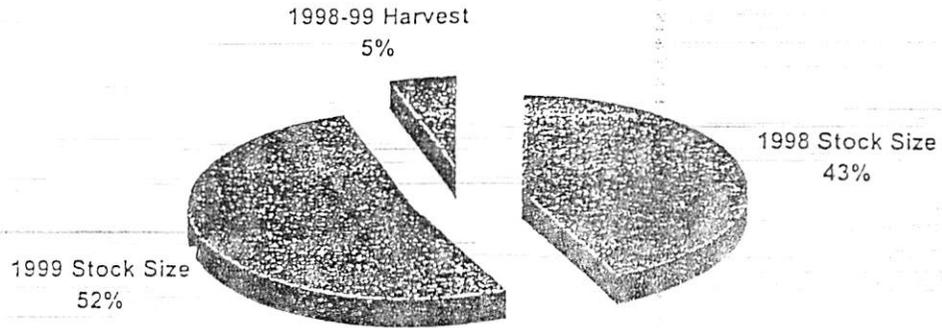
SISTER LAKE SEED OYSTER STOCK SIZE



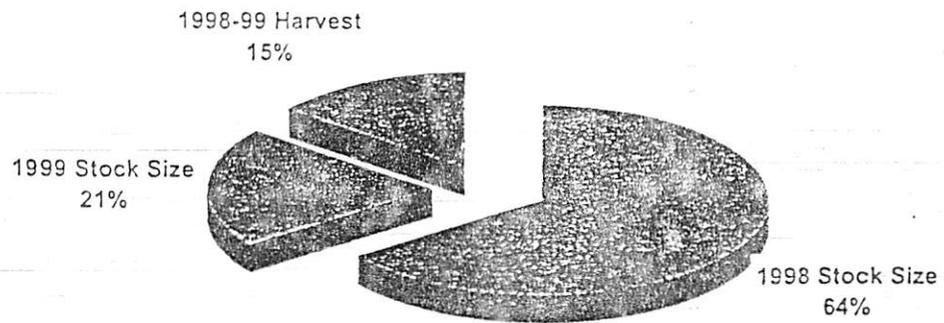
SISTER LAKE SACK OYSTER STOCK SIZE



BAY JUNOP SEED OYSTER STOCK SIZE

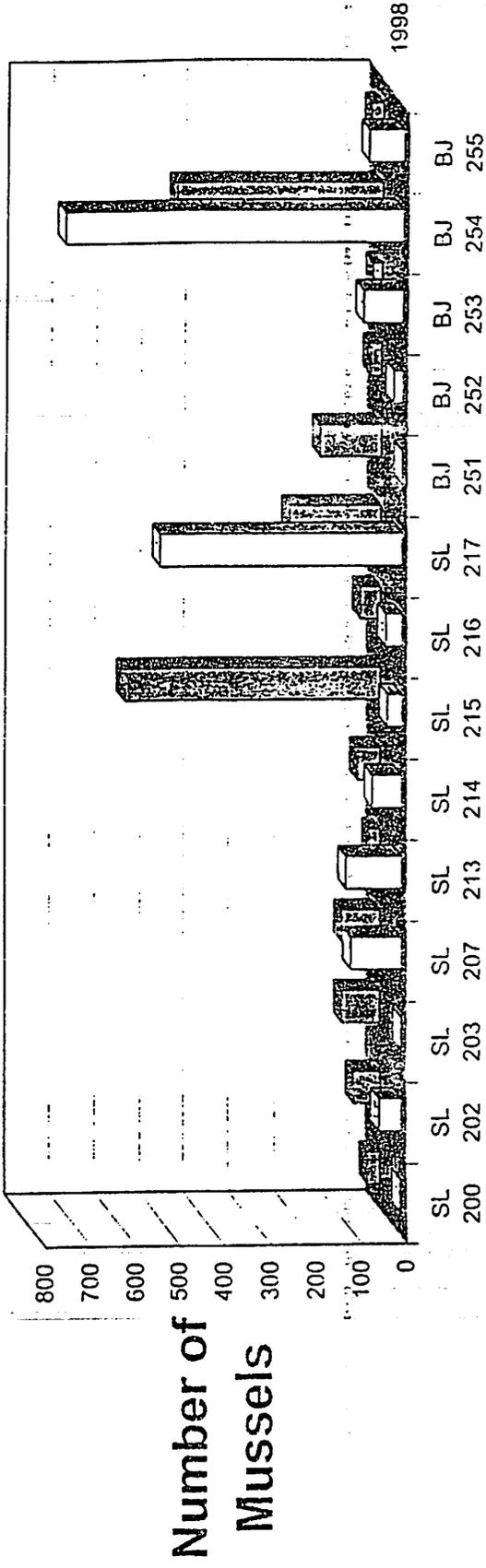


BAY JUNOP SACK OYSTER STOCK SIZE



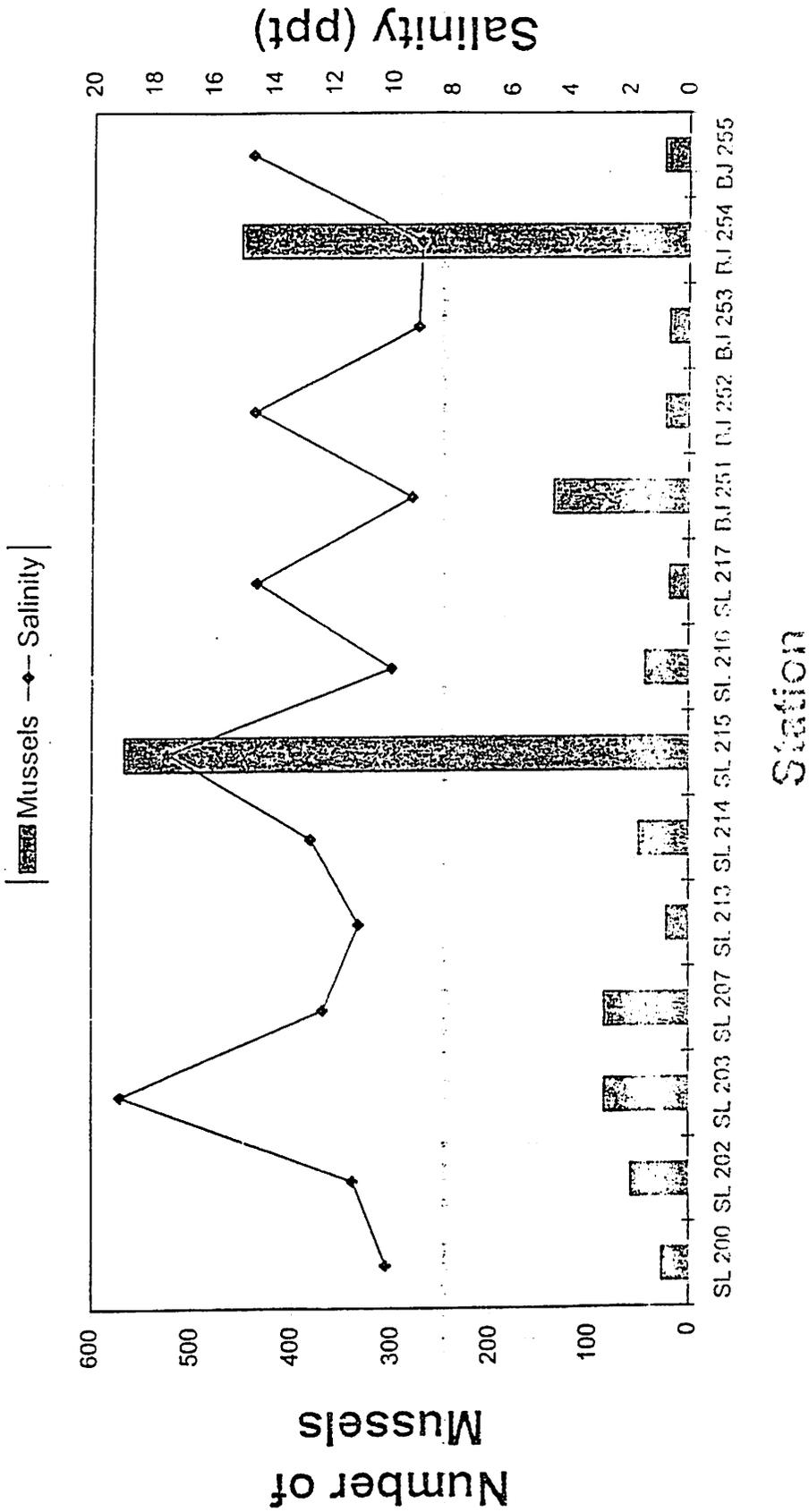
HOOKED MUSSEL FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION

□ 1998
 ■ 1999

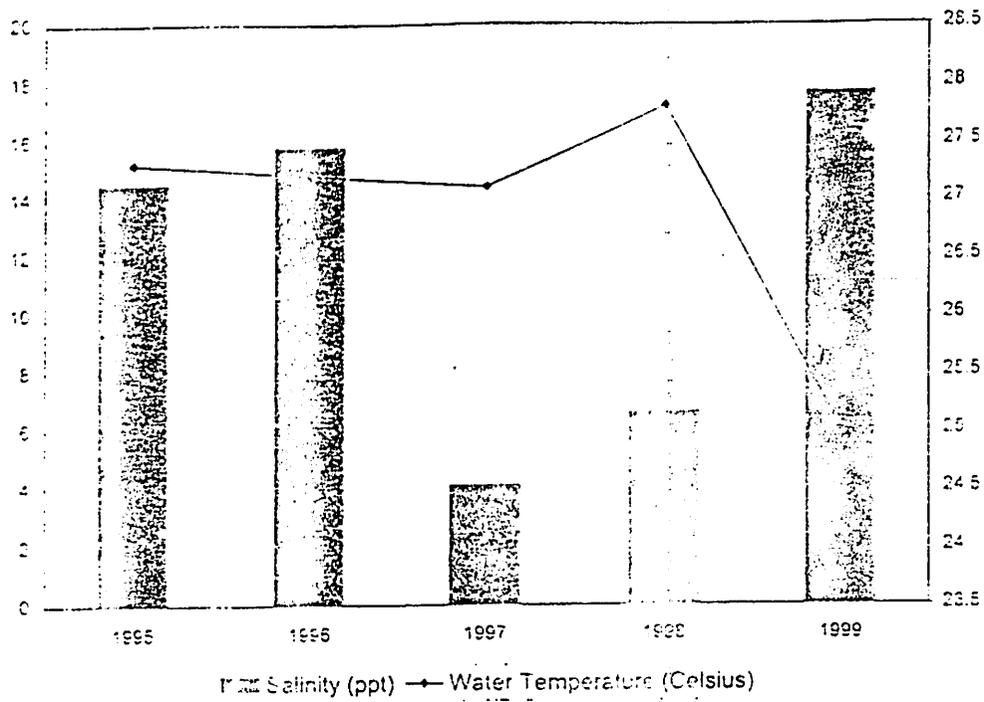


Station Number

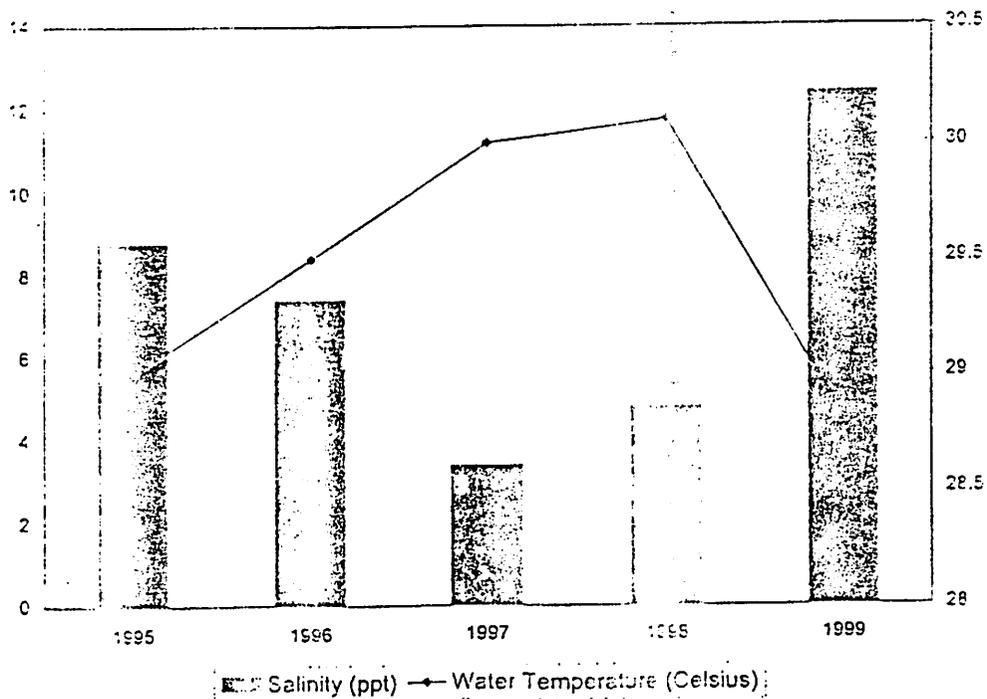
HOOKED MUSSEL FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION AND SALINITY



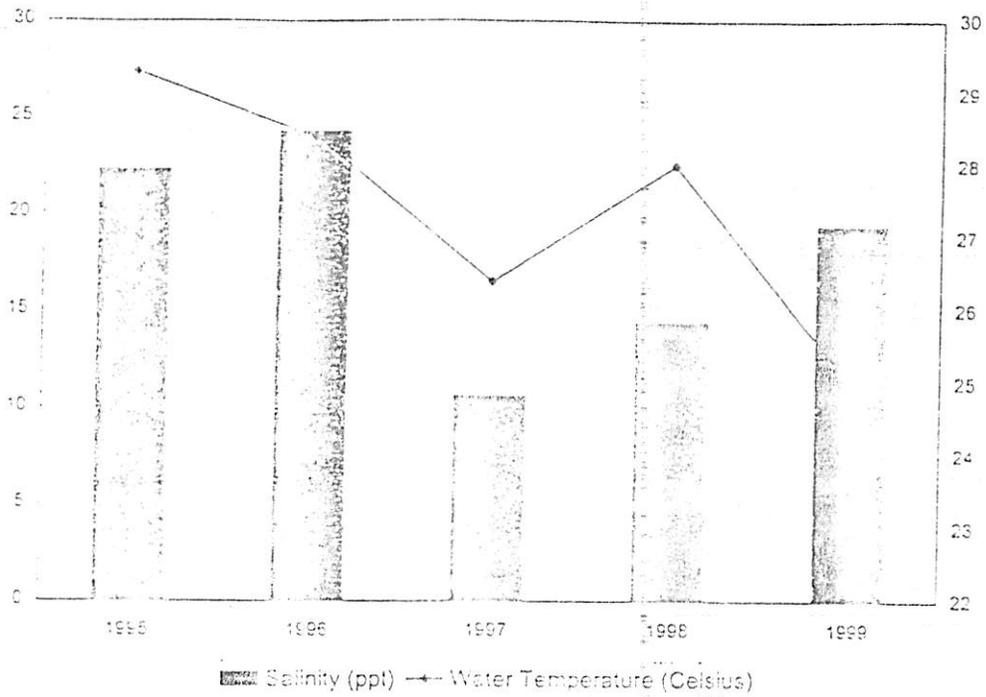
MAY SISTER LAKE SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



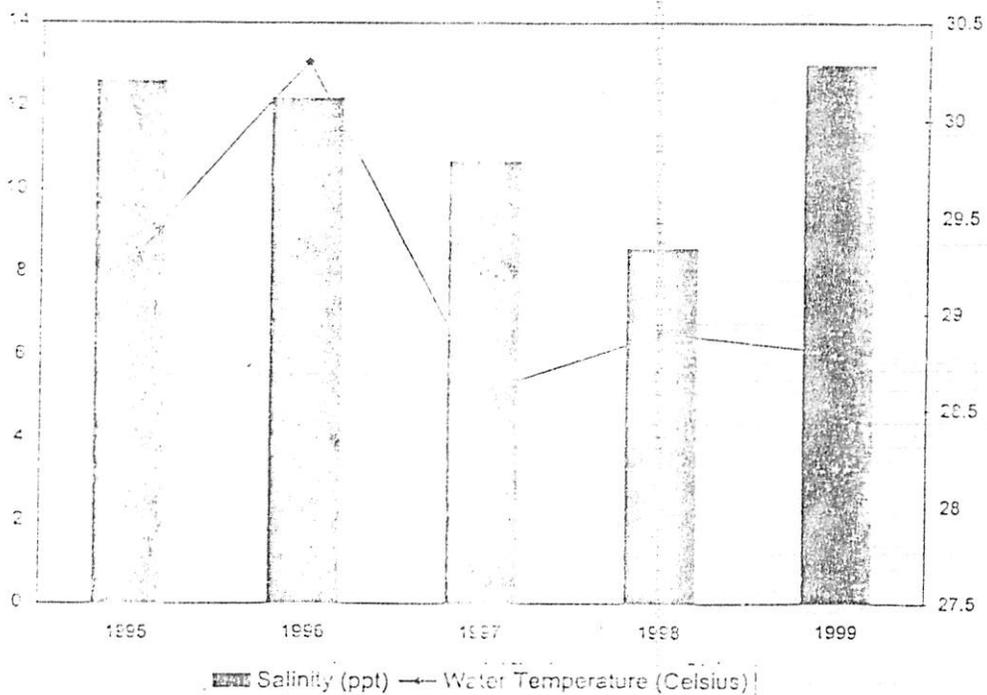
JUNE SISTER LAKE SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



MAY BAY JUNOP SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



JUNE BAY JUNOP SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
2415 Darnall Road
New Iberia, LA 70560
(318) 378-0082

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ron Dugas
FROM: Pete Juneau *PJ*
DATE: June 23, 1999
SUBJECT: Meter square samples 1998

Please note the results of the square meter samples for 1998 as requested. Let me know if you need further information.

PJ/dgg
Enclosure

OYSTER PRODUCTION IN CALCASIEU LAKE JULY 1999

OYSTER NUMBERS

WESTSIDE		EASTSIDE	
SIZE	STATION	SIZE	STATION
AVE.		AVE.	
1-3"	44	1-3"	37
> 3"	17	> 3"	44
	4		1
	5		2
	6		3
AVE.	29.0	AVE.	16.7

OYSTER PRODUCTION AREA

WESTSIDE 2,922,676.67 SQ. METERS	EASTSIDE 3,901,355.7 SQ. METERS
-------------------------------------	------------------------------------

PRODUCTION OF > 3" OYSTERS

WESTSIDE		EASTSIDE	
OYSTERS:	25,890,274.686	OYSTERS:	84,651,726.869
SACKS:	143,554.9	SACKS:	410,309.6
TOTAL SACKS OF > 3" OYSTERS: 553,864.5			

PRODUCTION OF 1-3" OYSTERS

WESTSIDE		EASTSIDE	
OYSTERS:	85,320,223.450	OYSTERS:	65,149,799.019
SACKS:	237,000.6	SACKS:	180,571.7
TOTAL SACKS OF 1-3" OYSTERS: 417,572.3			

TOTAL PRODUCTION

TOTAL OVERALL POTENTIAL OF OYSTERS (SACKS):	1,032,116.8
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5.0
42.0



4.40

4.30

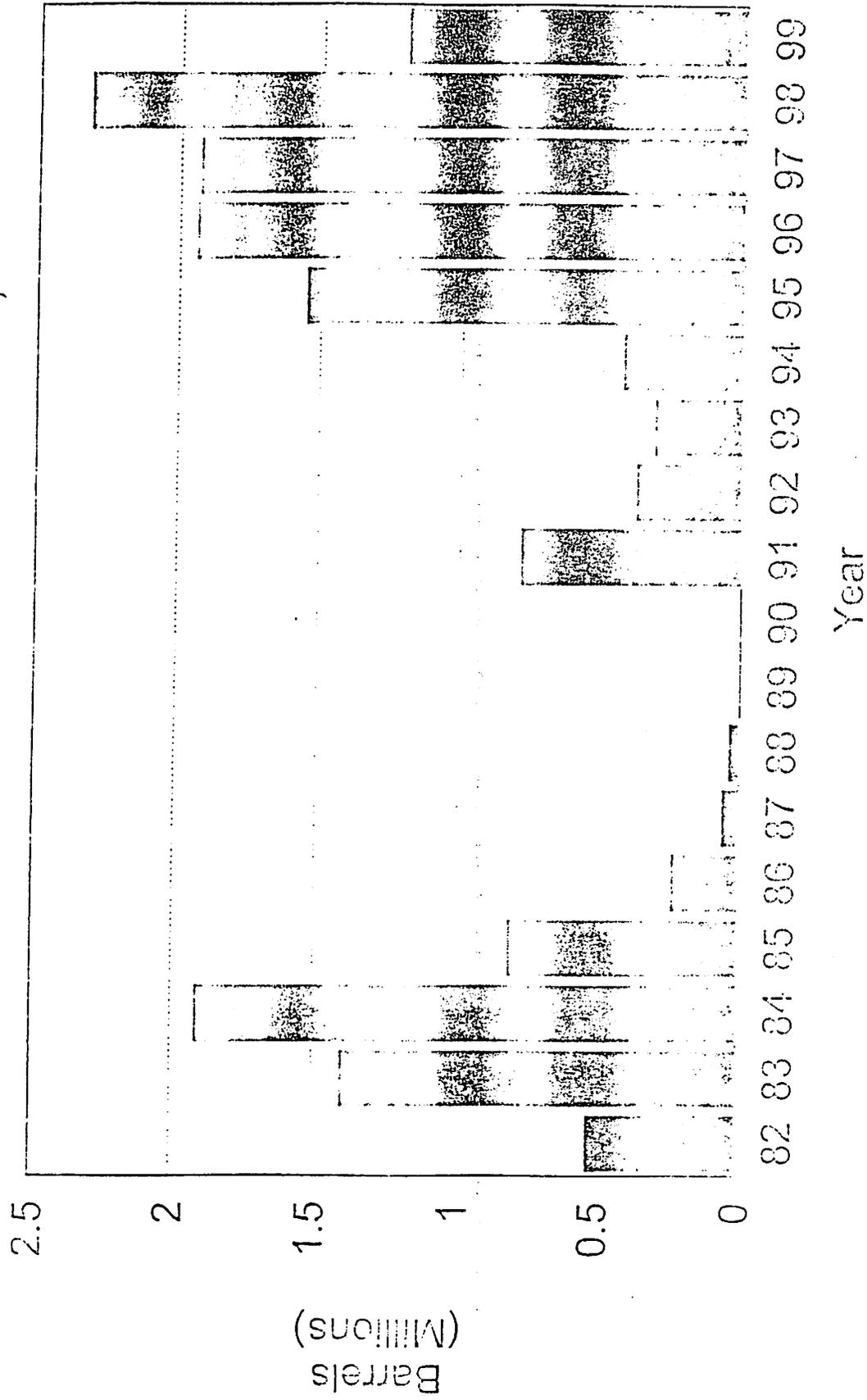
4.5
4.5

4.10

Area 1
M² 1999
S = Spat
Seed
Sack

Cysters Available on the Public Grounds in Coastal Study Area

(Seed and Sack Cysters Combined)



1999/2000 OYSTER PRODUCTION

PUBLIC OYSTER GROUNDS

1999/2000 OYSTER HARVESTING TOTALS ON
LOUISIANA'S "PUBLIC OYSTER GROUNDS

Wildlife & Fisheries

Coastal Study Areas	Sacks	BBLs (Seed)
Coastal Study Area 1	243,145	4,300
Coastal Study Area 2	700,617	69,028
Coastal Study Area 3	17,380	8,230
Coastal Study Area 5	80,393	21,489
Coastal Study Area 6	0	0
Coastal Study Area 7	50,592	NA
State Total	1,092,127	103,047

COASTAL STUDY AREA I

JOHN BURDON

COASTAL STUDY AREA 1

1999

Months	Sacks	Barrels
September	12,250	0
October	16,875	0
November	28,840	1,000
December	43,200	1,300

COASTAL STUDY AREA 1

2000

Months	Sacks	Barrels
January	49,760	0
February	38,400	1,200
March	28,160	800
April	12,830	0
Total	243,145	4,300

COASTAL STUDY AREA II

CLARENCE LUQUET, JR.

Dugas, Ronald

From: Luquet, Clarence
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2000 12:26 PM
To: Dugas, Ronald
Cc: Laiche, Greg; Ibos, Keith
Subject: RE: 99/00 Oyster Season Public Grounds Production Report

1999 2000 Season Public Grounds

September	121,715	39,160
October	153,375	20,250
November	64,598	4,050
December	81,338	2,228
January	62,729	900
February	66,251	1,013
March	64,204	560
April	86,407	867

	SACKS	BARRELS
	700,617	69,028

LAST YEAR

1998 1999	422,054	316,563
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ALL BASED ON BOARD RUN ESTIMATES

—Original Message—

From: Dugas, Ronald
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2000 6:23 AM
To: Burdon, John; Luquet, Clarence; Dameier, John; Truesdale, Frank; Cook, Paul; Harbison, Michael
Cc: Boudreaux, Claude
Subject: 99/00 Oyster Season Public Grounds Production Report

By May 15, I need the oyster harvesting figures for this season on the public grounds in your respective areas, separating it for both sack and seed barrel production if applicable. John, Clarence, and John also break out April's production figure.

COASTAL STUDY AREA III

JOHN DAMEIER



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
Lyle S. St. Amant Marine Laboratory
P. O. Box 37
Grand Isle, LA 70358
(504) 568-7620

M.J. "Mike" Foster
Governor

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Date: May 15, 2000

To: Ron Dugas, Oyster Program Manager

From: John Dameier, Biologist Manager

Re: Hackberry Bay Public Seedground Production

Total production from Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seedgrounds for September 1999 through April 2000 was 17,380 sacks of marketable oysters and 8,230 barrels of seed oysters that were bedded.

No production was reported during April. All fishermen interviewed said they did not fish Hackberry Bay during April. Although the season was extended to one-half hour after sunset April 30, 2000 at the March 2 commission meeting, fishermen had the impression that it closed April 1st.

The most recent cultch plant area produced 4,010 sacks and other areas produced 13,370 sacks, or 23% and 77%. The cultch plant also produced 2,791 barrels of seed oysters and other areas produced 5,439 barrels, or 34% and 66%.

If you need any additional information, please contact me at the Marine Lab.

COASTAL STUDY AREA V

MARTIN BOURGEOIS

PAUL MEIER

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 189
Bourg, La. 70343
(504) 594-4139
May 5, 2000

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

To: Ron Dugas, Programs Manager

From: Martin Bourgeois, CSA-V *MB 3/199*

Subject: Sister Lake Oyster Production/April, 2000

Sack oyster production in the Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation during April, 2000 has measured 2,448 sacks, a slight increase of approximately 7% from production levels documented in March. Likewise, fishing effort increased by a factor of nearly 2% from levels recorded in the previous month and measured 111 boat days. No seed oyster production or seed oyster fishing effort was observed during April. Fishing effort as well as production was largely influenced by public health seasonal re-classification order which limited approved harvest to an area of the Lake comprising approximately 2,000 acres. No sack or seed oyster harvests were documented to occur from shell plants during April and all oyster production during the month was associated with natural reefs.

Average daily harvests have declined from 38 sacks/boat/day in September to 33 sacks/boat/day in October to 22 sacks/boat/day in November to 19 sacks/boat/day in December and has increased slightly to averages of 22 sacks/boat/day in both January and February before dropping to 21 sacks/boat/day in March and 20 sacks/boat/day in April. Current trends in fishing effort and production which reflect resource availability are depicted in several accompanying charts. Effort levels have remained relatively high while average daily sack oyster harvests have declined. This seasonal trend although evident in each year the fishery has operated, has broadened significantly in comparison with recent years and may indicate the increased reliance local harvesters have placed on resource availability on these public grounds.

Total production through April during the current 1999-2000 Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation season now measures 80,393 sacks of market oysters and 21,489 barrels of seed oysters.

Yields have fluctuated significantly throughout the season with yields reported at 4.4 lbs in September and early October, increasing to as high as 7.33 lbs in early November then decreasing again to 5.84 lbs later in the month. December yields have ranged as low as 5.91 lbs following the first week in December to a 7.44 lbs on the 29th. Variation in yields during March are attributed to area fished according to records examined from one local processor. For instance, yields from oysters harvested near Porpoise Cut measured over 8 lbs while those harvested near Big Bayou Dularge measured slightly over 5.5 lbs. No information is currently available for reported yields in April. Salinities currently remain fairly high in Sister Lake and snails and snail egg masses continue to be reported by fishermen, however, no significant mortalities were measured from recent hand dredge samples collected in both Sister Lake and Bay Junop. Prices remain stable and continue to average \$14 per sack.

1999-2000 MONTHLY PRODUCTION TOTALS - SISTER LAKE

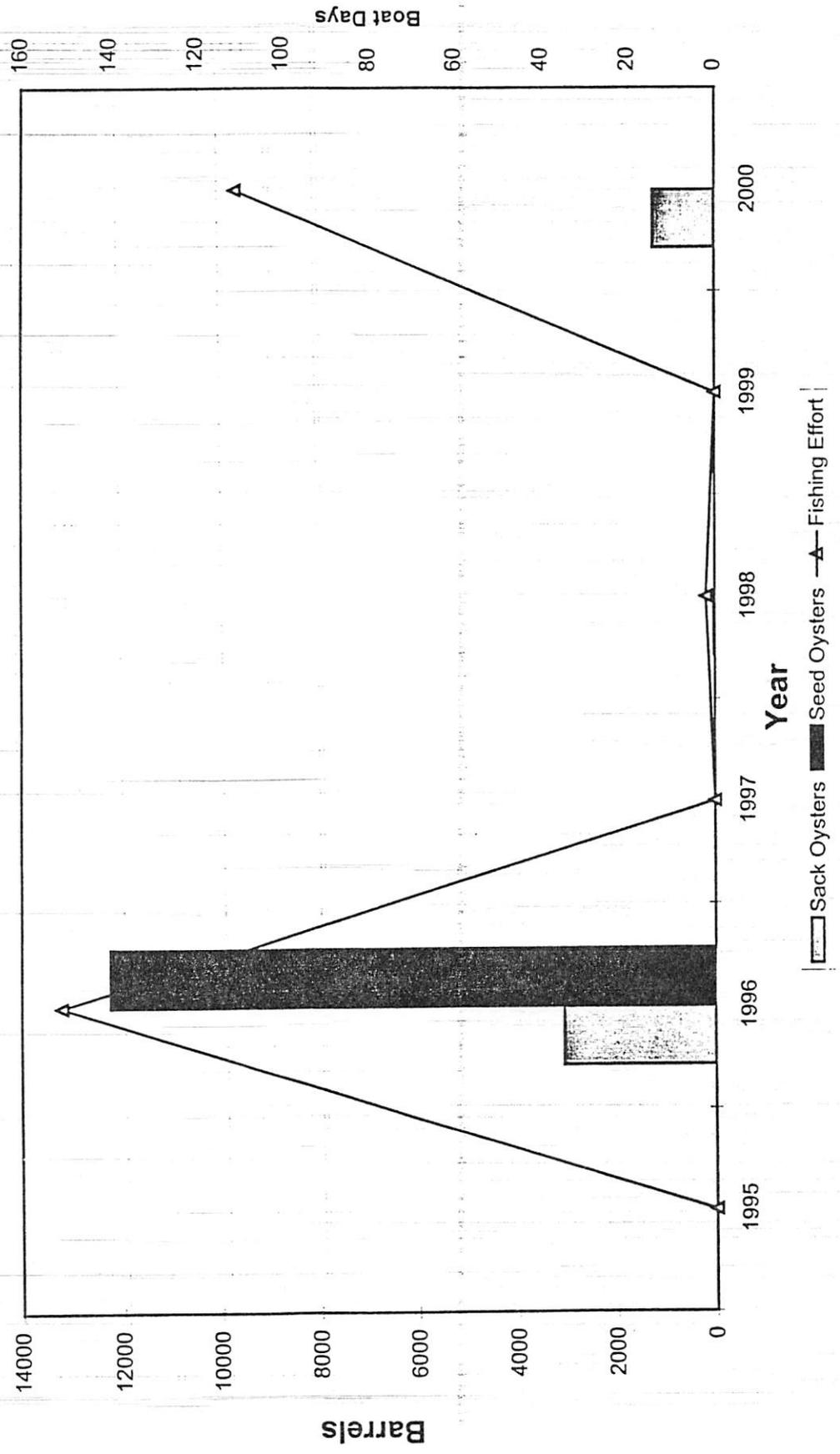
Month	# Sacks 94-Plants	# Barrels 94-Plants	# Boats 94-Plants	# Sacks 95-Plants	# Barrels 95-Plants	# Boats 95-Plants	# Sacks Sister Lake	# Barrels Sister Lake	# Boats Sister Lake
September	1,777	4,200	55	5,541	4,460	125	18,451	15,040	484
October	3,705	750	105	7,748	650	214	34,533	2,500	1,035
November	577	645	32	0	0	0	9,697	2,804	448
December	0	750	3	0	0	0	4,347	765	228
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,438	330	155
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,203	65	239
March	38	0	5	0	0	0	2,275	0	109
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,448	0	111
Totals	6,097	6,345	200	13,289	5,110	339	80,392	21,504	2,809

cc: Karen Foote
 Claude Boudreaux

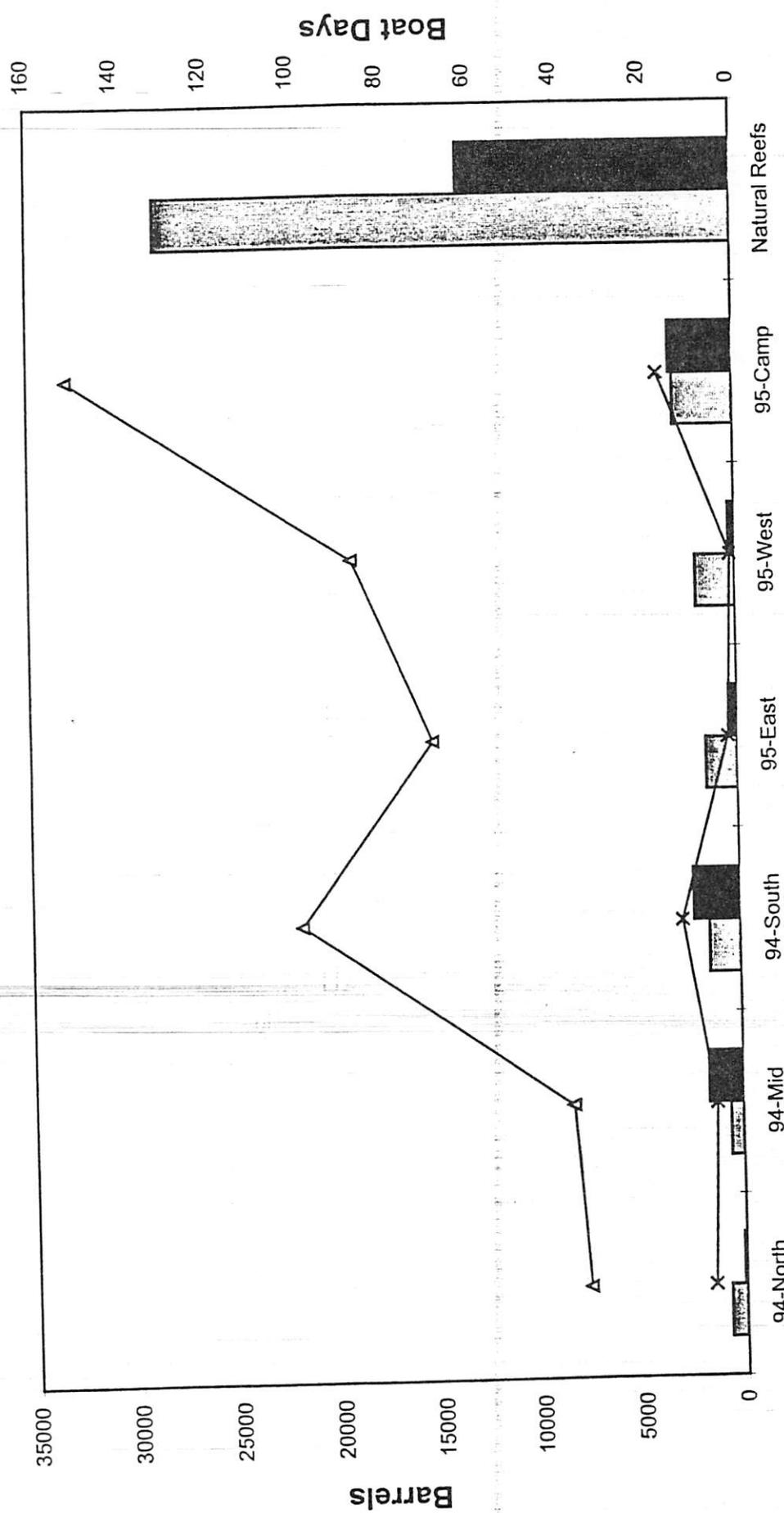
1999-2000 SISTER LAKE OYSTER SEED RESERVATION SEASON - APRIL

Date	# Sacks 94-Plants	#Bar Seed 94-Plants	# Boats 94-Plants	# Sacks 95-Plants	#Bar Seed 95-Plants	# Boats 95-Plants	# Sacks Sister L.	#Bar Seed Sister L.	# Boats Sister L.
01	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
02	-	-	0	-	-	0	82	-	2
03	-	-	0	-	-	0	44	-	2
04	-	-	0	-	-	0	33	-	2
05	-	-	0	-	-	0	98	-	6
06	-	-	0	-	-	0	152	-	7
07	-	-	0	-	-	0	271	-	9
08	-	-	0	-	-	0	6	-	1
09	-	-	0	-	-	0	17	-	2
10	-	-	0	-	-	0	173	-	8
11	-	-	0	-	-	0	242	-	10
12	7	-	1	-	-	0	213	-	8
13	-	-	0	-	-	0	286	-	8
14	-	-	0	-	-	0	280	-	10
15	-	-	0	-	-	0	8	-	1
16	-	-	0	-	-	0	35	-	3
17	-	-	0	-	-	0	73	-	5
18	-	-	0	-	-	0	67	-	4
19	-	-	0	-	-	0	100	-	5
20	-	-	0	-	-	0	7	-	1
21	7	-	1	-	-	0	-	-	0
22	8	-	1	-	-	0	6	-	1
23	8	-	1	-	-	0	-	-	0
24	8	-	1	-	-	0	33	-	2
25	-	-	0	-	-	0	17	-	2
26	-	-	0	-	-	0	17	-	2
27	-	-	0	-	-	0	122	-	6
28	-	-	0	-	-	0	106	-	5
29	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
30	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Totals	38	0	5	0	0	0	2,448	0	111

April Production and Fishing Effort, Sister Lake



Sister Lake Shell Plant Production and Fishing Effort (09/08/99-04/30/00)



Shell Plant

Sack Oysters
 Seed Oysters
 Sack Effort
 Seed Effort

COASTAL STUDY AREA VI

PAUL COOK

Dugas, Ronald

From: Cook, Paul
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2000 2:01 PM
To: Dugas, Ronald
Subject: RE: 99/00 Oyster Season Public Grounds Production Report

As per our phone conversation on 5/16/00, there was no oyster production on the public grounds in the Vermilion/Cote Blanche Bays area for the 1999/2000 season.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dugas, Ronald
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2000 6:23 AM
To: Burdon, John; Luquet, Clarence; Dameier, John; Truesdale, Frank; Cook, Paul; Harbison, Michael
Cc: Boudreaux, Claude
Subject: 99/00 Oyster Season Public Grounds Production Report

By May 15, I need the oyster harvesting figures for this season on the public grounds in your respective areas, separating it for both sack and seed barrel production if applicable. John, Clarence, and John also break out April's production figure.

COASTAL STUDY AREA VII

MICHAEL HARBISON

State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
1213 North Lakeshore Drive
Lake Charles, La 70601-5273
(318) 491-2579

M.J. iMikej Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: RON DUGAS, BIOLOGIST PROGRAMS MANAGER

FROM: MICHAEL HARBISON, BIOLOGIST SUPERVISOR, CSA VII

DATE: MAY 12, 2000

SUBJECT: OYSTER REPORT: CALCASIEU LAKE 1999-2000 SEASON

This year was the best since health closures started in number of days available for fishing oysters. The Calcasieu conditional managed area was open for the full 197 days and the West Cove conditional managed area was open for 182 of the 197 days.

The number of fisherman on the reefs averaged around 30. Our best count was 35. Again most fishermen worked the Calcasieu CMA. The oyster buyers almost stopped buying in mid March. The number of fisherman dropped to an average of about 12 working the Calcasieu CMA. This was because the oyster were not yielding very high. This apparently was cause by the warm and highly saline water we experienced; the salinity stayed in the mid twenties through out the winter into early spring and the temperatures through out the winter were warmer than usual.

The landing figure I have listed is straight from the main three dealers; Fountain Seafood, Gulf Island Seafood and Doxey's Oysters. I have ask Joey to provide me with oyster landings through personnel conversation and via e-mail and have not received any data from him at this time. When I receive data from Joey I will update the landing figured and send those changes to you.

There were 50,592 sacks landed for the 1999-2000 oyster season in Calcasieu Lake. The landings for the 1998-99 - 39,202 and for 1997-98 - 80,735. This is the second best season since 1990-91 season which was estimated (starting with the 91-92 season we were able to

get sacks landed from dealer data from LDWF) at 50,000 sacks.

1999-2000 CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER SEASON DATA

MONTH	CAL. LAKE		WEST COVE		OYSTER TAG SALES	SACKS ¹ LANDED
	NO. DAYS OPEN	NO. DAYS CLOSED	NO. DAYS OPEN	NO. DAYS CLOSED		
OCTOBER	16	0	16	0	8,000	-
NOVEMBER	30	0	30	0	14,000	-
DECEMBER	31	0	31	0	17,000	-
JANUARY	31	0	31	0	9,100	-
FEBRUARY	29	0	29	0	10,000	-
MARCH	31	0	31	0	5,000	-
APRIL	30	0	15	15	2,020	-
TOTAL S	197	0	182	15	65,120	50,592

1 - UNABLE TO OBTAIN LANDINGS BY MONTH FROM TRIP TICKETS; LANDINGS FROM OYSTER BUYERS (FOUNTAIN SEAFOOD, DOXEY'S OYSTERS, GULF ISLAND) FOR THE SEASON WAS OBTAINED.

OYSTER PRODUCTION IN CALCASIEU LAKE

SEASONS	STOCK ASSESSMENT		ESTIMATED SACKS HARVESTED
	MARKETABLE	TOTAL	
1963	-	-	210,160
1967-74	-	-	NO COMMERCIAL LANDINGS
1975-76	142,726	441,183	40,000
1976-77	694,420	869,475	100,000
1977-78	483,673	621,885	141,976
1978-79	-	-	75,000
1979-80	676,333	979,613	125,000
1980-81	355,664	705,117	150,000
1981-82	608,110	988,575	-
1982-83	-	-	50,000-75,000
1983-84	-	-	150,000
1984-85	125,407	644,788	-
1985-86	315,160	537,760	27,400
1986-87	589,940	1,217,959	200,000
1987-88	796,950	2,703,647	125,000
1988-89	463,331	1,036,580	50,000
1989-90	172,046	640,892	40,000
1990-91	408,961	1,268,962	50,000
1991-92	1,048,882	1,731,367	31,383
1992-93	749,915	1,612,736	27,328
1993-94	748,281	1,238,783	12,818
1994-95	756,525	1,246,480	6,134
1995-96	956,926	1,298,379	29,082
1996-97	618,767	1,083,866	43,441
1997-98	950,979	1,706,510	80,735
1998-99	702,371	1,160,115	39,202 ¹
1999-2000	614,145	1,032,117	50,592 ²

- 1 - THE 1999 PORTION OF THE LANDINGS WAS DERIVED FROM PRELIMINARY TRIP TICKET DATA.
- 2 - TRIP TICKET DATA WAS UNAVAILABLE, CALLED DEALERS FOR LANDINGS.

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER SEASONS

SEASON	SEASON					EXTENDED SEASON					TOTAL SEASON DAYS		
	DATES			HEALTH CLOSURES		DATES			HEALTH CLOSURES				
	OPEN DATE	CLOSED DATE	TOTAL DAYS	EASTSIDE DAYS OPEN	WESTCOVE DAYS CLOSED	OPEN DATE	CLOSED DATE	TOTAL DAYS	EASTSIDE DAYS OPEN	WESTCOVE DAYS OPEN		DAYS CLOSED	
1989-1990	11-15	3-15	121	79	42	79	42	46	40	6	40	6	165
1990-1991	11-15	3-1	147	95	52	95	52	34	20	0	20	0	181
1991-1992	10-15	3-1	139	69	70	69	70	60	45	15	45	15	199
1992-1993 ¹	10-15	3-1	138	123	15	76	62	27	14	13	0	27	165
1993-1994	11-1	3-1	121	94	27	61	60	60	52	8	23	7	181
1994-1995 ²	11-1	3-1	121	69	52	9	112	60	21	39	0	60	181
1995-1996	10-16	3-1	138	125	13	80	58	30	30	0	30	0	188
1996-1997	10-16	5-1	197	149	48	83	114	-	-	-	-	-	197
1997-1998	10-16	4-30	197	139	58	101	96	-	-	-	-	-	197
1998-1999 ³	10-16	4-30	197	135	62	77	120	-	-	-	-	-	197
1999-2000	10-16	4-30	197	197	0	182	15	-	-	-	-	-	197

1 - STARTING WITH 92-93 SEASON CALCASIEU LAKE WAS SPLIT INTO TWO UNITS: EASTSIDE (WITH RIVER STAGE CLOSURE @ 12 ft.) AND WESTCOVE (WITH RIVER STAGE CLOSURE @ 7 ft.).
 2 - DIHHCLOSED EASTSIDE (FROM 11/1-12/10/94) AND WESTCOVE (FROM 11/1-1/28/95) WITH A PRECAUTIONARY (POSSIBLE LEAD CONTAMINATION) CLOSURE.
 3 - DURING THIS SEASON THE RIVER LEVEL IN THE CALCASIEU LAKE CONDITIONAL MANAGEMENT UNIT (EASTSIDE) THE RIVER STAGE CRITERIA CHANGED FROM 12 TO 13.5 ft.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

JULY 2000 M² SAMPLES

AND

STOCK ASSESSMENT

COASTAL STUDY AREA I

JOHN BURDON

2000 CSA 1 Meter Square Results Revised

Station Name	Station Number	Reef		Avg per frame		Bbls Seed	BblsSack	spat	mussels	drills present
		Acreage	Sq. Meters	seed	sack					
Hospital	1	376.07	1,521,955.29	0	0	0	0			
Grassy	2	6850.17	27,722,638.00	23	10					
Halfmoon	3			32.5	18					
Petit	4			1.5	3					
	2-4			19.00	10.33	731,570	795,742			
3 Mile	5	3058.65	12,378,356.55	18	8.5	309,459	292,267			
Grand Pass	6	1801.76	7,291,722.72	0	0					
Cabbage	7			47.5	2					
Turkey	11			18.5	2.5					
	6-11			22.00	1.50	222,803	30,382			
Martin Is	9	4155.7	16,818,117.90	0	0					
Holmes Is	10			0	0					
	9-10			0.00	0.00	0	0			
2000 SP	12	70	283,290	0	0	0	0			

Total		1,263,831	1,118,391
Combined Total		2,382,222	

2000 COASTAL STUDY AREA I OYSTER AVAILABILITY

Meter ² Station	Reef Acreage	# Meter ²	#Seed Oyster	#Sack Oyster	BBLs Seed	BBLs Sack
001	376.07	1,521,955.29	0	0	0	0
002			28.5	4.5		
003			43.5	7		
004			1.5	3		
002-004	6850.17	27,722,638.00	24.41	4.83	439,874	371,945
005	3058.65	12,378,356.55	20.5	6	352,439	206,456
006		47.5	0	0		
007			19.5	2		
008			N/A	N/A		
011			19.5	1.5		
006-011			1801.76	7,291,722.72		
009			0	0	0	0
010			0	0	0	0
009-010	4155.70	16,818,117.90	0	0	0	0
Lake Pont.	631.27	2,554,749.69	N/A	N/A	-	-
ELO1	2691.84	10,893,876.48	-	-	-	-
TOTALS					1631581	613,847

BobJ/csaitab.raw

For: Ron Dugas

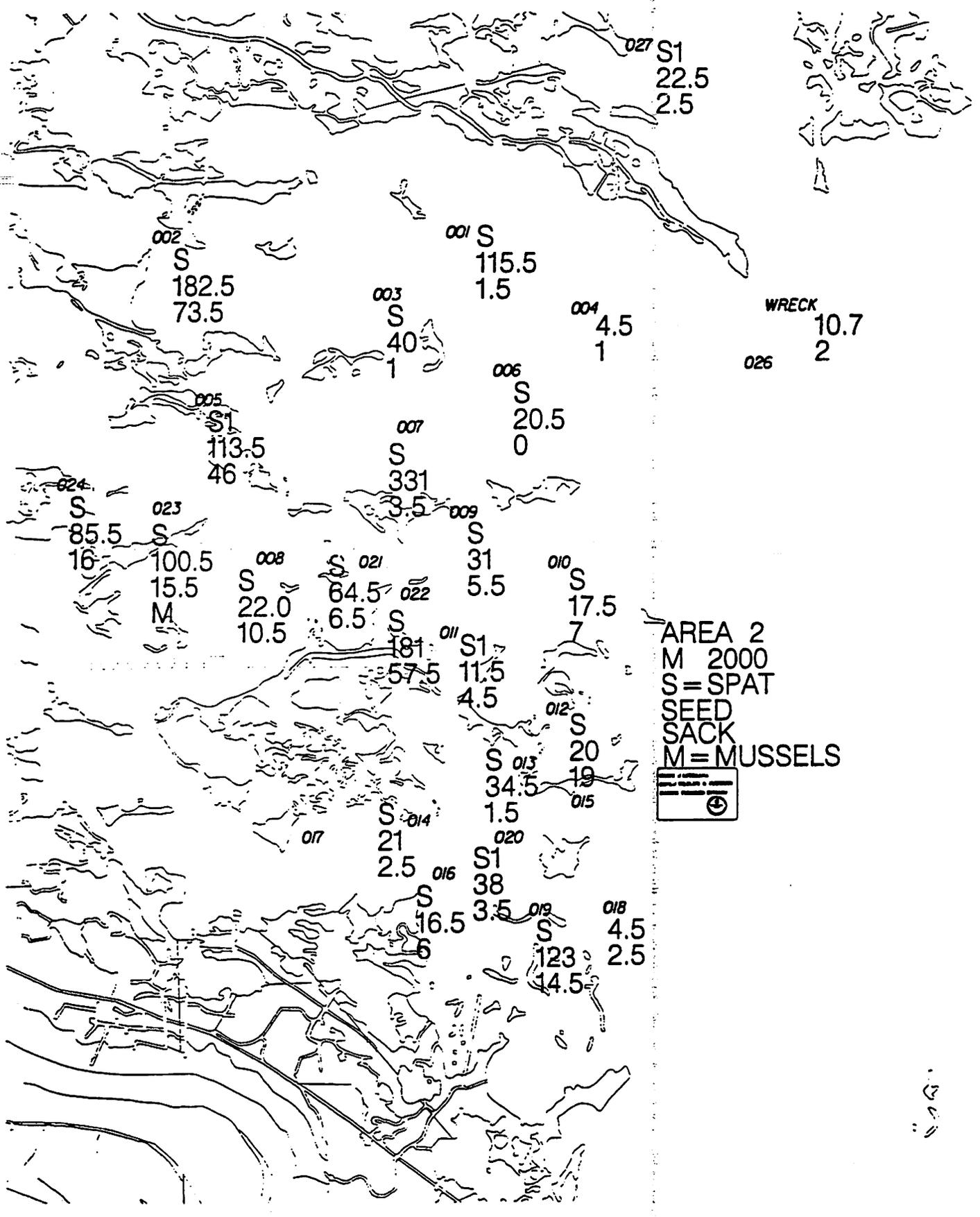
S ₉ M-1	S ₉ M-2
56	39

Cabbage Reef

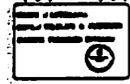
Revised: 1,263,831 1,118,391
 Corrected
 7-28-00
 31

COASTAL STUDY AREA II

CLARENCE LUQUET, JR.



AREA 2
 M 2000
 S = SPAT
 SEED
 SACK
 M = MUSSELS



025
 0
 0

027 S1
 22.5
 2.5

002 S
 182.5
 73.5

001 S
 115.5
 1.5

003 S
 40
 1

004 4.5
 1

WRECK 10.7
 026 2

006 S
 20.5
 0

005 S1
 113.5
 46

007 S
 331
 3.5

024 S
 85.5
 16

023 S
 100.5
 15.5
 M

008 S
 22.0
 10.5

021 S
 64.5
 6.5

022 S
 181
 57.5

009 S
 31
 5.5

010 S
 17.5
 7

011 S1
 11.5
 4.5

012 S
 20
 19
 015

013 S
 34.5
 1.5

017

014 S
 21
 2.5

020

016 S
 38
 3.5

018 4.5
 2.5

019 S
 123
 14.5

015 S
 16.5
 6

COASTAL STUDY AREA III

JOHN DAMEIER



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
Lyle S. St. Amant Marine Laboratory
P. O. Box 37
Grand Isle, LA 70358
(504) 568-7620

M.J. "Mike" Foster
Governor

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Date: July 25, 2000

To: Ron Dugas, Oyster Program Manager

From: John Dameier, Biologist Manager

Re: Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation Meter Square Samples

Meter square oyster samples were collected July 17, 2000. Samples were taken at three stations (upper, middle, and lower) with one replicate at each site. Oysters were measured in 5-mm size classes, averaged for each class (Table 1), and divided into groups of spat, seed, and sack oysters. Figure 1 shows the frequency distribution of each size class. Spat oysters which measured less than 25 mm averaged 61.17 per m². This number exceeded the previous four years (Figure 2). Seed oysters which measured 25 mm to less than 75 mm averaged 12.17 per m². This number was below that of the previous four years; however, 8,230 barrels of seed oysters were harvested during September 1999 to April 2000 from the Hackberry Bay Oyster Seed Reservation. Sack oysters which measured 75 mm and greater averaged 2.5 per m². This number was about average for the past four years, and 17,380 sacks of marketable oysters were recently harvested from the public grounds.

Oysters per m² were extrapolated for 5.938 hectares of reef. The results were 1,003.4 barrels of seed oysters and 824.7 sacks of marketable oysters (Table 2).

Severe drought conditions for the southeast Louisiana region are now into the second year, resulting in record high salinities. Salinities exceeded 25 mg/g 29 days in the month of May with an average of 26.96 mg/g. Monthly averages of constant recorder data are presented in Figure 3. Temperatures were above average for January, February and March, and then have remained average (Figure 4). These conditions seem to be conducive to oyster reproduction and survival as indicated by the high numbers of spat. Low mortalities were observed during this sampling and in recent dredge sampling. However, oyster drills were present and eggs were also collected during the meter square survey. The conditions are also favorable for this species as well as other oyster predators, competitors, and pathogens. Monitoring will continue throughout the summer to document mortality rates.

Table 1.

Hackberry Bay Square Meter Samples
 1 sample per station with 1 replicate
 3 stations total: upper, mid, and lower
 CSA 3, July 17, 2000

mm	5 mm group	upper		mid		lower		avg upper	avg mid	avg lower	avg all	
		1	2	1	2	1	2					
0-4	0							0	0	0	0	
5-9	1	16	5	5	4		1	10.5	4.5	0.5	5.17	
10-14	2	91	21	10	9	3		56	9.5	1.5	22.33	
15-19	3	68	28	21	15	1	1	48	18	1	22.33	
20-24	4	26	13	19	9		1	19.5	14	0.5	11.33	
25-29	5	5	8	4	2	1	1	6.5	3	1	3.5	
30-34	6		2	2	3	1		1	2.5	0.5	1.33	
35-39	7			4	1			0	2.5	0	0.83	
40-44	8		2	5	2	1		1	3.5	0.5	1.67	
45-49	9	1		3	2			0.5	2.5	0	1	
50-54	10		1	2	5	2		0.5	3.5	1	1.67	
55-59	11			1	1	1		0	1	0.5	0.5	
60-64	12		2	1				1	0.5	0	0.5	
65-69	13	1		2	2			0.5	2	0	0.83	
70-74	14			1	1			0	1	0	0.33	
75-79	15		1	1	1		2	0.5	1	1	0.83	
80-84	16			2	1			0	1.5	0	0.5	
85-89	17				1	1		0	0.5	0.5	0.33	
90-94	18	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	0.5	0.83	
95-99	19							0	0	0	0	
100-104	20							0	0	0	0	
105-109	21							0	0	0	0	
110-114	22							0	0	0	0	
115-119	23							0	0	0	0	
120-124	24							0	0	0	0	
125-129	25							0	0	0	0	
total	sub tot	209	84	84	60	12	6	total	146.5	72	9	75.83
	tot		293		144		18					455
	ave		146.5		72		9					75.83
spat	sub tot	201	67	55	37	4	3					
<1"	tot		268		92		7					367
	ave		134.0		46.0		3.5					61.17
seed	sub tot	7	15	25	19	6	1					
1-3"	tot		22		44		7					73
	ave		11.0		22.0		3.5					12.17
sack	sub tot	1	2	4	4	2	2					
>3"	tot		3		8		4					15
	ave		1.5		4.0		2					2.5
mussels	sub tot	3	0	1	1	0	2					
	tot		3		2		2					7
	ave		1.5		1.0		1					1.17

Square Meter Samples (96-99)
Hackberry Bay, LA

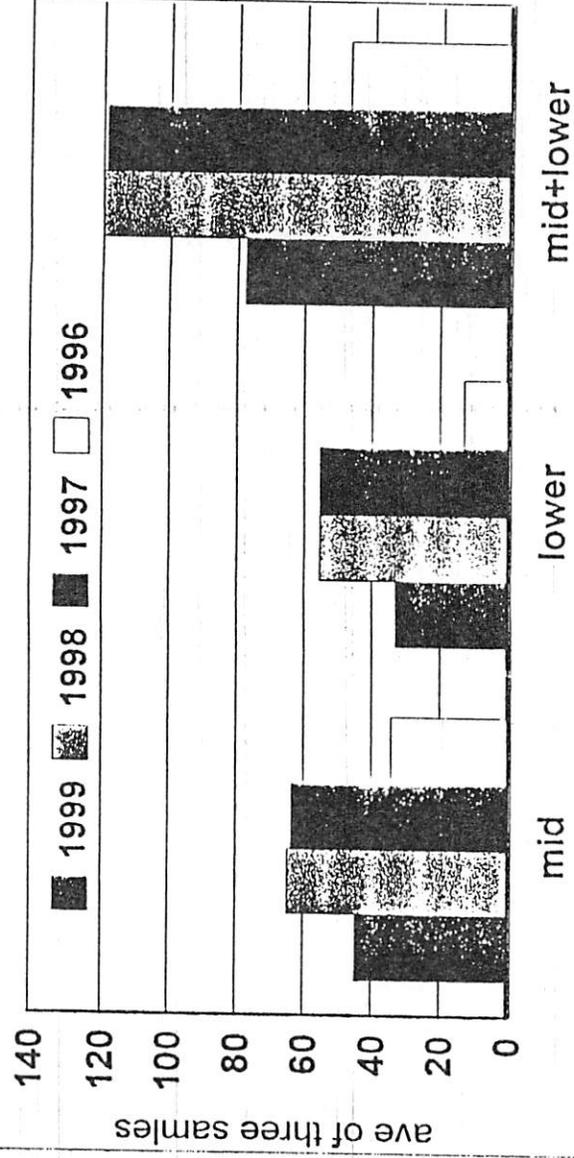


Fig. 2

Square Meter Samples (96-99)
Hackberry Bay, LA

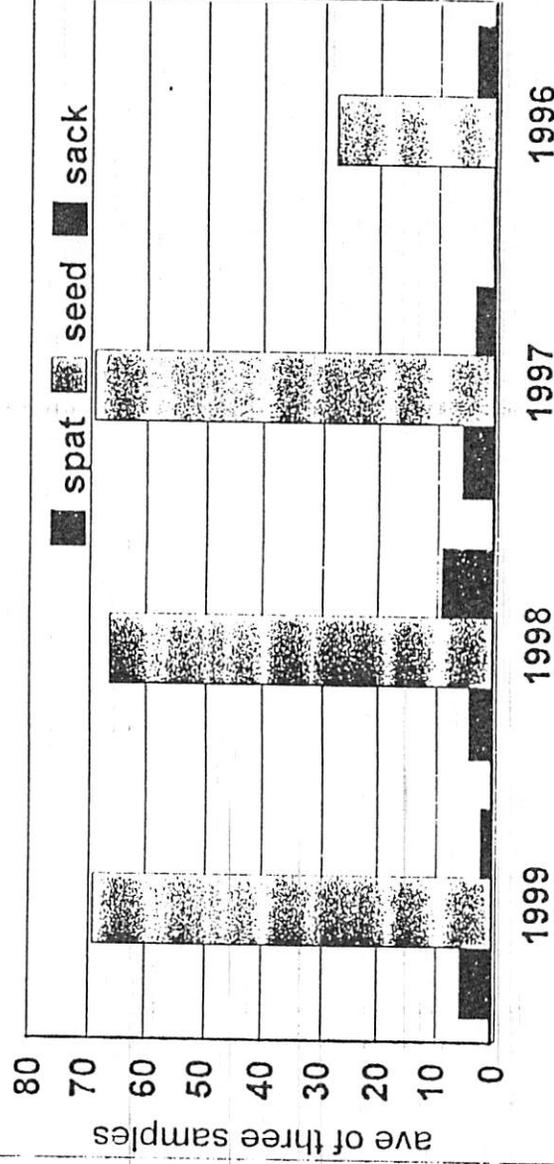


Fig. 3

mid & lower samples combined

Table 1: Squared meter samples data extrapolated to barrels of seed oysters and sacks of marketable oysters.

Square meter samples	barrels of seed-oyster	sacks of marketable oysters
Year		
1996	3,129.6	645.3
1997	4,307.2	1,322.8
1998	4,758.9	1,677.7
1999	2,395.6	838.9
Average of 1996-1998	4,065.2	1,215.3

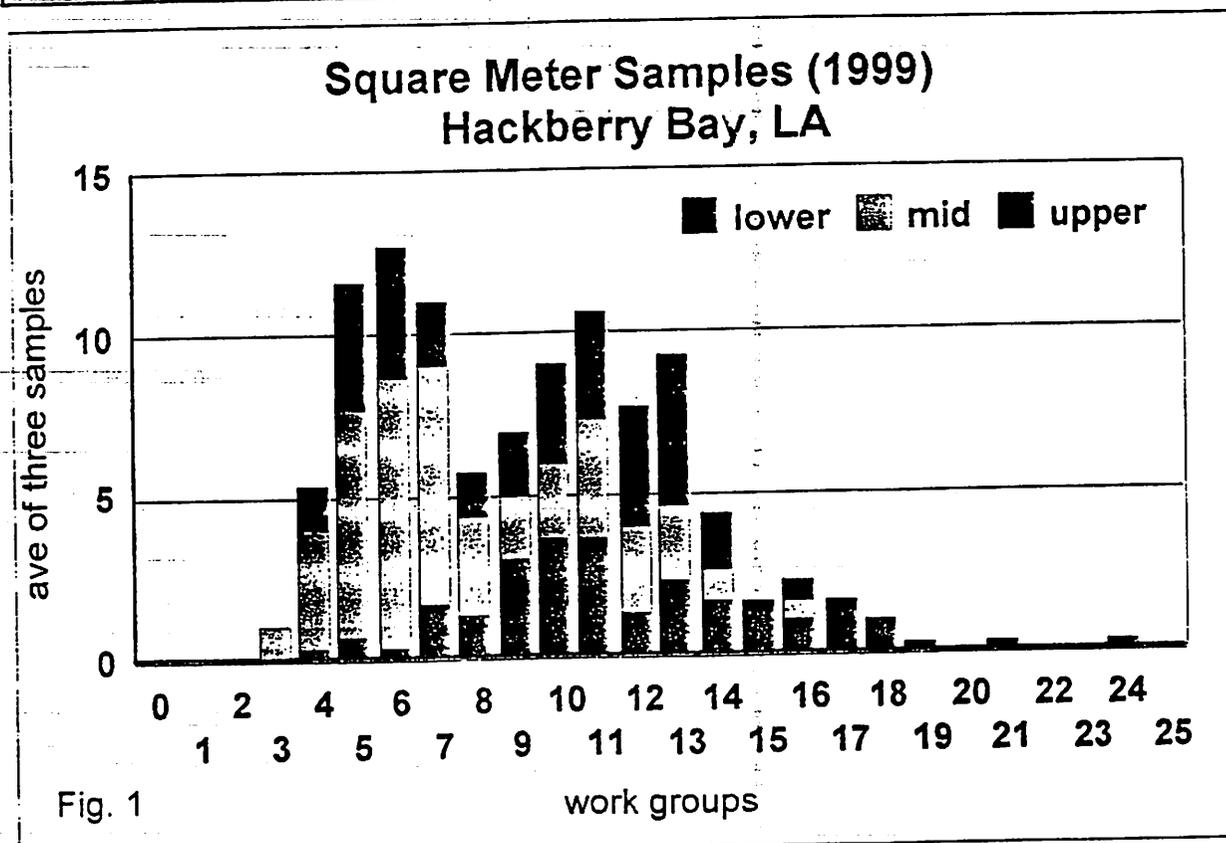


Figure 1.

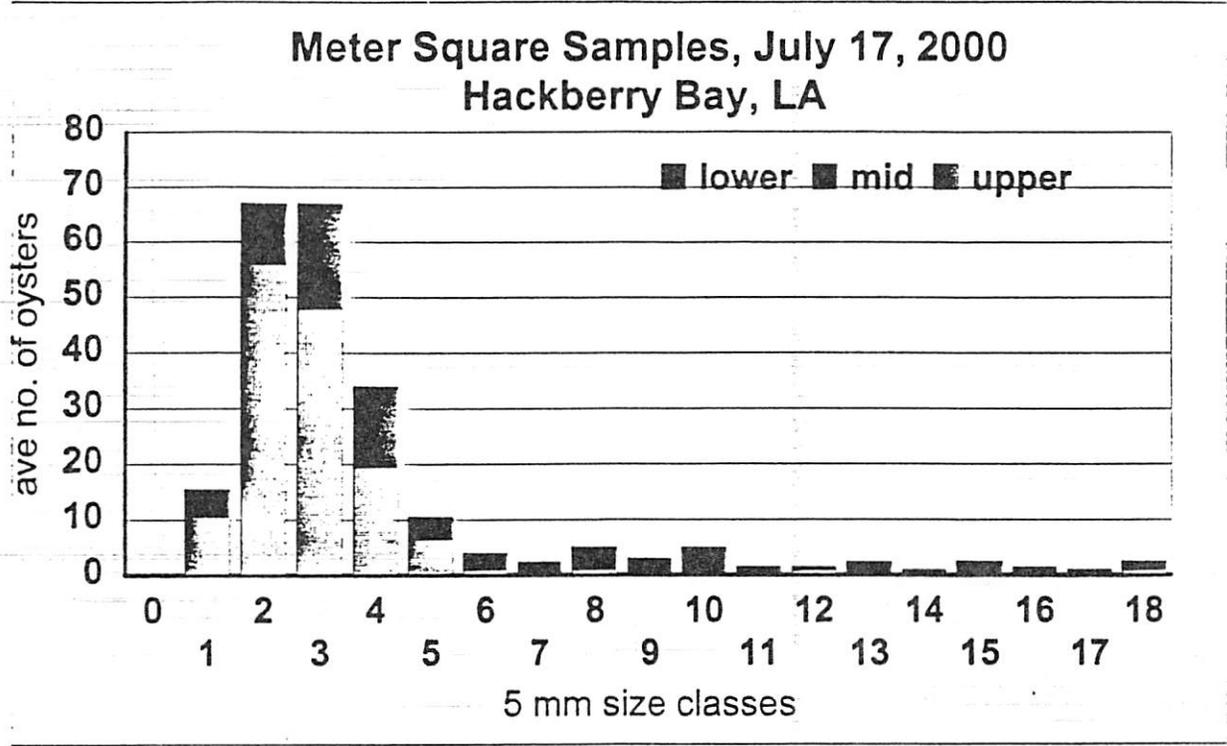
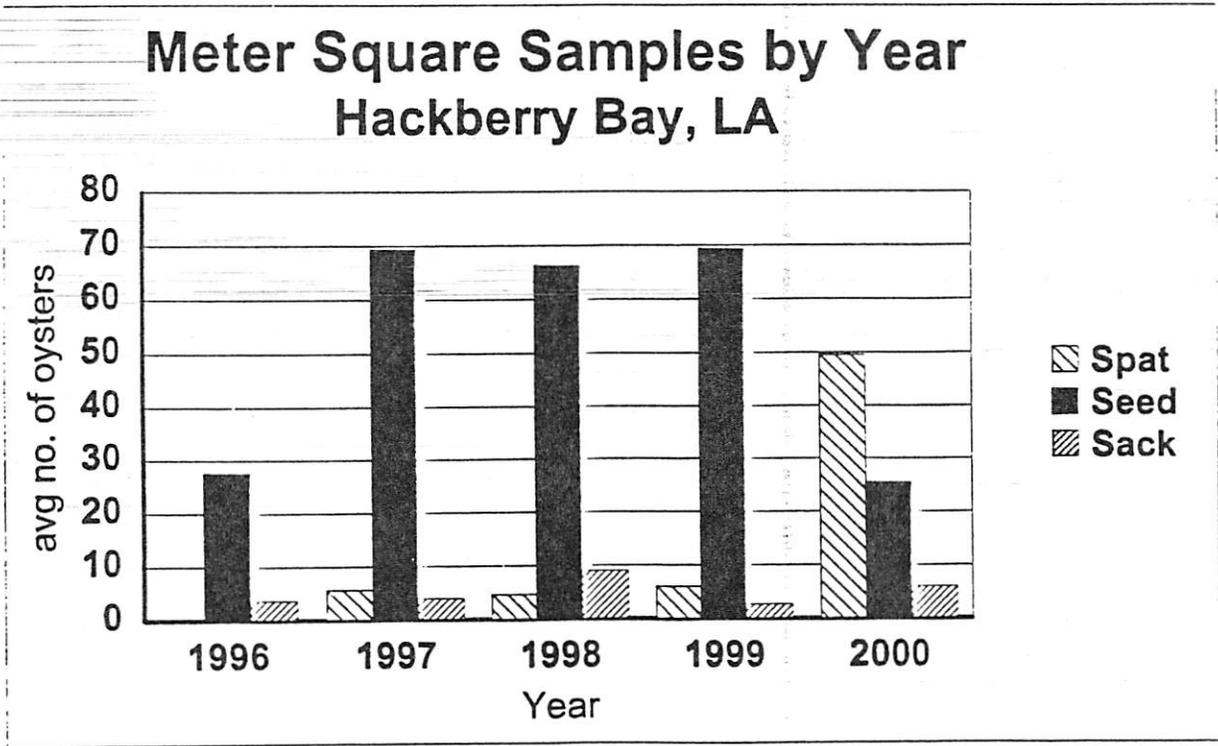


Figure 2.



COASTAL STUDY AREA V

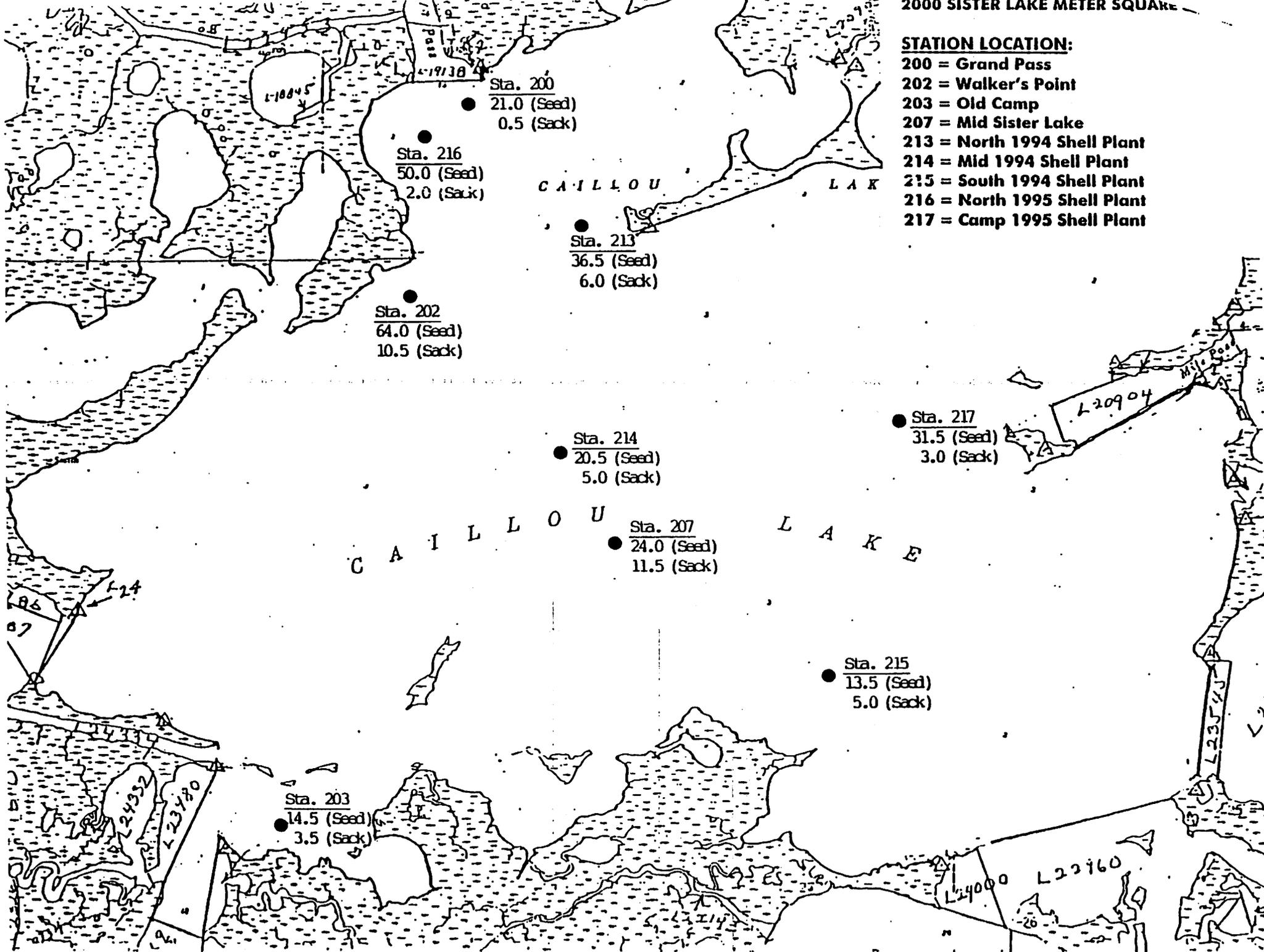
MARTIN BOURGEOIS

PAUL MEIER

2000 SISTER LAKE METER SQUARE

STATION LOCATION:

- 200 = Grand Pass
- 202 = Walker's Point
- 203 = Old Camp
- 207 = Mid Sister Lake
- 213 = North 1994 Shell Plant
- 214 = Mid 1994 Shell Plant
- 215 = South 1994 Shell Plant
- 216 = North 1995 Shell Plant
- 217 = Camp 1995 Shell Plant



Sta. 200
21.0 (Seed)
0.5 (Sack)

Sta. 216
50.0 (Seed)
2.0 (Sack)

Sta. 213
36.5 (Seed)
6.0 (Sack)

Sta. 202
64.0 (Seed)
10.5 (Sack)

Sta. 214
20.5 (Seed)
5.0 (Sack)

Sta. 217
31.5 (Seed)
3.0 (Sack)

Sta. 207
24.0 (Seed)
11.5 (Sack)

Sta. 215
13.5 (Seed)
5.0 (Sack)

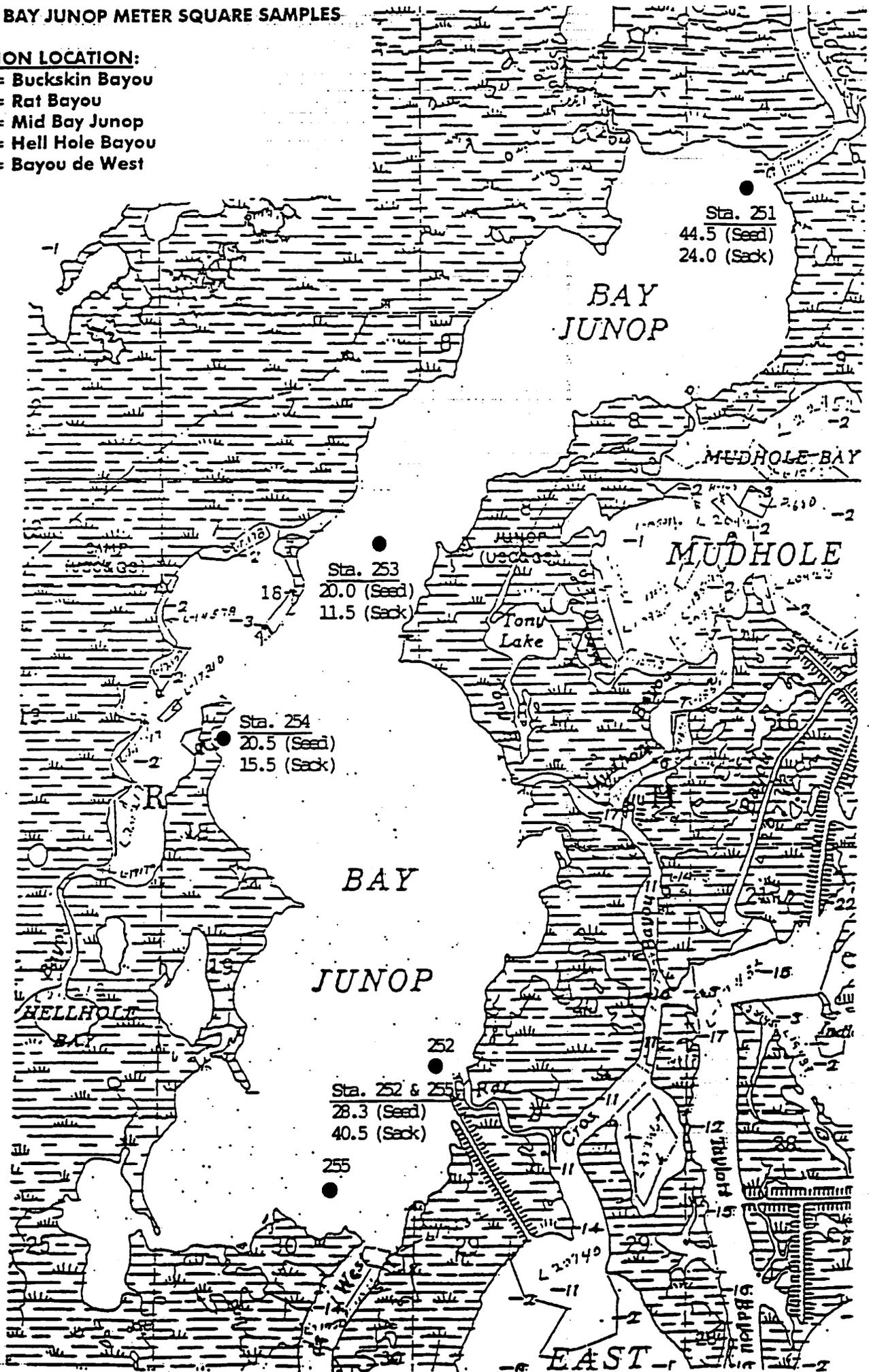
Sta. 203
14.5 (Seed)
3.5 (Sack)



10 BAY JUNOP METER SQUARE SAMPLES

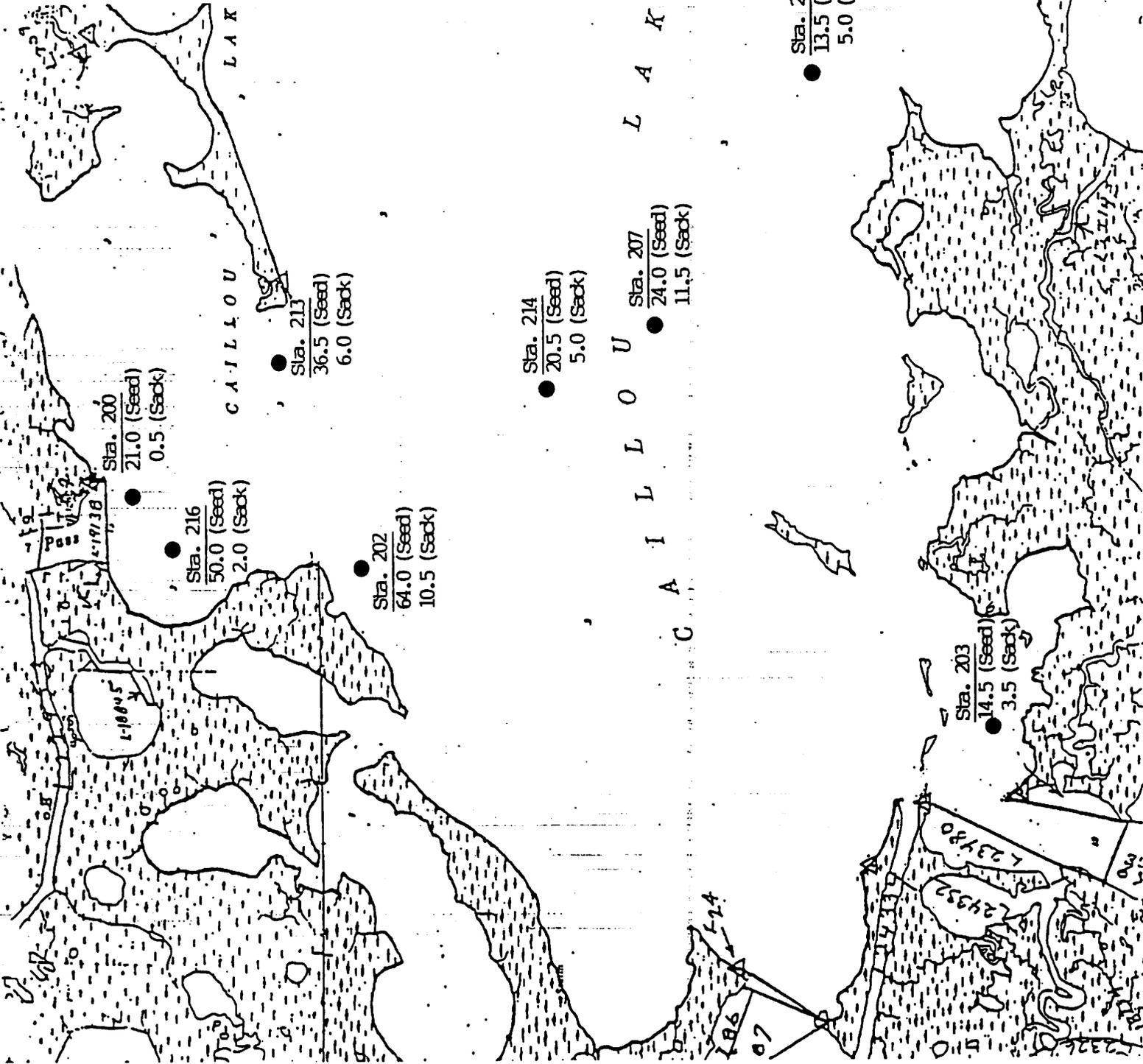
STATION LOCATION:

- 251 = Buckskin Bayou
- 252 = Rat Bayou
- 253 = Mid Bay Junop
- 254 = Hell Hole Bayou
- 255 = Bayou de West



STATION LOCATION:

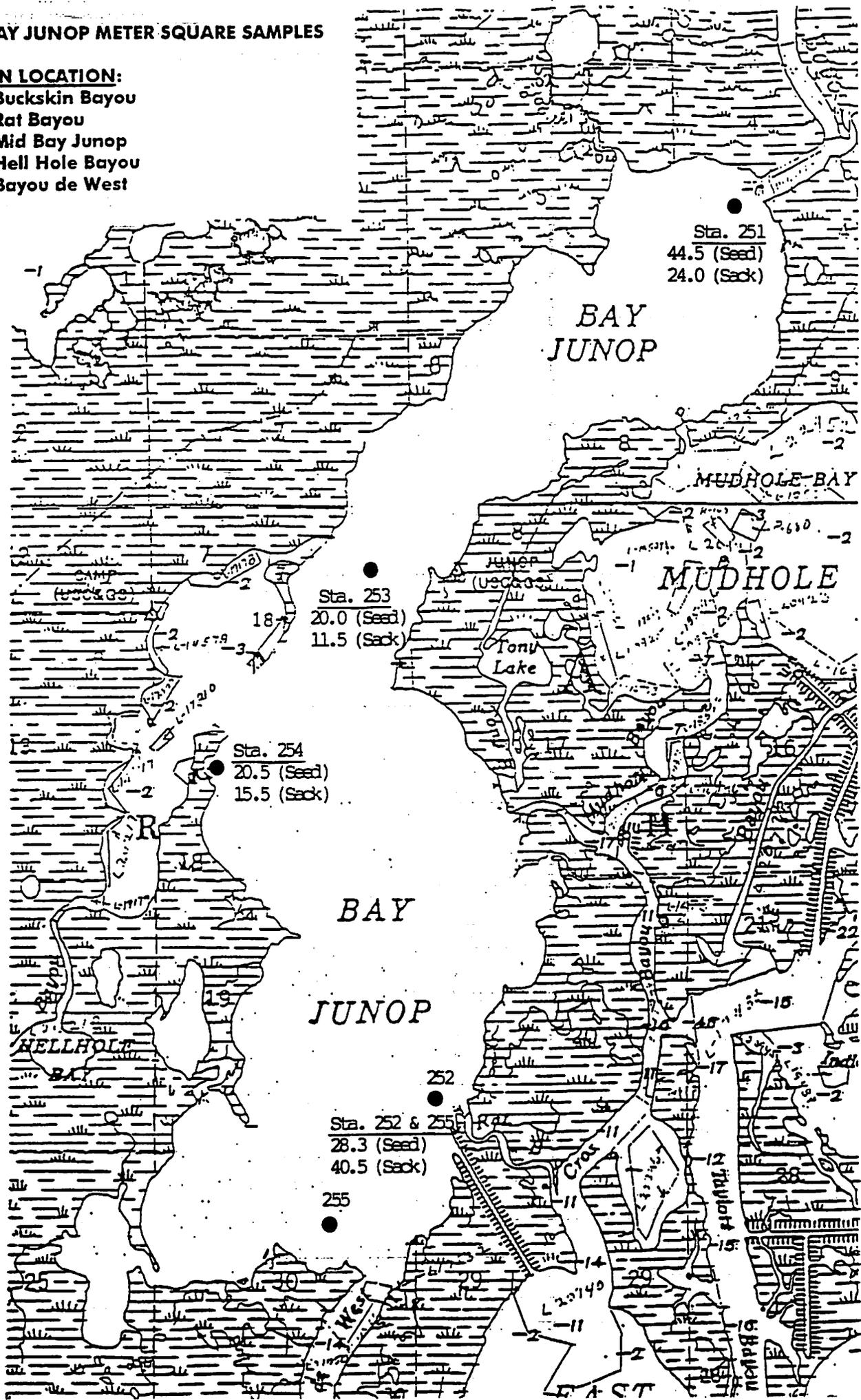
- 200 = Grand Pass
- 202 = Walker's Point
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2000 BAY JUNOP METER SQUARE SAMPLES

STATION LOCATION:

- 251 = Buckskin Bayou
- 252 = Rat Bayou
- 253 = Mid Bay Junop
- 254 = Hell Hole Bayou
- 255 = Bayou de West



2000 SISTER LAKE OYSTER AVAILABILITY (Reefs Only)

METER ² STATION	— REEF ACREAGE	# METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
200	221.58	896,734.26	21.0	0.5	26,154.7	1,245.5
202	81.93	331,570.71	64.0	10.5	29,473.0	9,670.8
203	151.31	612,352.00	14.5	3.5	12,332.1	5,953.4
207	185.72	751,608.84	24.0	11.5	25,053.6	24,009.7
TOTALS	640.54	2,592,265.7	123.5	26.0	93,013.4	40,879.4

2000 OYSTER AVAILABILITY SISTER LAKE 1995 SHELL PLANTS

SEED OYSTERS

SHELL PLANT	ACRES	# METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS
North 1995	115	465,405	50.0	32,319.8
Camp 1995	438	1,772,586	31.5	77,550.6
TOTALS	553	2,237,991	81.5	109,870.4

SACK OYSTERS

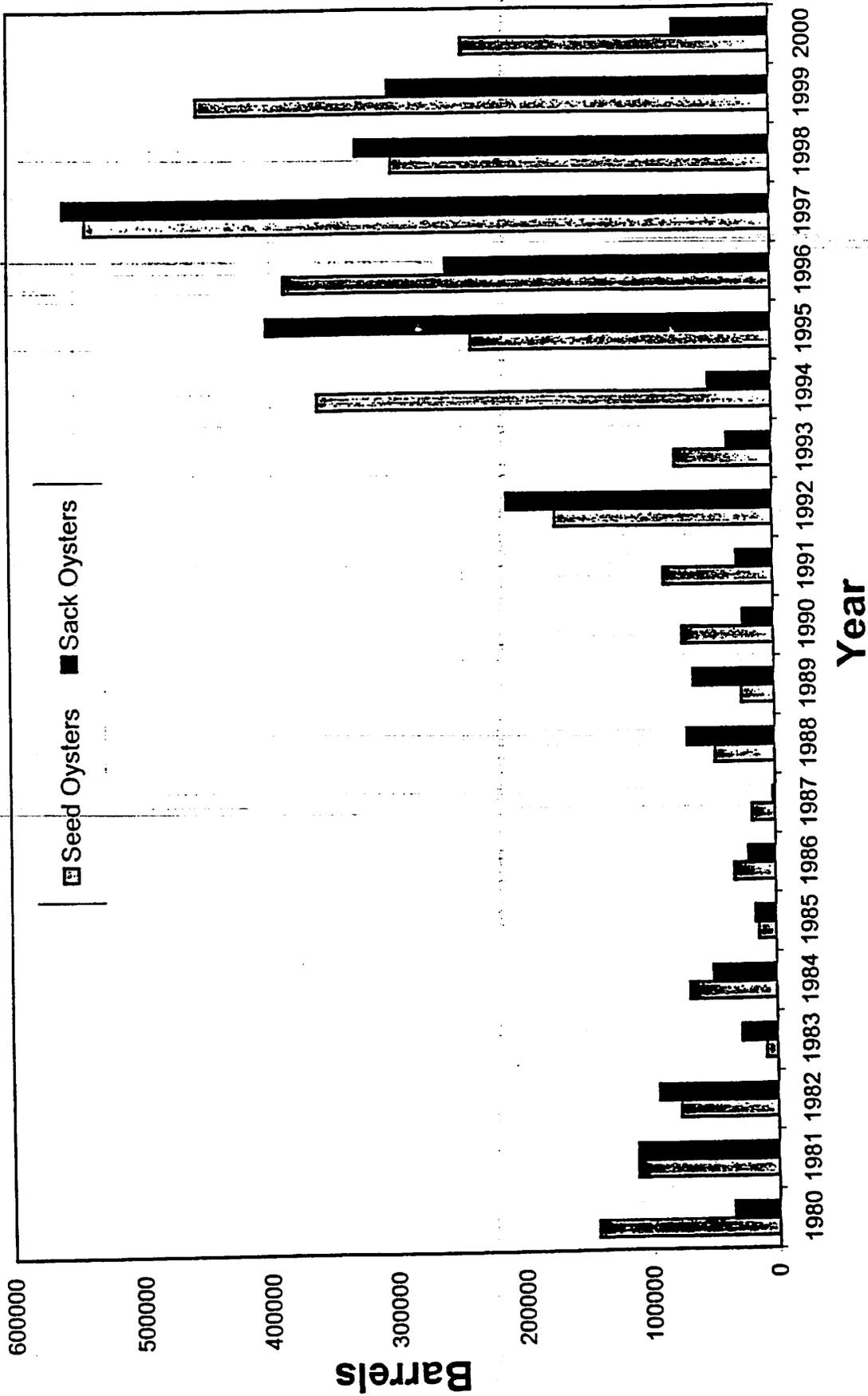
SHELL PLANT	ACRES	# METER ²	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
North 1995	115	465,405	2.0	2,585.6
Camp 1995	438	1,772,586	3.0	14,771.5
TOTALS	553	2,237,991	5.0	17,357.1

1999 BAY JUNOP OYSTER AVAILABILITY

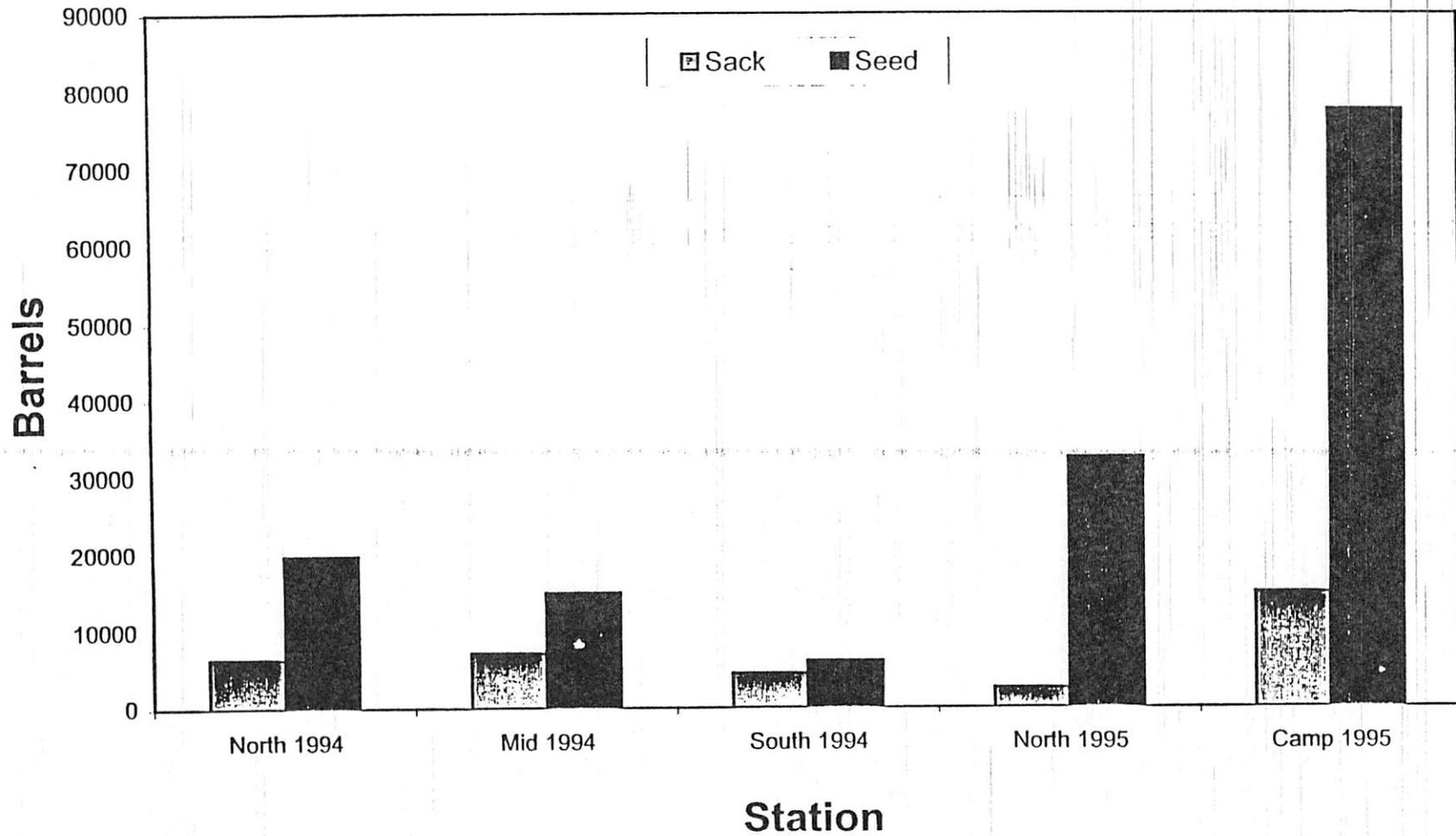
METER ² STATION	REEF ACREAGE	# METER ²	# SEED OYSTERS	# SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
251	17.2	69,608.40	44.5	24.0	4,302.2	4,640.6
252*	67.36	272,605.92	28.3	40.5	10,714.9	30,668.2
253	73.26	296,483.22	20.0	11.5	8,235.6	9,471.0
254	94.20	381,227.40	20.5	15.5	10,854.4	16,414.0
255*						
TOTALS	252.02	1,019,924.9	113.3	91.5	34,107.1	61,193.8

* Stations 252 and 255 are combined.

SISTER LAKE HISTORICAL STOCK SIZE

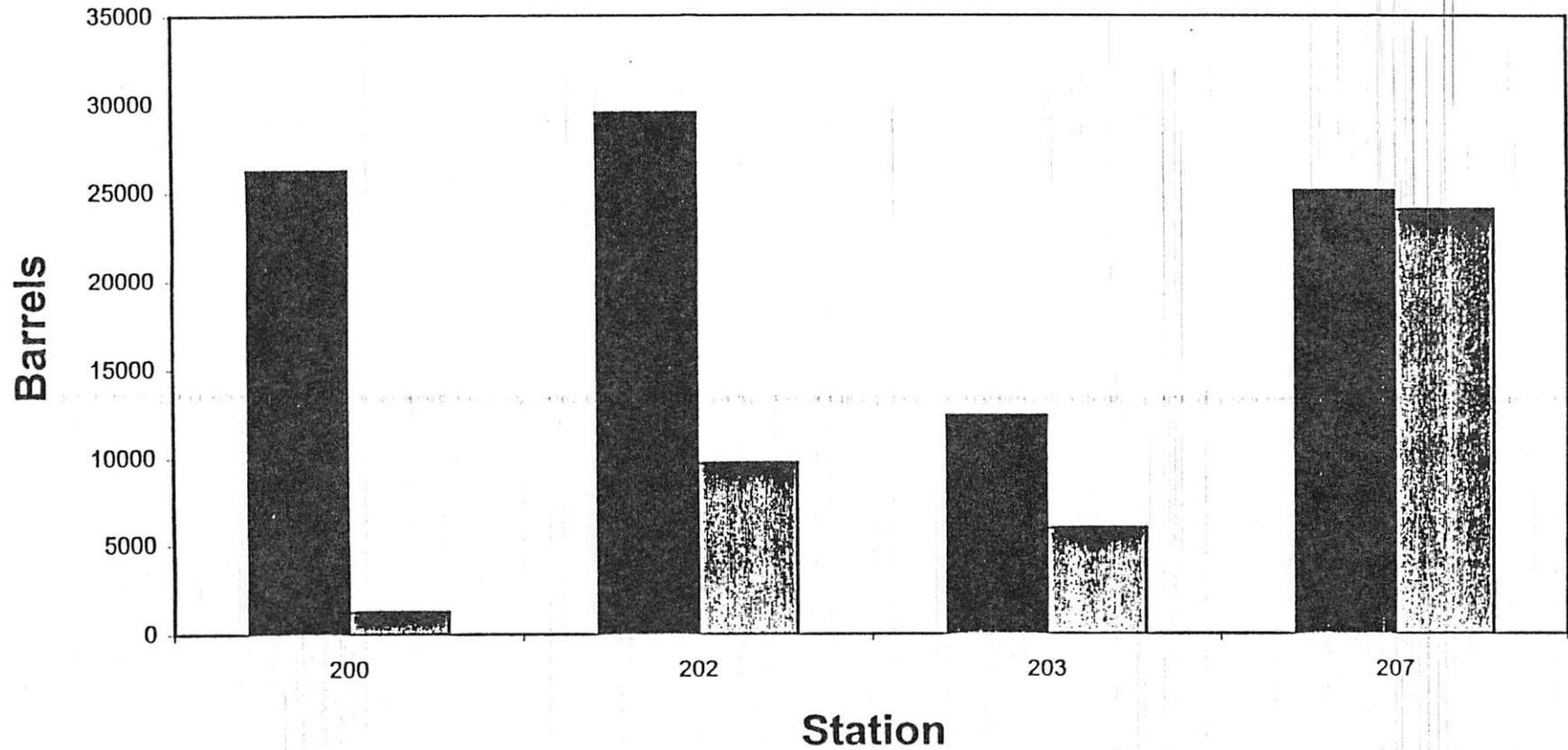


2000 SISTER LAKE SHELL PLANTS OYSTER STOCK SIZE

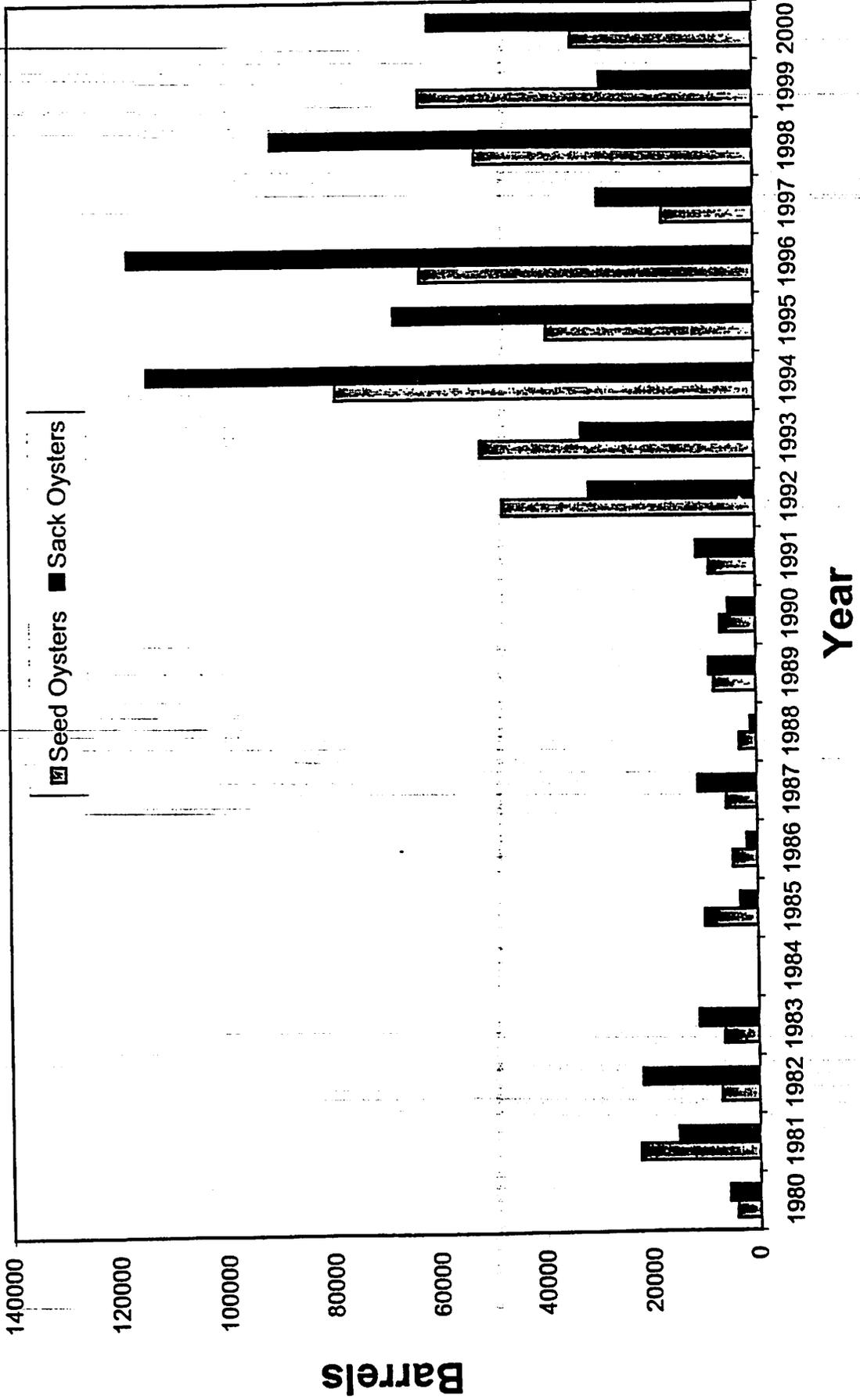


2000 SISTER LAKE OYSTER STOCK SIZE (Reefs Only)

■ Seed ■ Sack

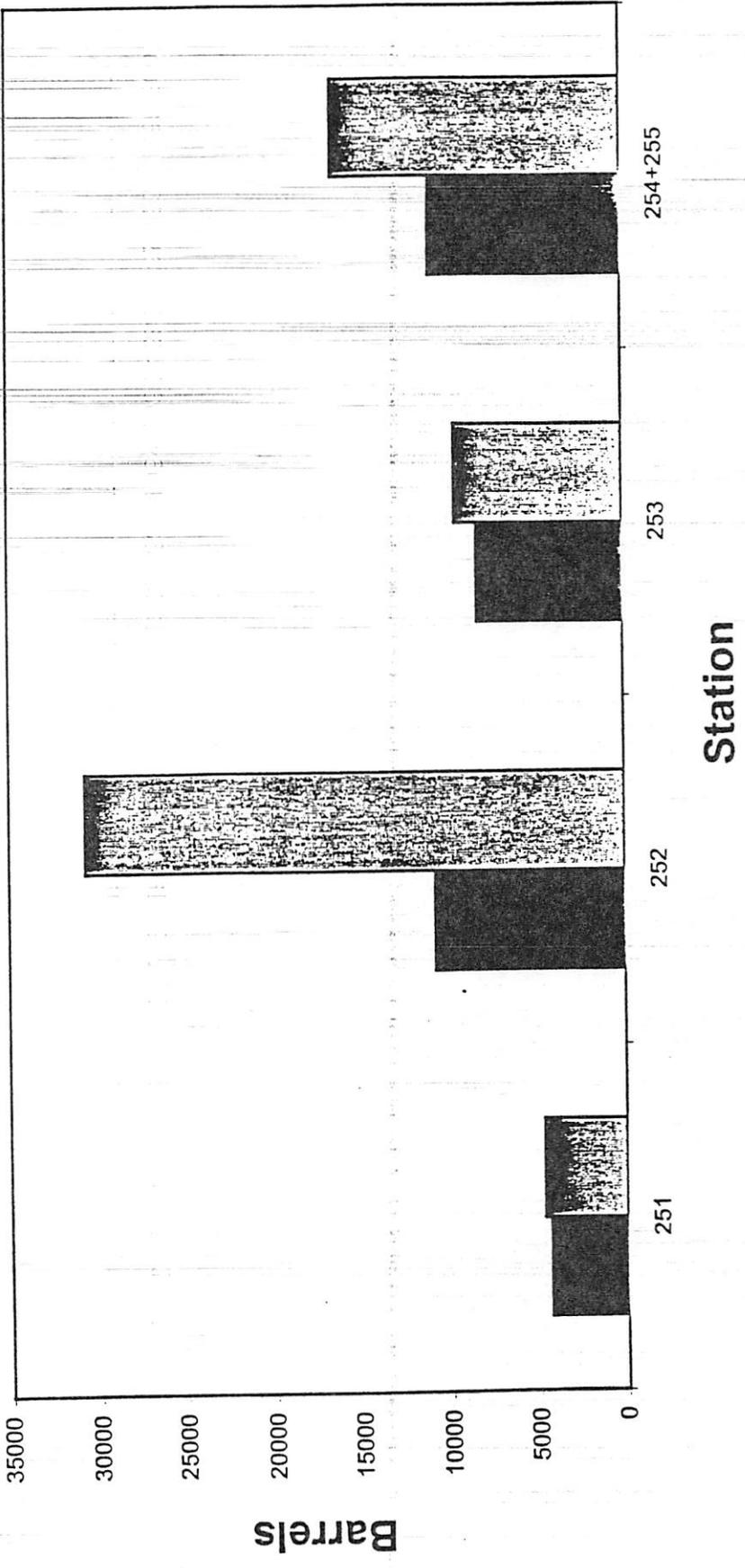


BAY JUNOP HISTORICAL STOCK SIZE

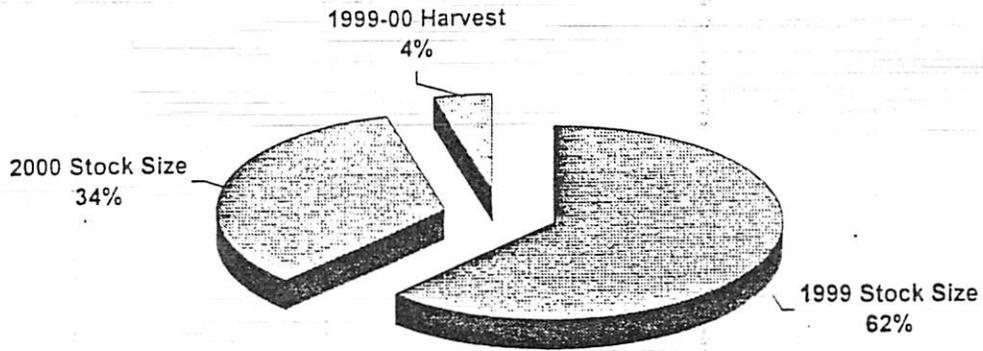


2000 BAY JUNOP OYSTER STOCK SIZE

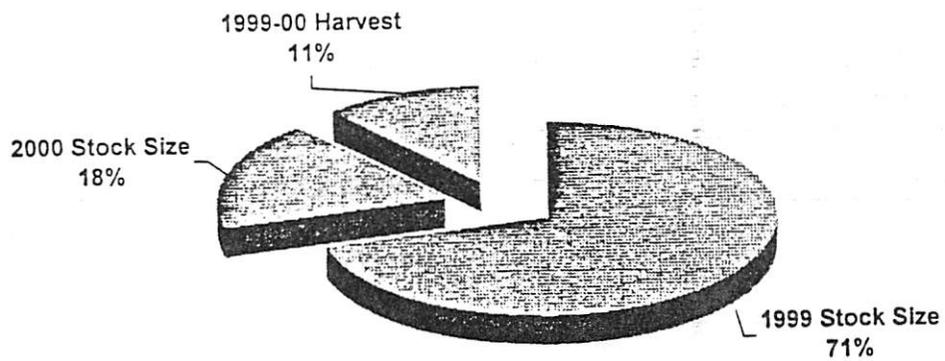
■ Seed □ Sack



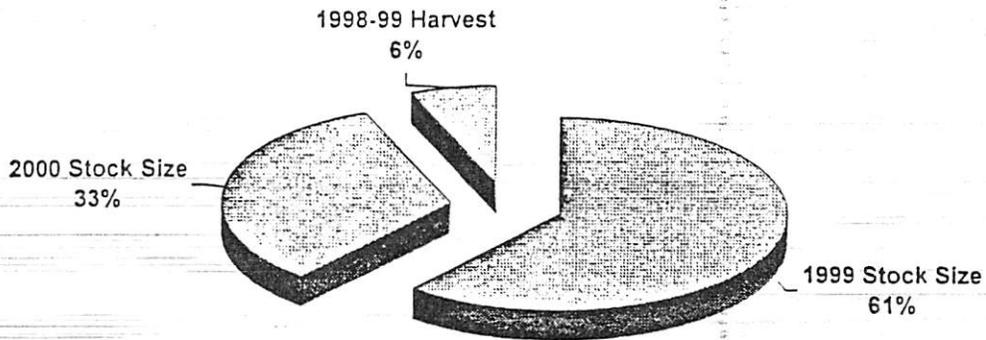
SISTER LAKE SEED OYSTER STOCK SIZE



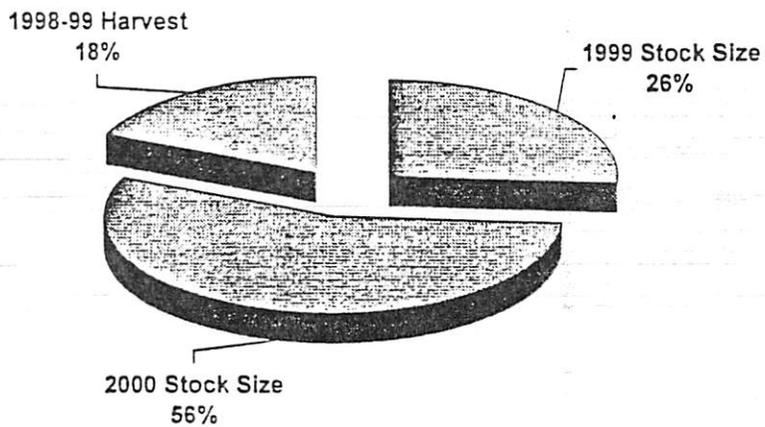
SISTER LAKE SACK OYSTER STOCK SIZE



BAY JUNOP SEED OYSTER STOCK SIZE

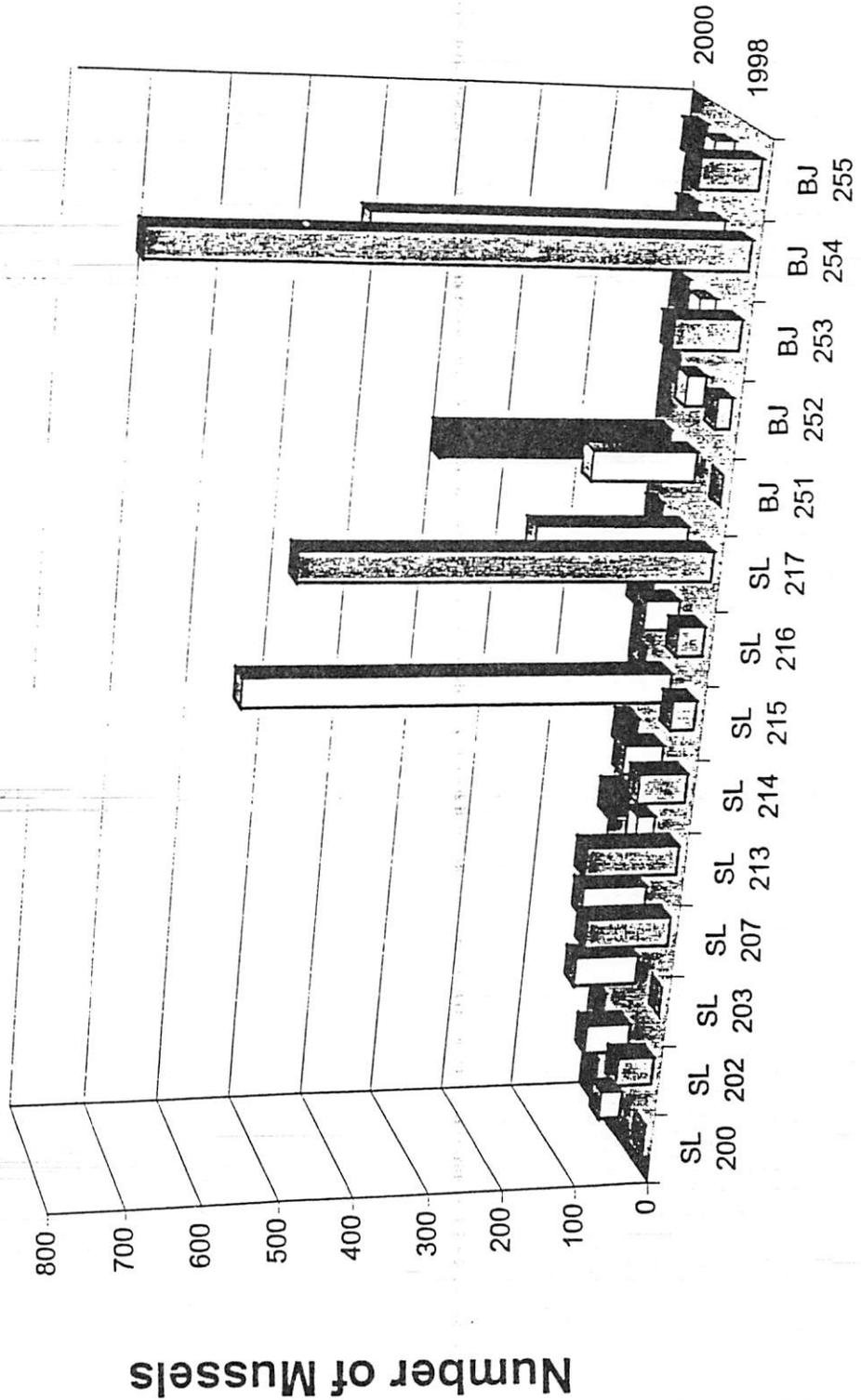


BAY JUNOP SACK OYSTER STOCK SIZE



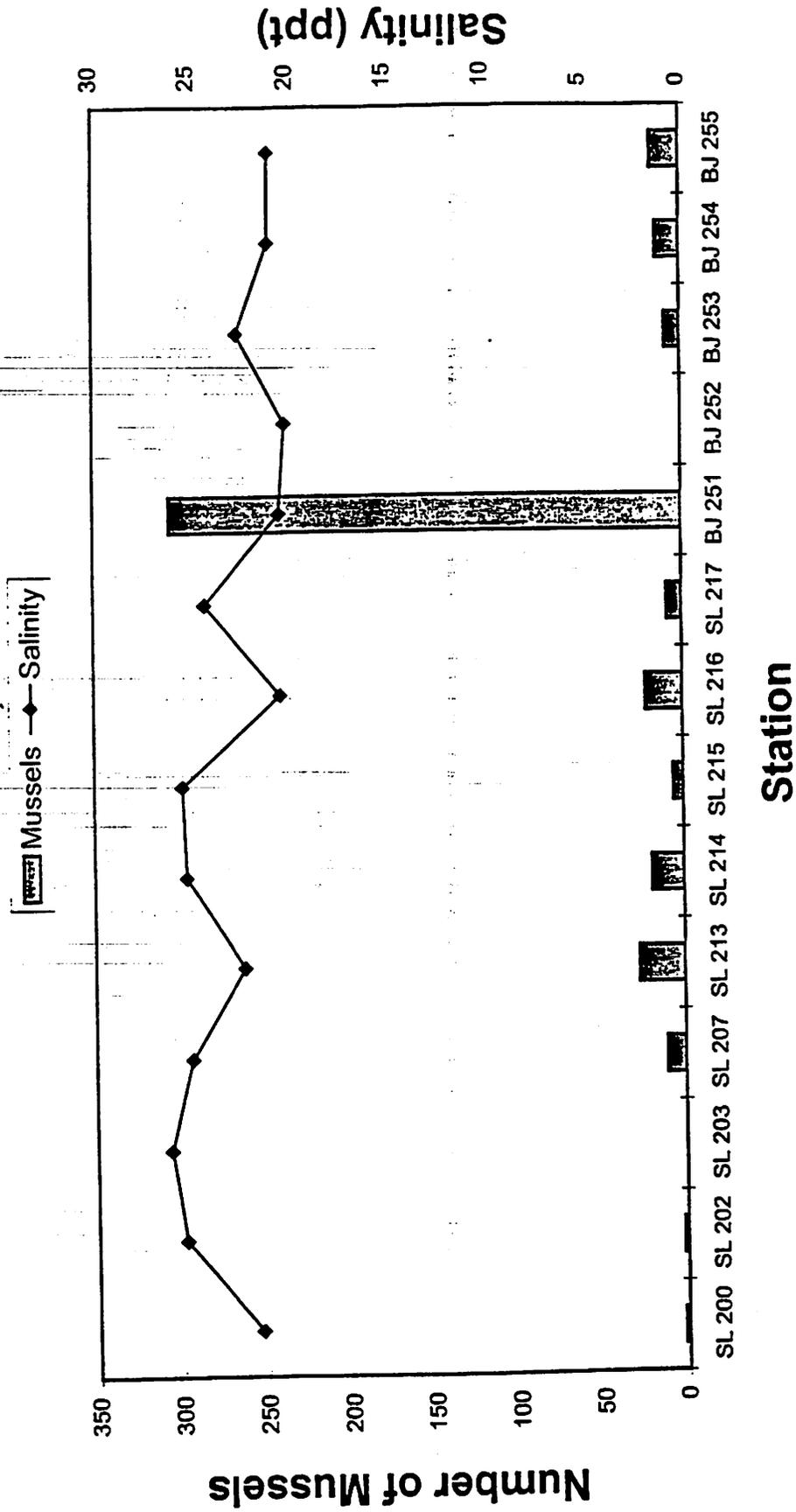
SISTER LAKE AND BAY JUNOP HOOKED MUSSEL FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION

□ 1998 ■ 2000

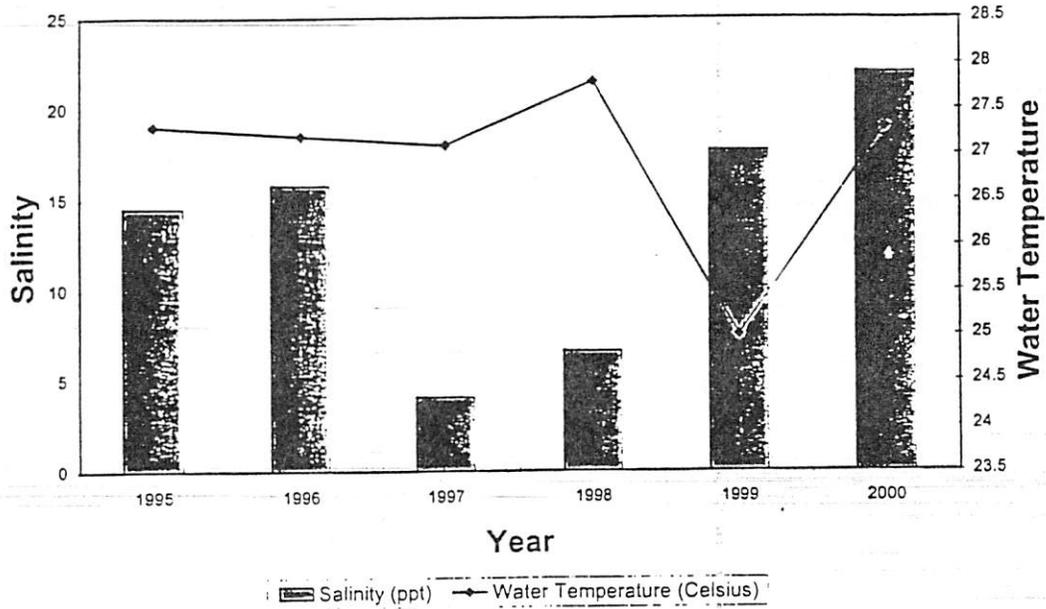


Station Number

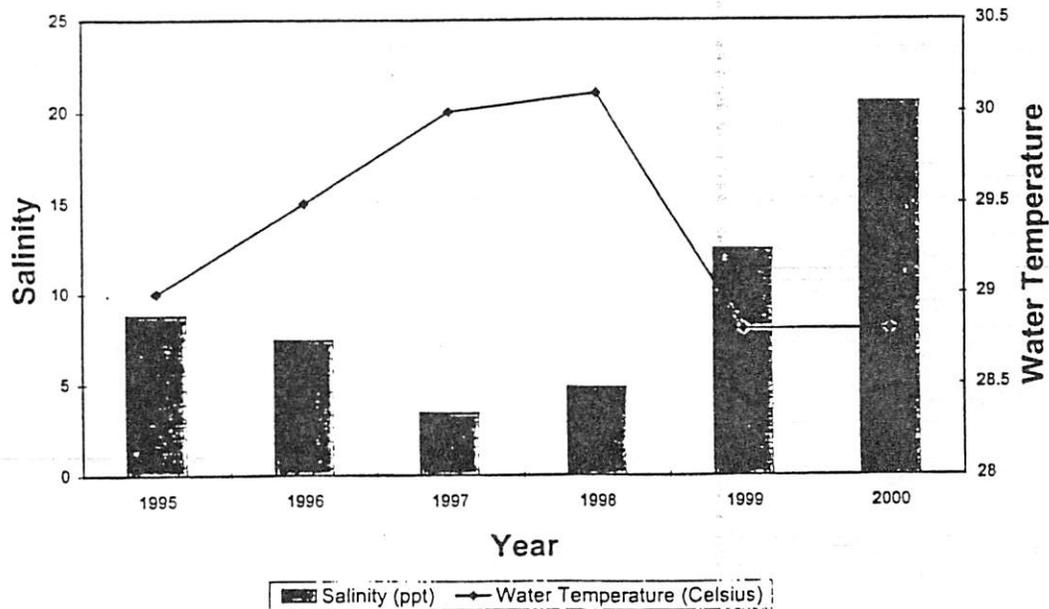
HOOKED MUSSEL FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION AND SALINITY



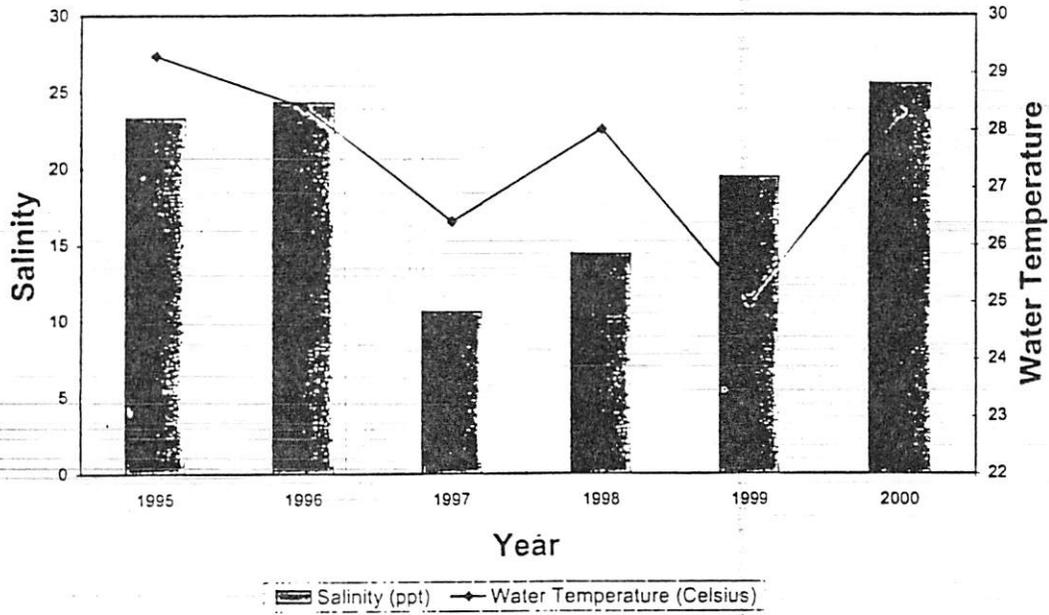
MAY SISTER LAKE SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



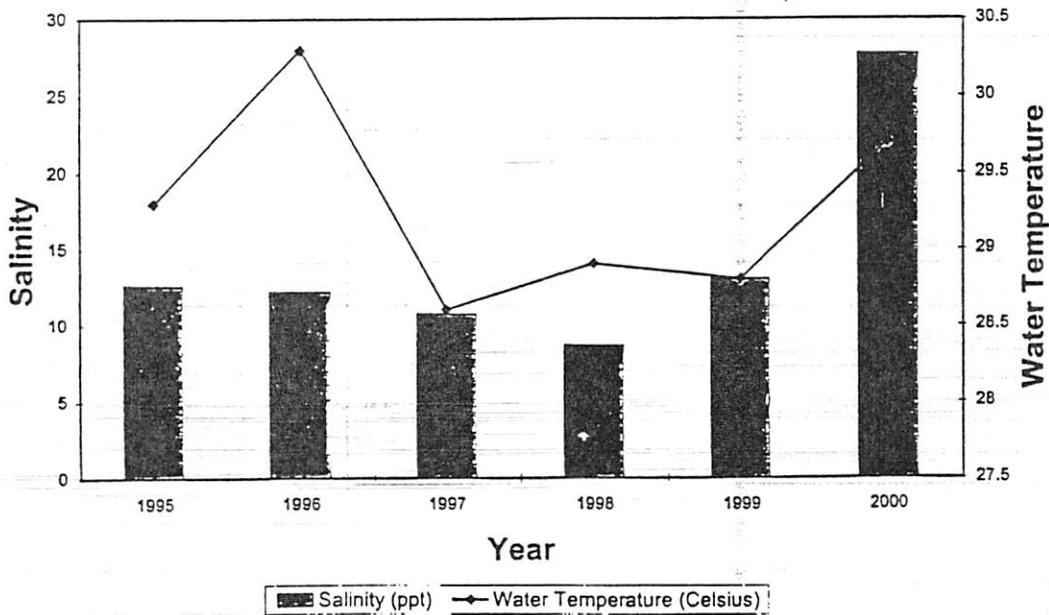
JUNE SISTER LAKE SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



MAY BAY JUNOP SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



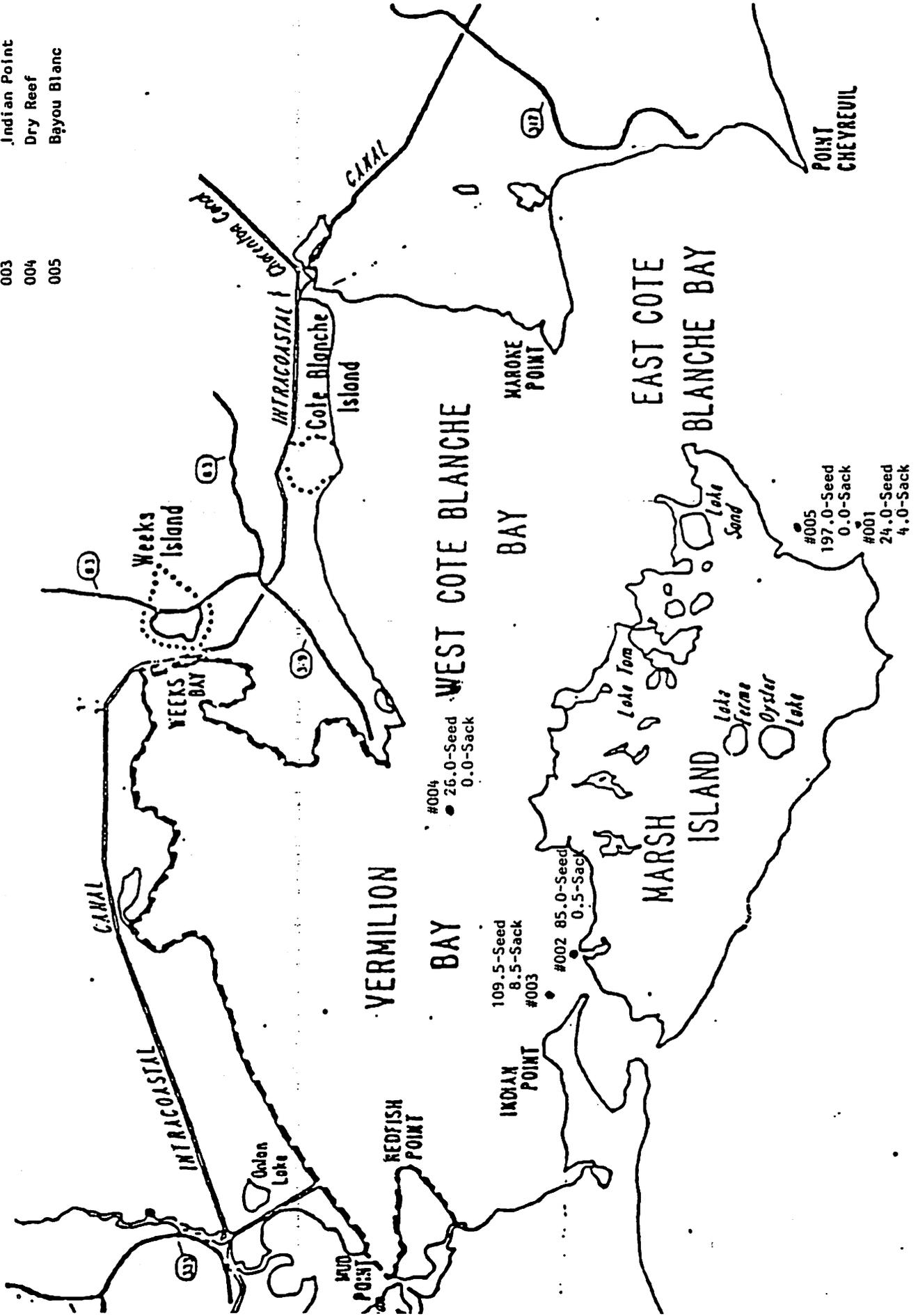
JUNE BAY JUNOP SALINITY AND WATER TEMPERATURE



COASTAL STUDY AREA VI

PAUL COOK

STATION NO.	STATION NAME
001	South Point
002	Big Charles
003	Indian Point
004	Dry Reef
005	Bayou Blanc



State of Louisiana



James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
2415 Darnall Road
New Iberia, LA 70560
(337)373-0032

M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ron Dugas
FROM: E. Paul Cook
DATE: August 3, 2000
SUBJECT: CSA 6 Meter Square Oyster Samples / 2000

With assistance from CSA 3 and CSA 5 personnel, meter square field sampling of public reefs in CSA 6 was completed on June 29, 2000. A total of 5 stations were sampled with one additional replicate made at each station.

Results of the 2000 samples were as follows;

STATION NO.	STATION NAME	AVG. NO. SEED	AVG. NO. SACK
001	South Point	24.0	4.0
002	Big Charles	85.0	0.5
003	Indian Point	109.5	8.5
004	Dry Reef	26.0	0
005	Bayou Blanc	197.0	0

Although an overall Vermilion Bay area stock assessment is not possible at this time (figures relative to reef sizes are not available) it can be seen from the sample results that oyster numbers for year 2000 have increased over numbers seen in recent years (see tables and figures). This is probably a direct result of increased salinities and lower turbidity seen throughout the Vermilion/Teche Basin caused by the extended drought period of 1999-2000.

It should be noted that a very small percentage (2.8%) of oysters taken in samples were sack oysters available for harvest. In addition, all areas sampled remain in the "Restricted Area" by order of DHH.

In addition to an increase in oyster productivity, the rise in salinity levels has produced an increase in the number of hooked mussels fouling 3 of the 5 reefs sampled.

Approximately 30-40 live oysters from Indian Point (Vermilion Bay) and Bayou Blanc (East Cote Blanche Bay) were collected by divers and forwarded to Dr. Tom Soniat at Nicholls State University for "DERMO" analysis. Results of the analysis are as follows;

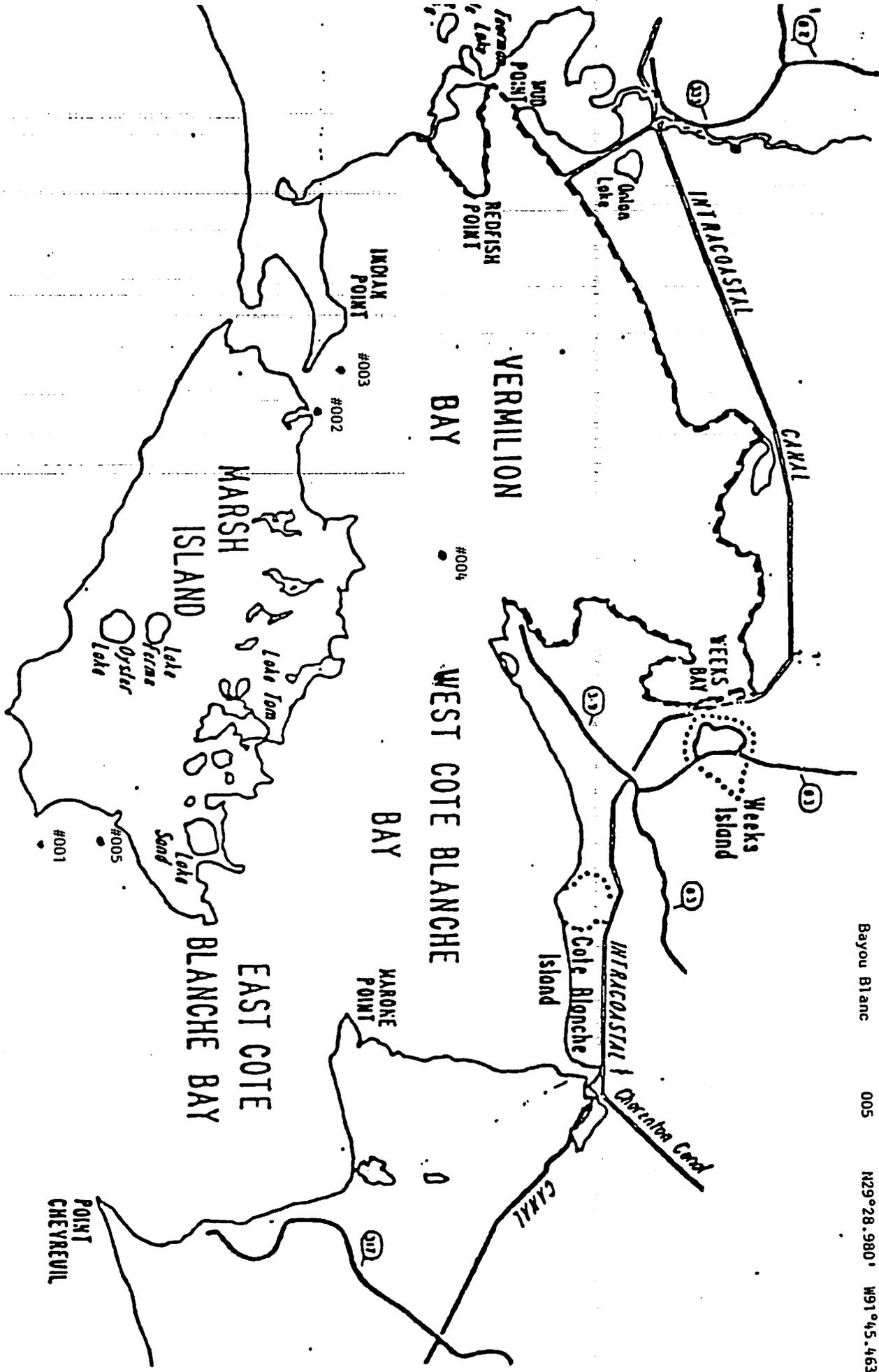
STATION NAME	SALINITY	TEMPERATURE	PERCENT INFECTION	WEIGHED INCIDENSE
Bayou Blanc (E. Cote Blanche)	14.4 ppt	29.4°C	0%	0.00
Indian Point (Vermilion Bay)	19.8 ppt	29.9°C	20%	0.07

Tables, map, and figures depicting the 2000 CSA 6 assessment are presented as follows;

cc: Marty Bourgeois
Claude Boudreaux
Karen Foote

2000 M² SAMPLES / CSAG

STATION NAME	STATION NO.	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
South Point	001	N29°28.980'	W91°45.463'
Big Charles	002	N29°36.853'	W92°00.525'
Indian Point	003	N29°37.112'	W92°00.525'
Dry Reef	004	N29°41.179'	W91°54.111'
Bayou Blanc	005	N29°28.980'	W91°45.463'



2000 M² SAMPLES / CSA 6

STATION NO.

STATION NAME

001

South Point

002

Big Charles

003

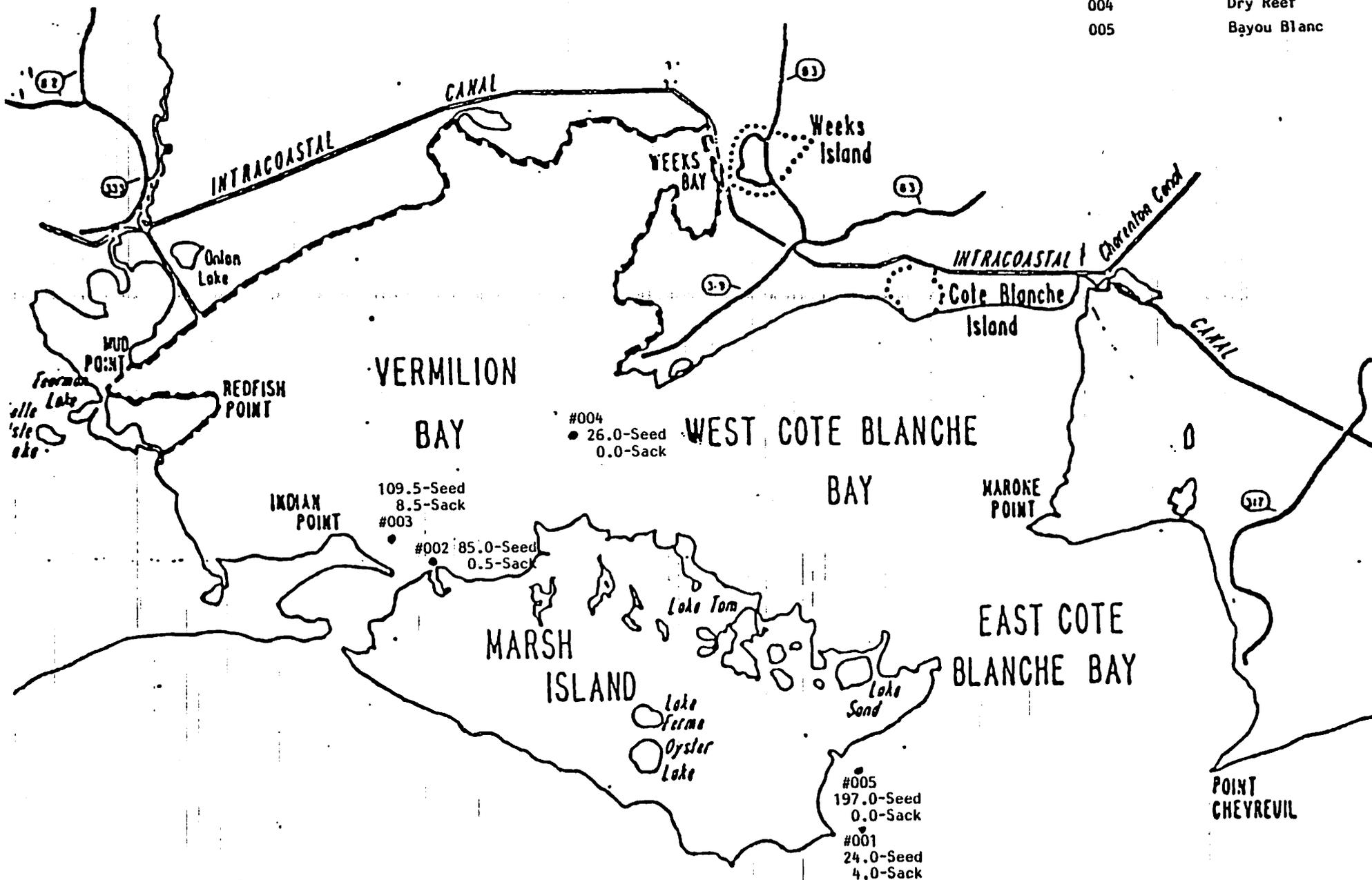
Indian Point

004

Dry Reef

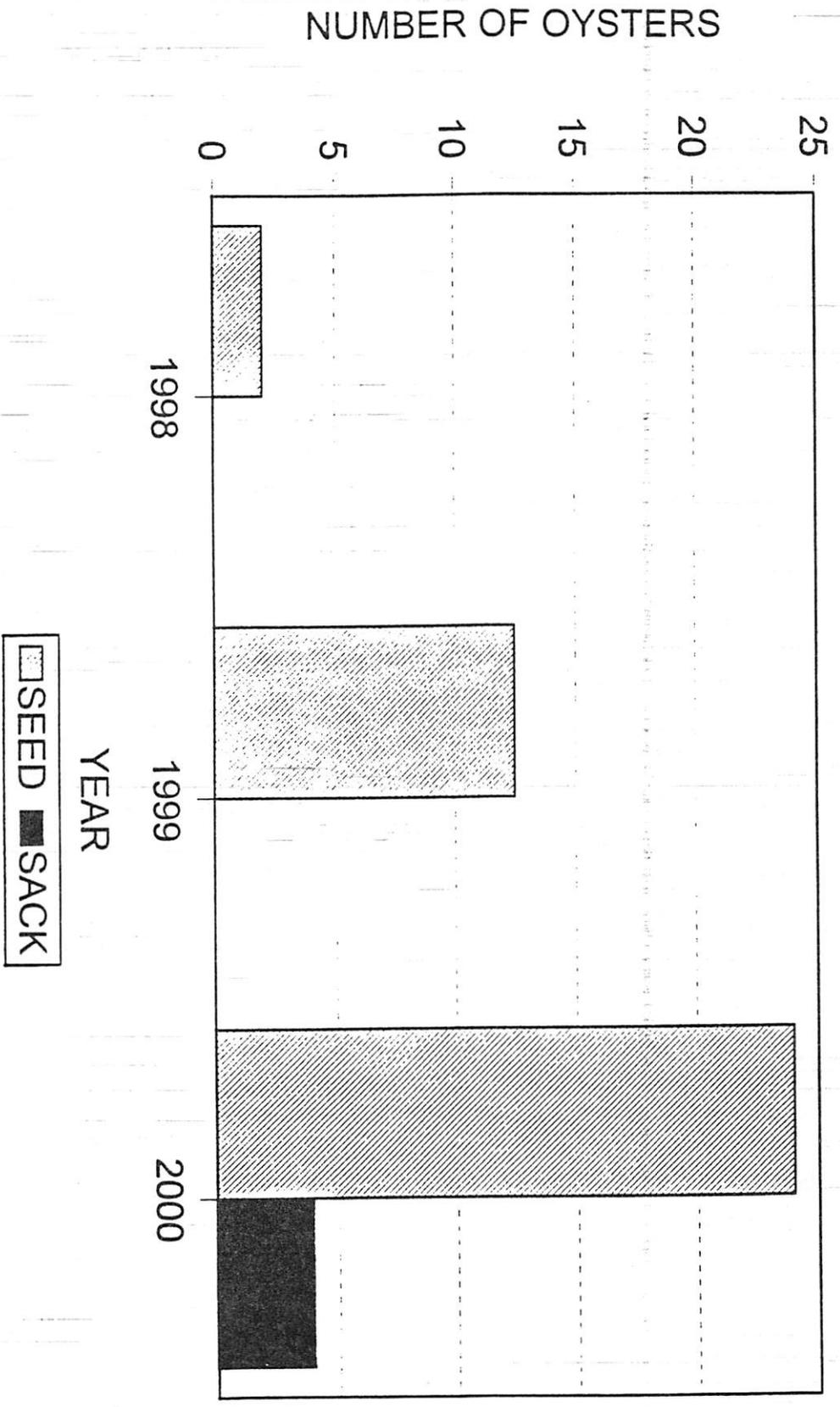
005

Bayou Blanc



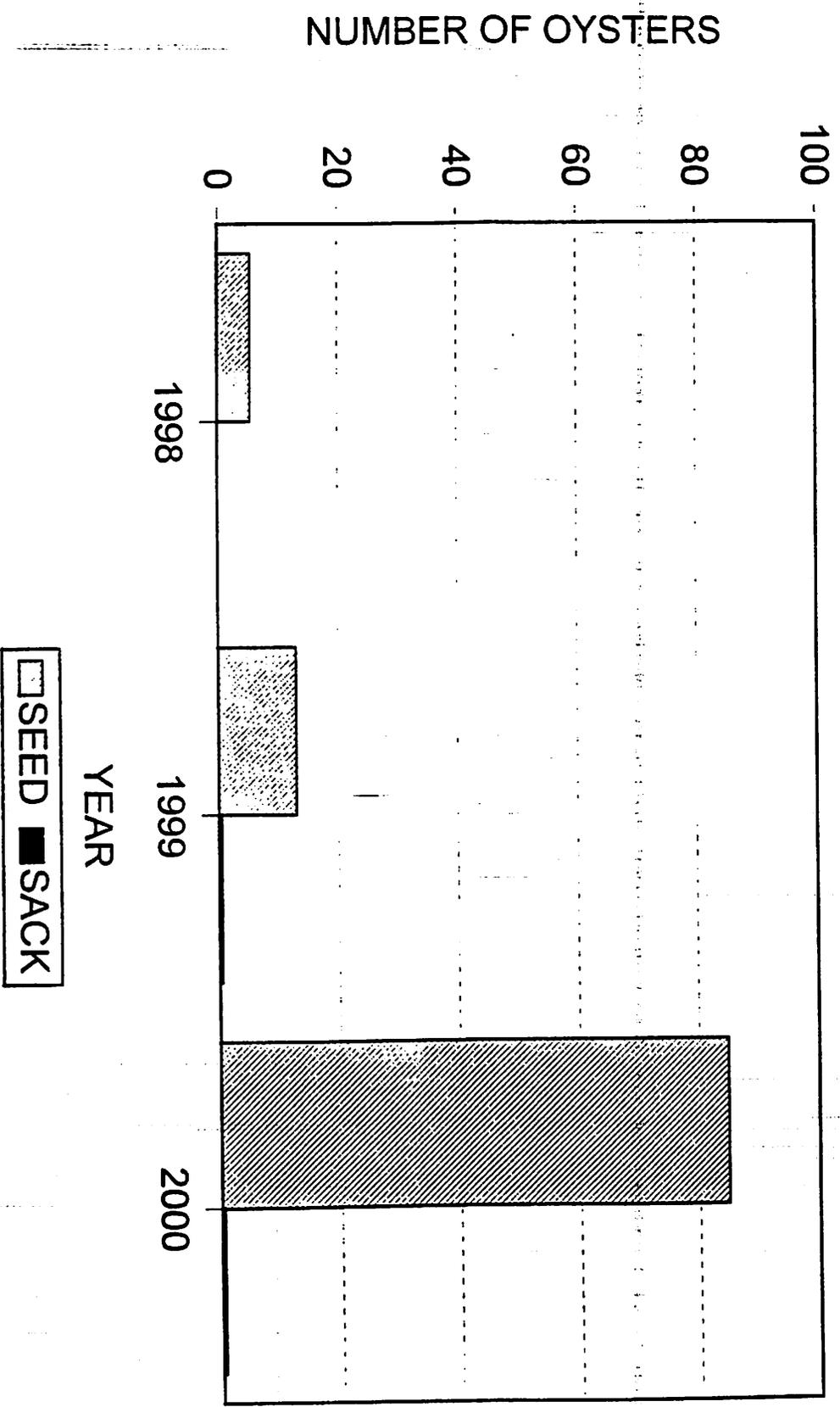
AVERAGE CATCH OYSTERS IN M² / SOUTH POINT

CSA 6



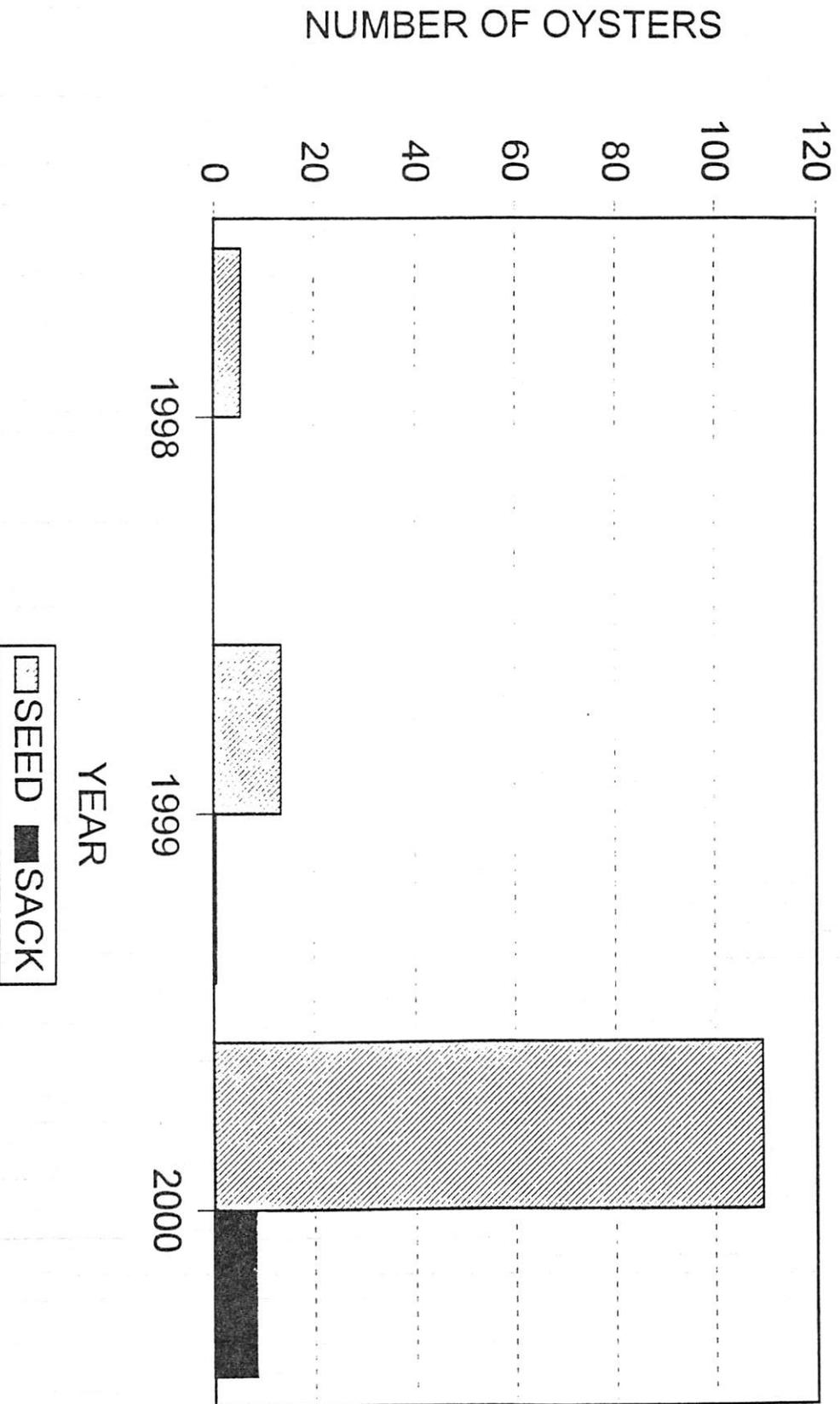
AVERAGE CATCH OYSTERS IN M² / BIG CHARLES

CSA 6



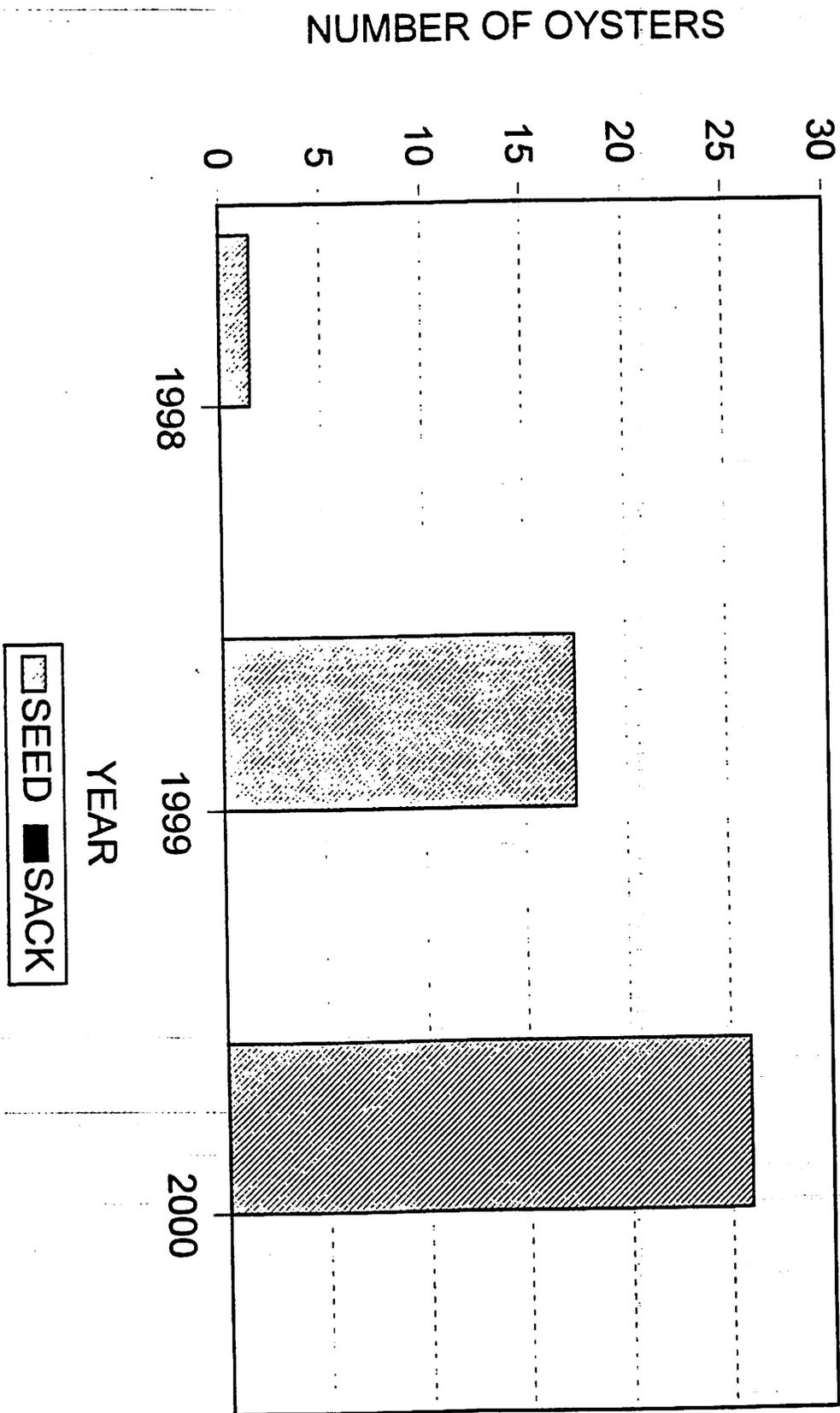
AVERAGE CATCH OYSTERS IN M² / INDIAN POINT

CSA 6



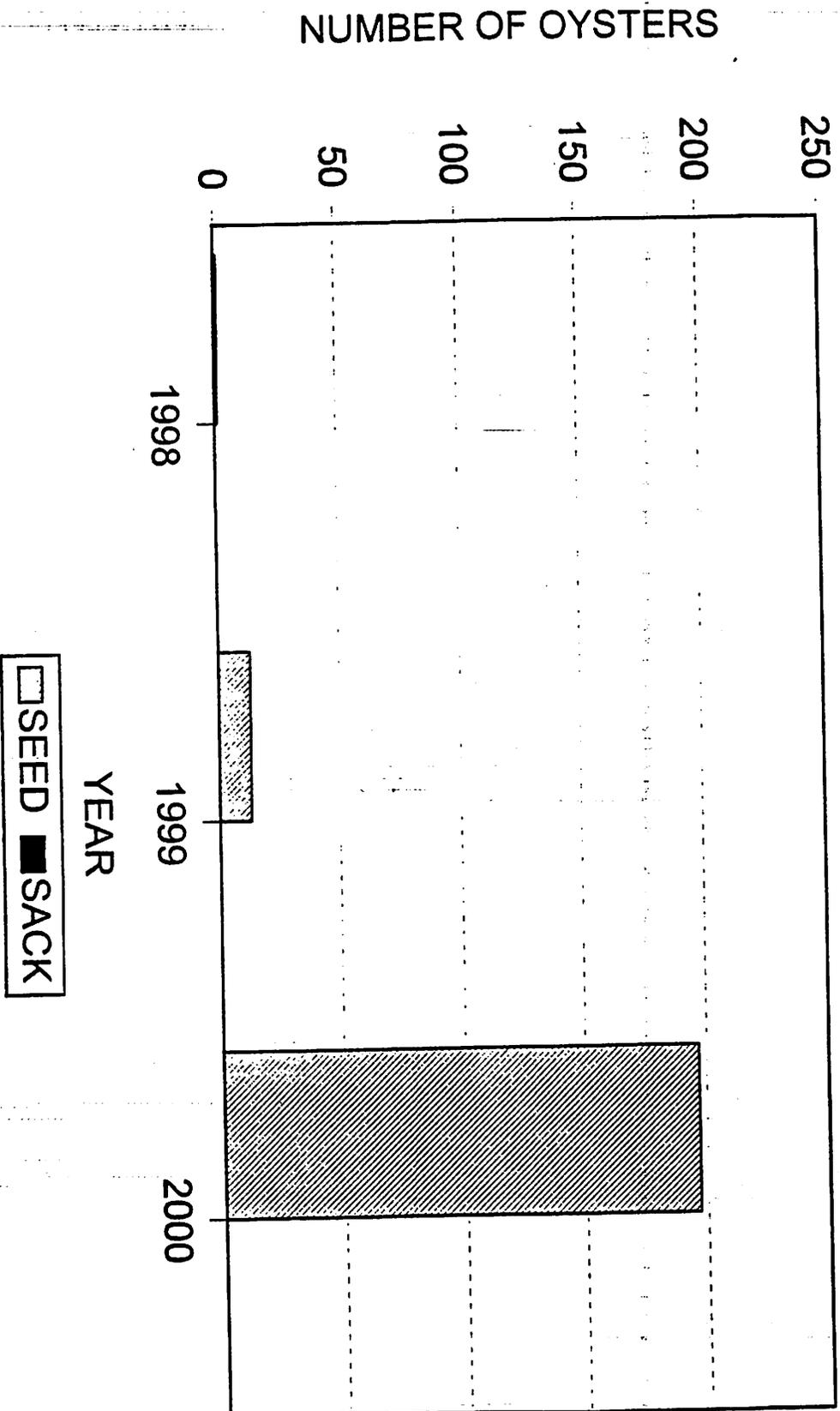
AVERAGE CATCH OYSTERS IN M² / DRY REEF

CSA 6

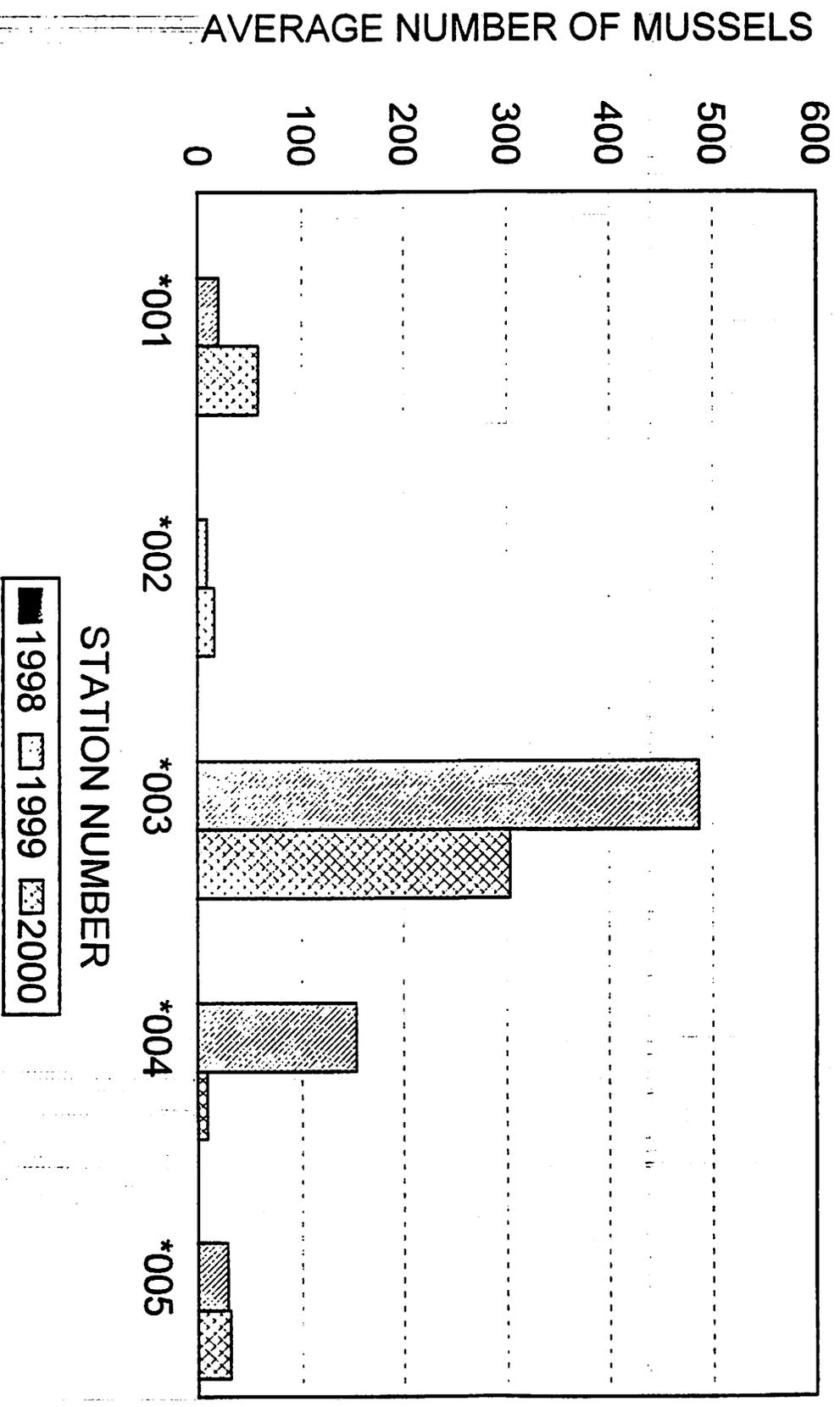


AVERAGE CATCH OYSTERS IN M² / BAYOU BLANC

CSA 6



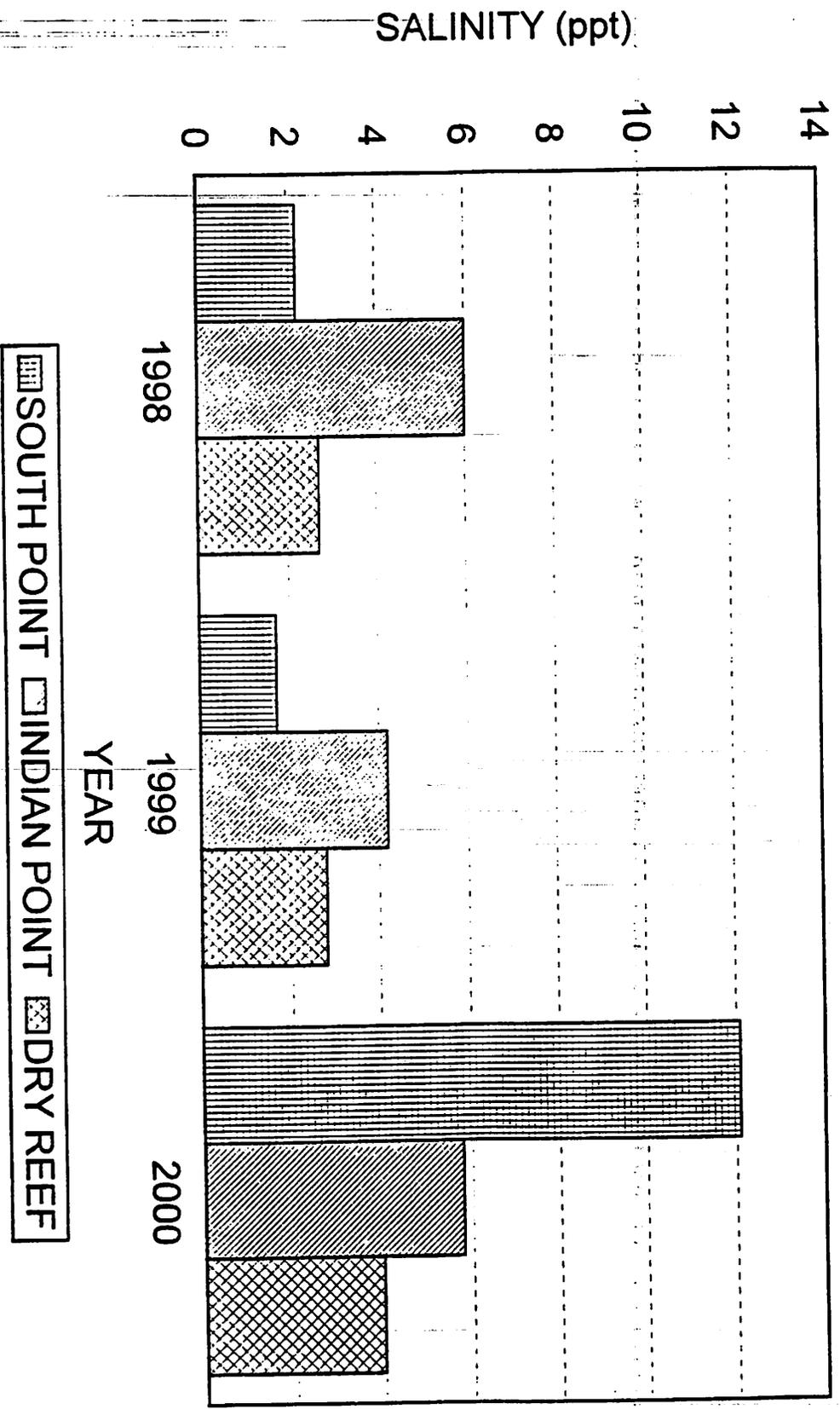
HOOKED MUSSEL FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION



001-South Pt., 002-Big Charles, 003-Indian Pt., 004-Dry Reef, 005-Bayou Blanc

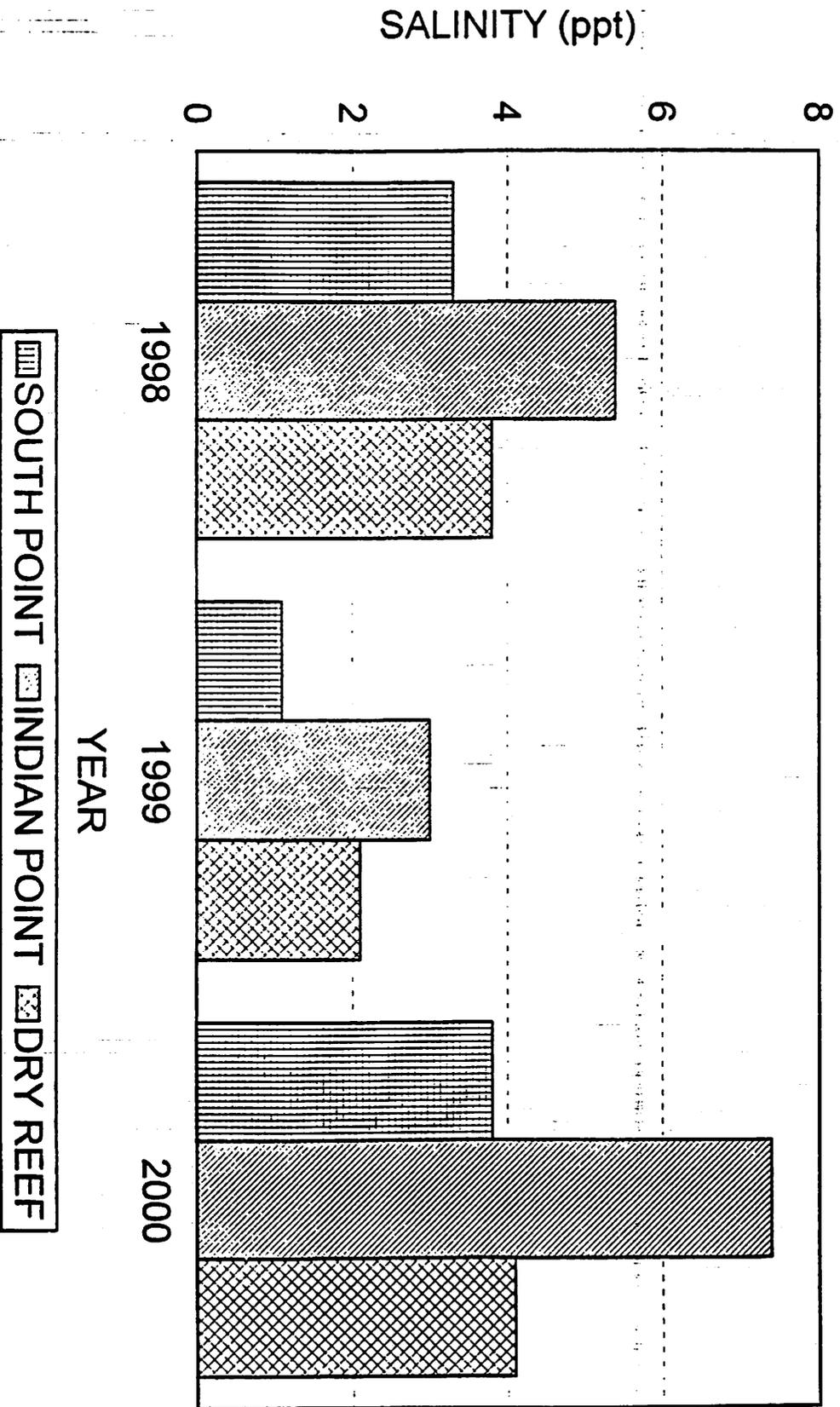
AVERAGE MAY SALINITY

CSA 6



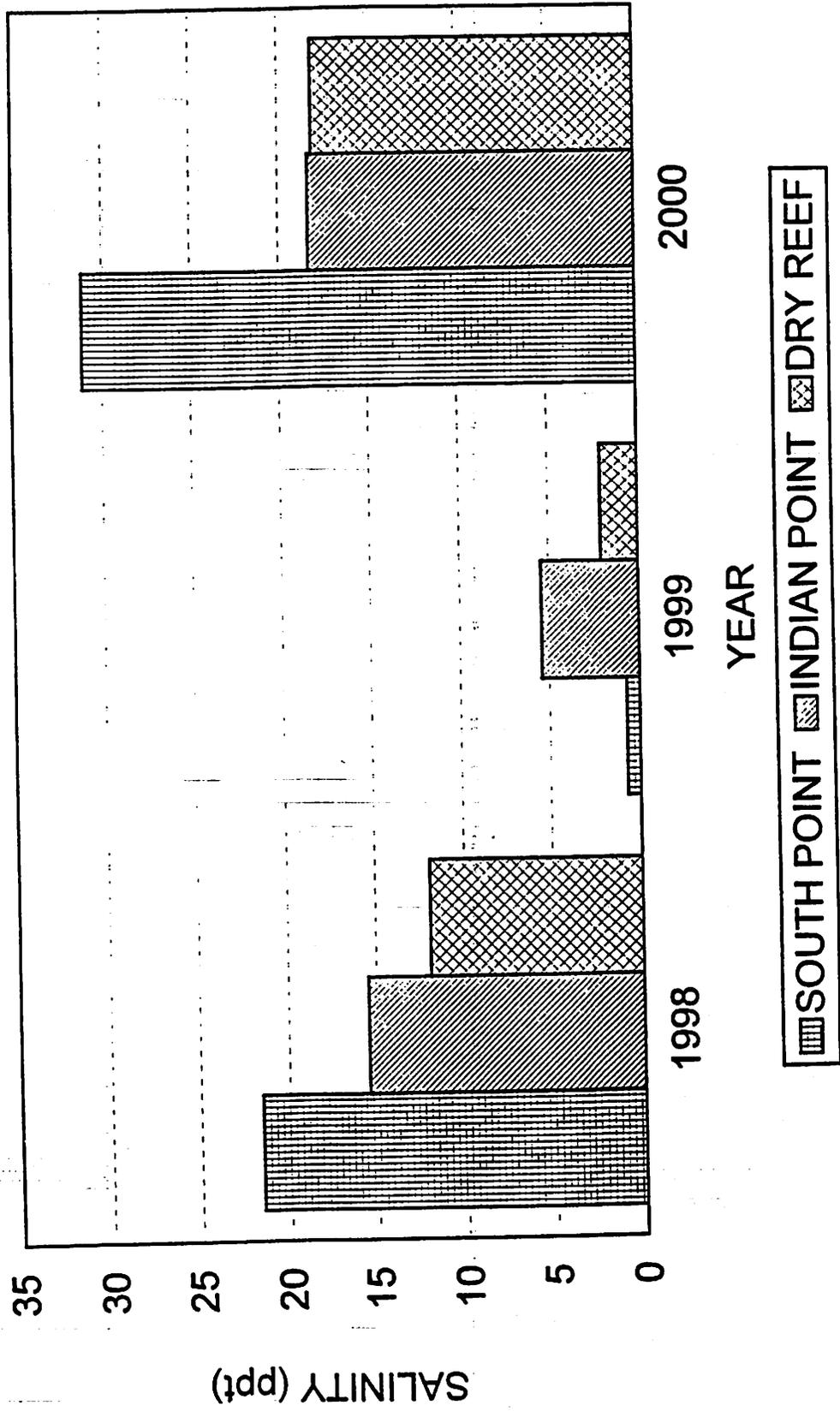
AVERAGE JUNE SALINITY

CSA 6



AVERAGE JULY SALINITY

CSA 6



COASTAL STUDY AREA VII

MICHAEL HARBISON

OYSTER PRODUCTION IN CALCASIEU LAKE AUGUST 2000

OYSTER NUMBERS

WESTSIDE					EASTSIDE				
SIZE	STATION			AVE.	SIZE	STATION			AVE.
	4	5	6			1	2	3	
> 3"	27	44	99	28.3	> 3"	40	30	36	17.7
1-3"	18	26	68	18.7	1-3"	60	38	12	18.3

OYSTER PRODUCTION AREA

WESTSIDE	EASTSIDE
2,942,076.67 SQ. METERS	3,901,185.57 SQ. METERS

PRODUCTION OF > 3" OYSTERS

WESTSIDE		EASTSIDE	
OYSTERS:	83,260,769.761	OYSTERS:	69,050,984.589
SACKS:	462,559.8	SACKS:	383,616.6
TOTAL SACKS OF > 3" OYSTERS:		846,176.4	

PRODUCTION OF 1-3" OYSTERS

WESTSIDE		EASTSIDE	
OYSTERS:	55,016,833.729	OYSTERS:	71,391,695.931
SACKS:	152,824.5	SACKS:	198,310.3
TOTAL SACKS OF 1-3" OYSTERS:		351,134.8	

TOTAL PRODUCTION

TOTAL OVERALL POTENTIAL OF OYSTERS (SACKS):	1,197,311.2
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COMMISSION ACTION

AND

ORDERS

RESOLUTION

Extension of Oyster Season on the Public Oyster Seed Grounds
and Oyster Seed Reservations East of the Mississippi River
and in Hackberry Bay

adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
March 2, 2000

- WHEREAS, the present oyster season on the Public Oyster Seed Grounds and Oyster Seed Reservations east of the Mississippi River and Hackberry Bay Oyster Seed Reservation is scheduled to close ½ hour after sunset April 1, 2000, and
- WHEREAS, RS 56:433 B(1) allows the Commission to extend the oyster season on these grounds,
- WHEREAS, there has been an unusually high spat set within areas of extremely high salinities due to the present drought conditions in Louisiana, and
- WHEREAS, it is determined that sufficient quantities of oysters are available to accommodate additional harvest in these areas, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Oyster Task Force, at it's February meeting, recommended a 15 day extension to the grounds east of the Mississippi, and
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission extends the oyster season on the Public Oyster Seed Grounds and Oyster Seed Reservations east of the Mississippi River and the Hackberry Bay Oyster Seed Reservation to one-half hour after sunset April 15, 2000.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency extending the oyster season is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.,
Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr., Secretary
Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:6(25) (a), R.S. 56:433 and R.S. 56:435.1, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

1. The oyster season on the "Public Oyster Seed Grounds" east of Mississippi River and the Hackberry Bay Oyster Seed Reservation are to be extended to one-half hour after sunset April 30, 2000.

Tom Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

RESOLUTION

2000/2001 Season on the Public Oyster Grounds

August 3, 2000

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the Public Oyster Seed Grounds shall be opened on the Wednesday following Labor Day which in 2000 is September 6, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the "Public Oyster Seed Grounds and Oyster Seed Reservation" have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation has been determined, and

WHEREAS, the coastal environment has been beset by extremely high water temperatures and drought conditions and these factors detrimentally affect the oyster resource, and

WHEREAS, Act #46 of the 1992 Legislative Session changed R.S. 56:433B to mandate a sacking only area on the Public Grounds east of the Mississippi River inclusive of Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all the Louisiana Public Oyster Seed Grounds not currently under lease and Oyster Seed Reservations except the Sister Lake and Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservations will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 6, 2000 and will close one-half hour after sunset on September 17 to reopen one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2000 for the remainder of the season, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 6, 2000 and will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on May 15, 2001, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 2000/2001 Oyster Season, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sacking only area of the public grounds is generally Lake Fortuna and Lake Machias to a line from Mozambique Pt. to Pt. Gardner to Grace Pt. at the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, and will open and close the same as all the public grounds east of the Mississippi River, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency

action if necessary, to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary will also have the authority to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the season for Calcasieu Lake tonging area will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 15, 2000 and Sabine Lake tonging area will open one-half hour before sunrise on November 15, 2000 and they will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2001. However, these conservation actions will not supercede public health closures, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman, La. Wildlife and
Fisheries Commission

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary, La. Department of
Wildlife and Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 and R.S. 56:435.1 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

1. The Louisiana Public Oyster Seed Grounds not currently under lease and Oyster Seed Reservations except the Sister Lake and Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservations will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 6, 2000 and will close one-half hour after sunset on September 17 to re-open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2000 and remain open for the remainder of the season.
2. Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 6, 2000 and will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on May 15, 2001.
3. The Sister Lake Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 2000/2001 Oyster Season.
4. The sacking only area of the public grounds is generally Lake Fortuna and Lake Machias to a line from Mozambique Pt. to Pt. Gardner to Grace Pt. at the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, and will open and close the same as all the public grounds east of the Mississippi River.
5. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action if necessary, to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads.
6. The Secretary is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended.
7. The season for Calcasieu Lake tonging area will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 15, 2000 and Sabine Lake tonging area will open one-half hour before sunrise on November 15, 2000 and they will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2001. However, these conservation actions will not supercede public health closures.
8. Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

Thomas M. Gattle, Jr.
Chairman

