

Counts of fish and crustaceans collected at living shoreline, natural marsh, and bulkhead sites in North Carolina from 2010 to 2012 (EstuarineMetaDyn project)

Website: <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/678377>

Data Type: Other Field Results

Version:

Version Date: 2016-10-21

Project

» [Interacting Effects of Local Demography and Larval Connectivity on Estuarine Metapopulation Dynamics](#)
(EstuarineMetaDyn)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
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Table of Contents

- [Dataset Description](#)
 - [Methods & Sampling](#)
- [Data Files](#)
- [Parameters](#)
- [Instruments](#)
- [Deployments](#)
- [Project Information](#)
- [Funding](#)

Dataset Description

This dataset contains individual counts of fish and crustaceans collected at living shoreline sites (including sills covered in oysters), natural marsh, and bulkhead sites.

These data were published in:

Gittman R.K., Peterson C.H., Currin C.A., Fodrie F.J., Piehler M.F., and Bruno J.F. 2016. Living shorelines can enhance the nursery role of threatened coastal habitats. *Ecological Applications* 26(1): 249-263. DOI: [10.1890/14-0716](https://doi.org/10.1890/14-0716)

Methods & Sampling

The marsh area sampled included the marsh interior, marsh edge, and unvegetated mudflat within 3 m of the marsh edge at paired sill and control marsh sites. Nekton from the below sampling methods were speciated where possible and counted. This dataset reports the individual counts for two categories of organisms, fish and crabs.

Fyke nets:

Two fyke nets were set simultaneously at each site during a night spring high tide and recovering gear during the subsequent low tide (~6 h sets). Fyke nets were placed at the sill drop-downs or gaps at the sill sites and haphazardly along the edge of control marsh sites. Fyke net openings were set at approximately the same distance from the marsh edge (3–5 m, depending on sill location relative to the marsh edge) at each paired site. The fyke nets consisted of a 0.9 × 0.9 × 5.1 m compartmentalized, 3.175 mm mesh bag with 0.9 × 5.1 m wings that stretched out from the bag (set for a total mouth width of 8 m).

Seine nets:

Two seines at each site were conducted during afternoon spring low tides parallel to the shoreline for 20 m (~5 m from the sill or marsh edge). Seines were 7.3 m wide by 1.8 m tall, made from 3.175 mm mesh, and included a 1.8 × 1.8 × 1.2 m bag.

Minnow traps:

Minnow traps (3.175- mm- galvanized mesh) were set at the edge of each shoreline type 2 h before high tide and collecting the traps 2 h after high tide.

For full details of data collection, see reference:

Gittman R.K., Peterson C.H., Currin C.A., Fodrie F.J., Piehler M.F., and Bruno J.F. 2016. Living shorelines can enhance the nursery role of threatened coastal habitats. *Ecological Applications* 26(1): 249-263.

DOI: [10.1890/14-0716](https://doi.org/10.1890/14-0716)

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]

Data Files

File
EcoAppsCounts.csv (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 13.80 KB) MD5:33842145a636196ce7dcddefef129259
Primary data file for dataset ID 678377

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]

Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
organism	sample organism (fish/crustacean)	unitless
lat_approx	Approximate latitude of study site	decimal degrees
lon_approx	Approximate longitude of study site	decimal degrees
net_type	Type of sampling device used (Fyke/Seine/Trap)	unitless
site_type	Site code (CI=control-impact or SBHC=)	unitless
site	Site identifier	unitless
count	Number of nekton caught	individuals
treatment	Treatment (sill/control/bulkhead)	unitless
month	Month of sampling	unitless

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]

Instruments

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	
Generic Instrument Name	fyke net
Generic Instrument Description	shore fishing gear

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	
Generic Instrument Name	minnow trap
Generic Instrument Description	shore fishing gear

Dataset-specific Instrument Name	seine net
Generic Instrument Name	Purse-seine Fishing Gear
Generic Instrument Description	A purse seine is a large wall of netting deployed in a circle around an entire school of fish. The seine has floats along the top line with a lead line of chain along the bottom. Once a school of fish is located, a skiff pulls the seine into the water as the vessel encircles the school with the net. A cable running along the bottom is then pulled in, "pursing" the net closed on the bottom, preventing fish from escaping by swimming downward. The catch is harvested by bringing the net alongside the vessel and brailing the fish aboard.

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]

Deployments

Fodrie_Ecoapps

Website	https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/679300
Platform	PineKnollShore_NC
Description	fish and crustacean sampling

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]

Project Information

Interacting Effects of Local Demography and Larval Connectivity on Estuarine Metapopulation Dynamics (EstuarineMetaDyn)

Coverage: North Carolina Estuaries

Description from NSF award abstract:

The PIs will use the eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) in Pamlico Sound, North Carolina, as a model system and will attempt to optimize the design of networks of no-take reserves as a strategy for maintaining metapopulations of this commercially harvested species. The project specifically recognizes that network persistence depends on (1) the potential for growth, survival, and reproduction within reserves, and (2) the potential to distribute offspring among reserves. Thus, demographic processes within reserves and settling areas play important roles, along with variability of physical transport. The PIs plan to:

- (1) test and refine 3D bio-physical models of connectivity due to oyster larval transport in a shallow, wind-dominated system;
- (2) test, refine, and apply technology to detect natal origins of larvae using geochemical tags in larval shell; and
- (3) integrate regional connectivity and demographic rates to model metapopulation dynamics.

This study will produce new tools and test and refine others used for studying larval connectivity, a fundamentally important process in the maintenance of natural populations, and thus in biological conservation and resource management. The tools include a hydrodynamic modeling tool coupled with an open-source particle tracking model that will be available on-line with computer code and user guide. The project will use integrated modeling approaches to evaluate the design of reserve networks: results will be directly useful to improving oyster and ecosystem-based management in Pamlico Sound, and the methods will inform approaches to network design in other locations.

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]

Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1155628

[[table of contents](#) | [back to top](#)]