

Undergraduates and fish: Working with Flagler College students to measure biodiversity in the GTM NERR

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Flagler College



Flagler College

- Founded in 1968
- 1st science major launched August 2013
 - Coastal Environmental Science
 - 40 majors
 - 40 minors



Flagler College

- Undergraduate students



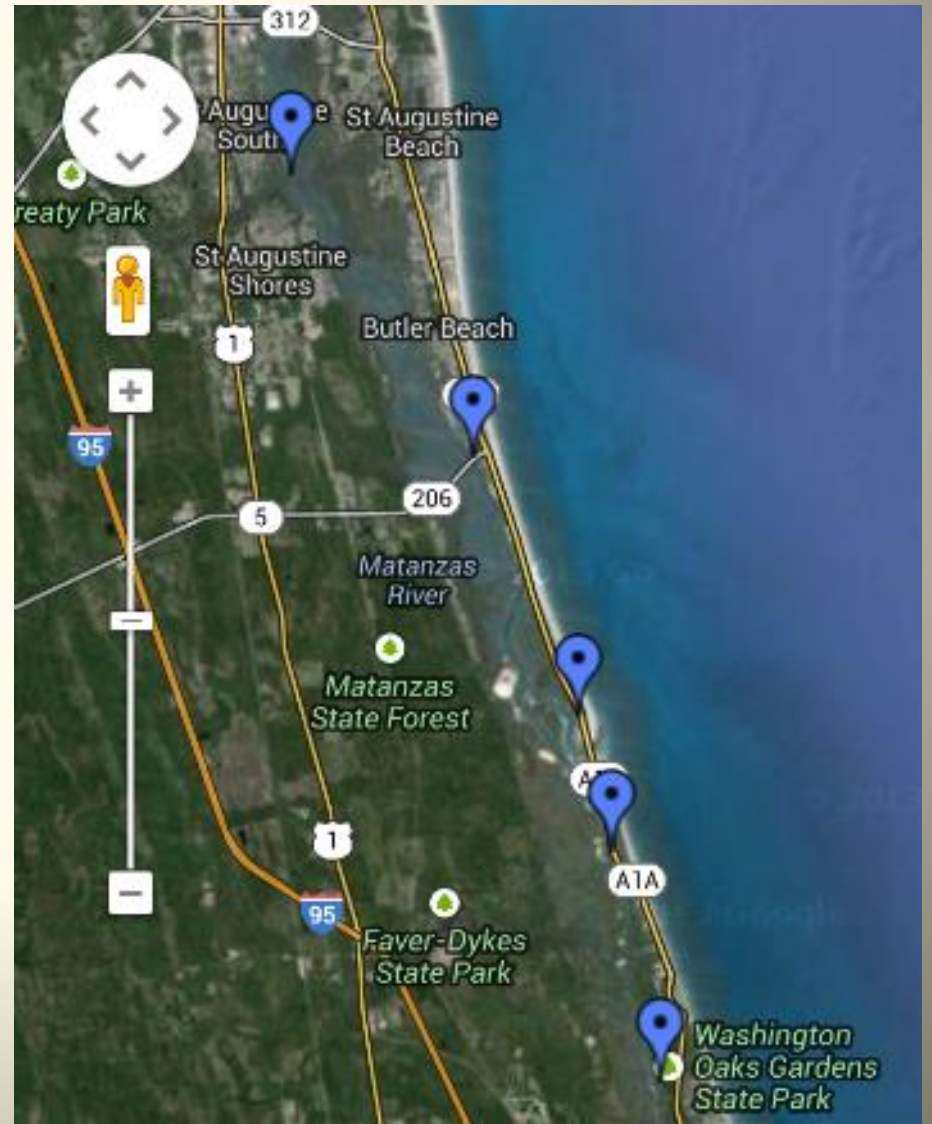
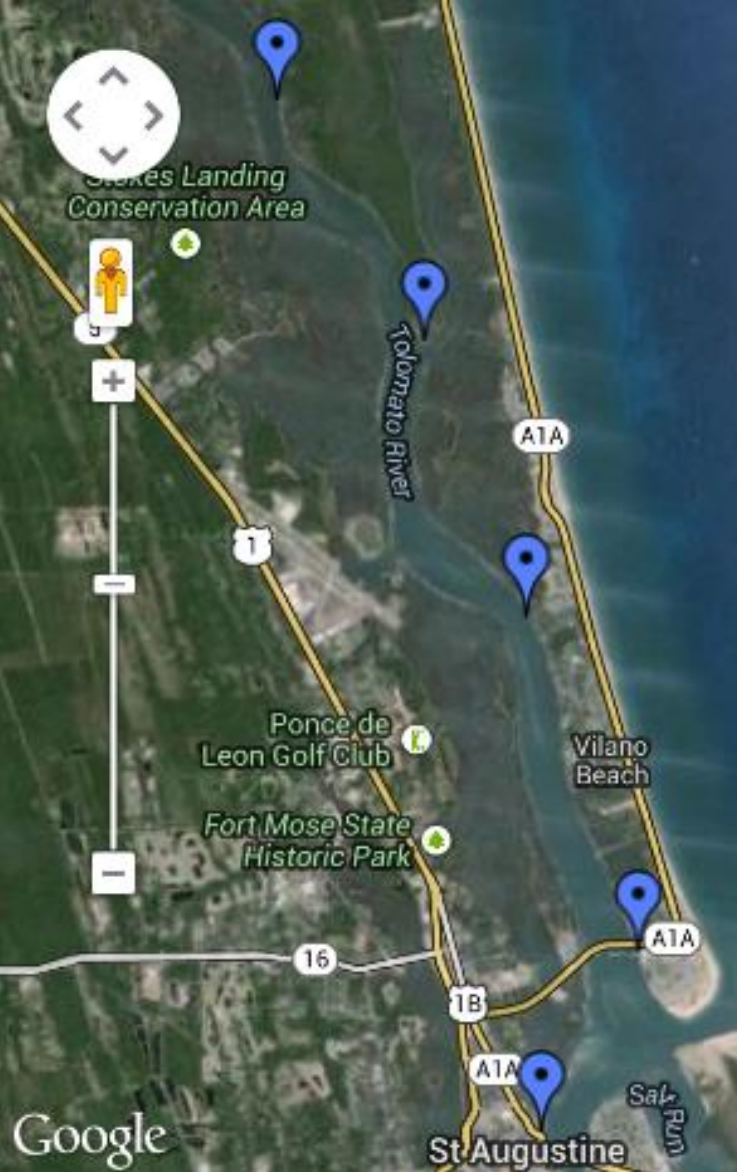
GTM NERR

- Fish collection 2012
 - Trawl surveys
 - Measuring ecosystem health
- Estuaries
 - Fish nurseries
 - Feeding grounds



Estuaries

- Areas of human occupation
 - Fertilizer
 - Sewage
 - Habitat loss



Seining

- 2 pulls per site
- All fish and crabs are identified and measured



Methods

- Dissolved oxygen
- Temperature
- Salinity



Independent Study Students



Volunteers



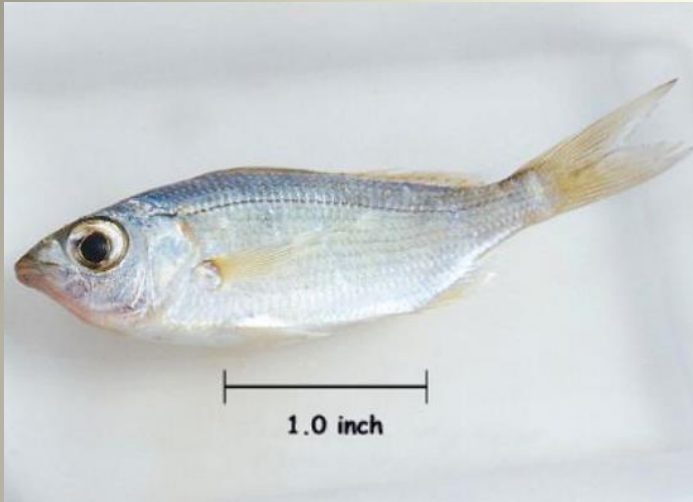
Results

- 63 species
- 15152 individuals
 - 5053 individuals



Most common species

949



518



220



743

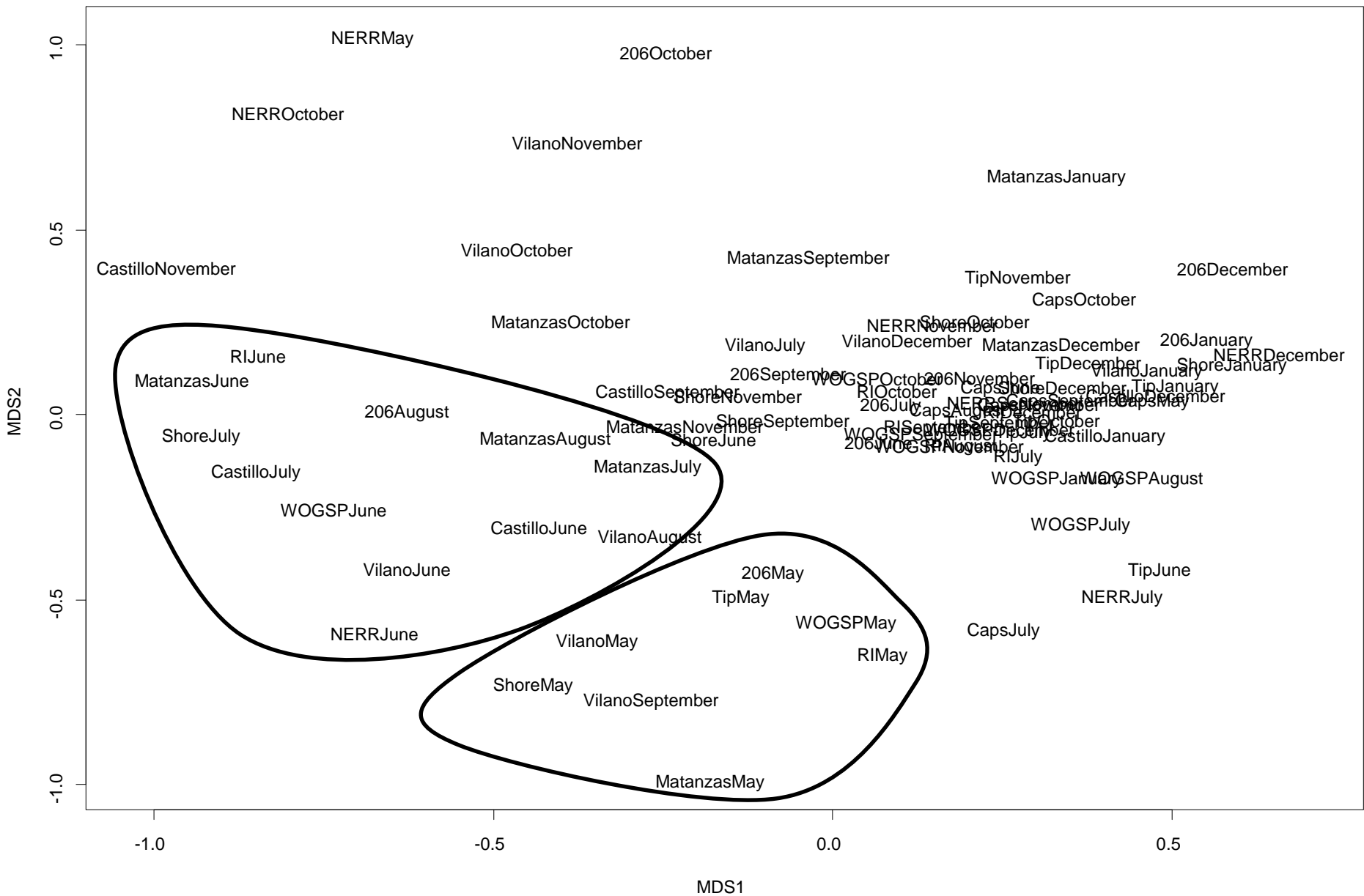


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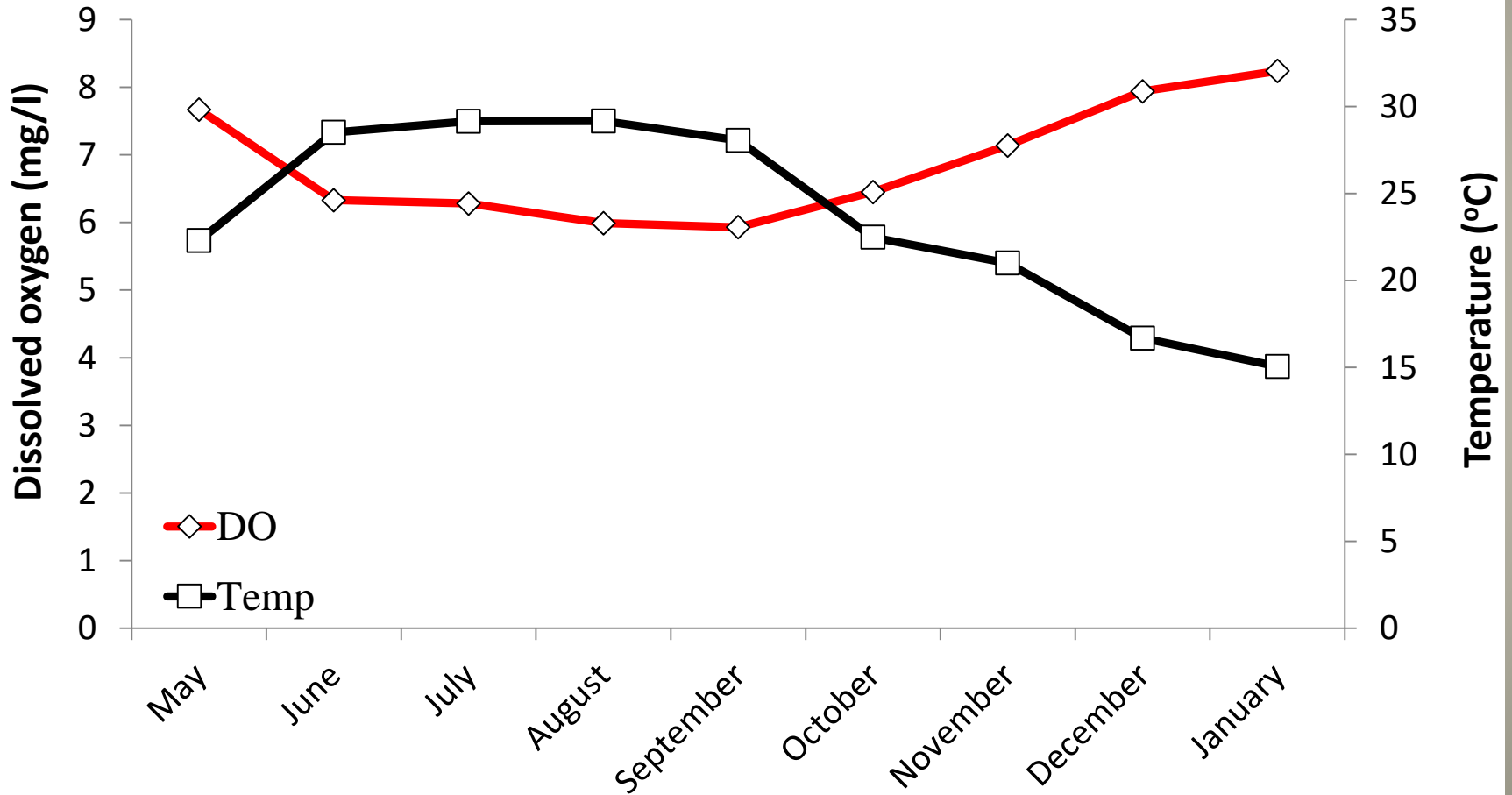


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Water quality



Conclusions

- High species richness
- Large prey base
- No apparent DO stress



Conclusions

- Has provided research ideas for students
 - Invertebrate sampling
 - Gear selectivity
- Collaboration with other science faculty



Acknowledgements

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Questions?

