

# Acadiana Oyster Reefs

Où est-ce qu'ils sont?

(Where Are They?)

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# Interest?

- Historically expansive reef complex
- Some of the largest reefs in the world
- Reefs provide protection & stabilization
- Erosion barrier
- Fisheries production
- Fossil shell resource

# Ecological Role

- Oysters are filter feeders
  - Capture 1<sup>o</sup> productivity to benthos
  - Reduce turbidity
    - Trap sediments
    - Process nutrients

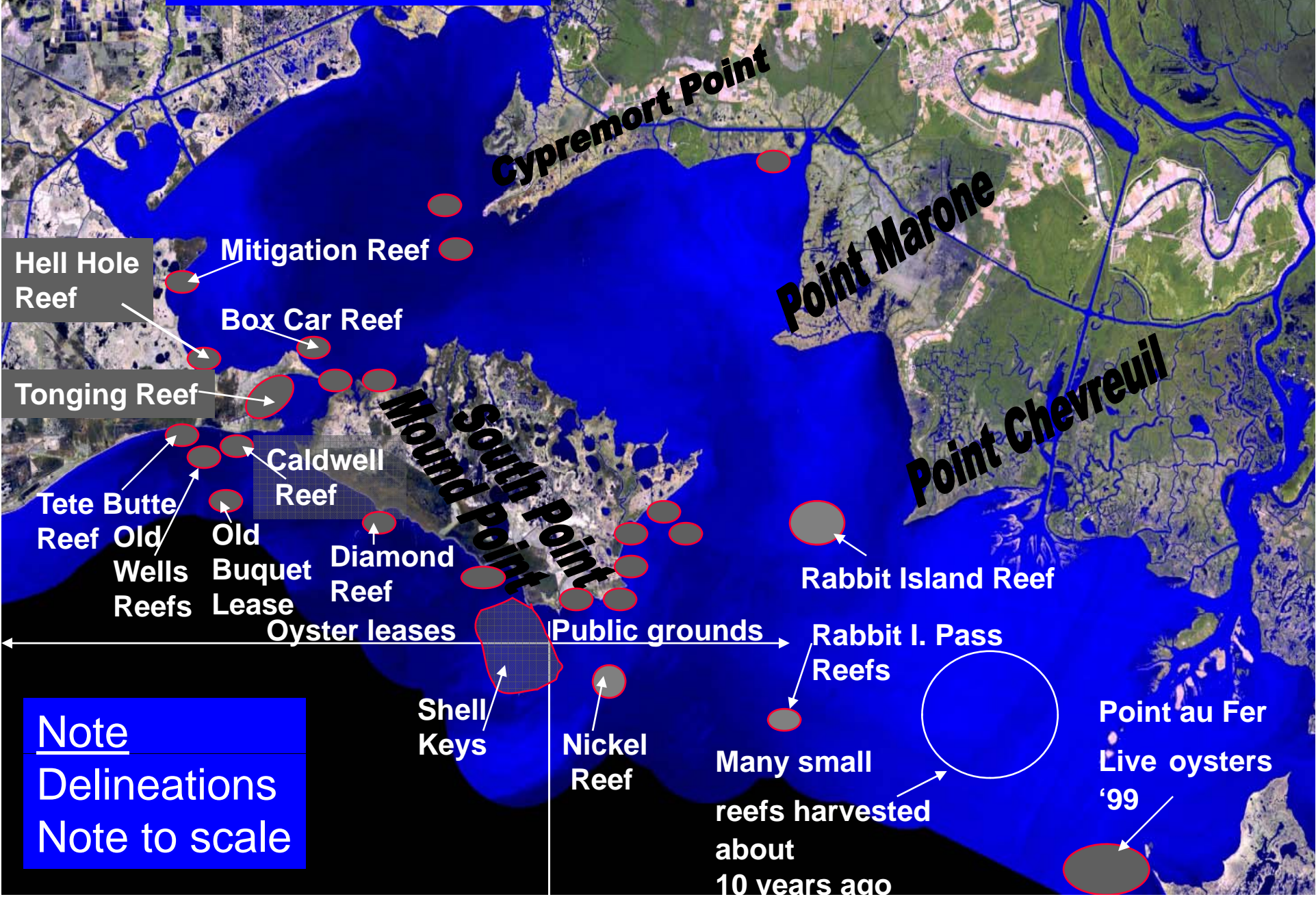
# Ecological Role

- Oysters are reef builders
  - Hard substrate
  - Vertical structure
  - Baffle or modify local water currents and sediment patterns
  - Geologic markers
  - Epibiotic communities several phyla
    - Food source for aviary, terrestrial & aquatic species

# Information Transfer

- NOAA charts 11349, 11351
- Personal interviews
- Referrals
- Delineation on charts
- Recorded comments & recommendations
  - anecdotal

# Recent Conditions

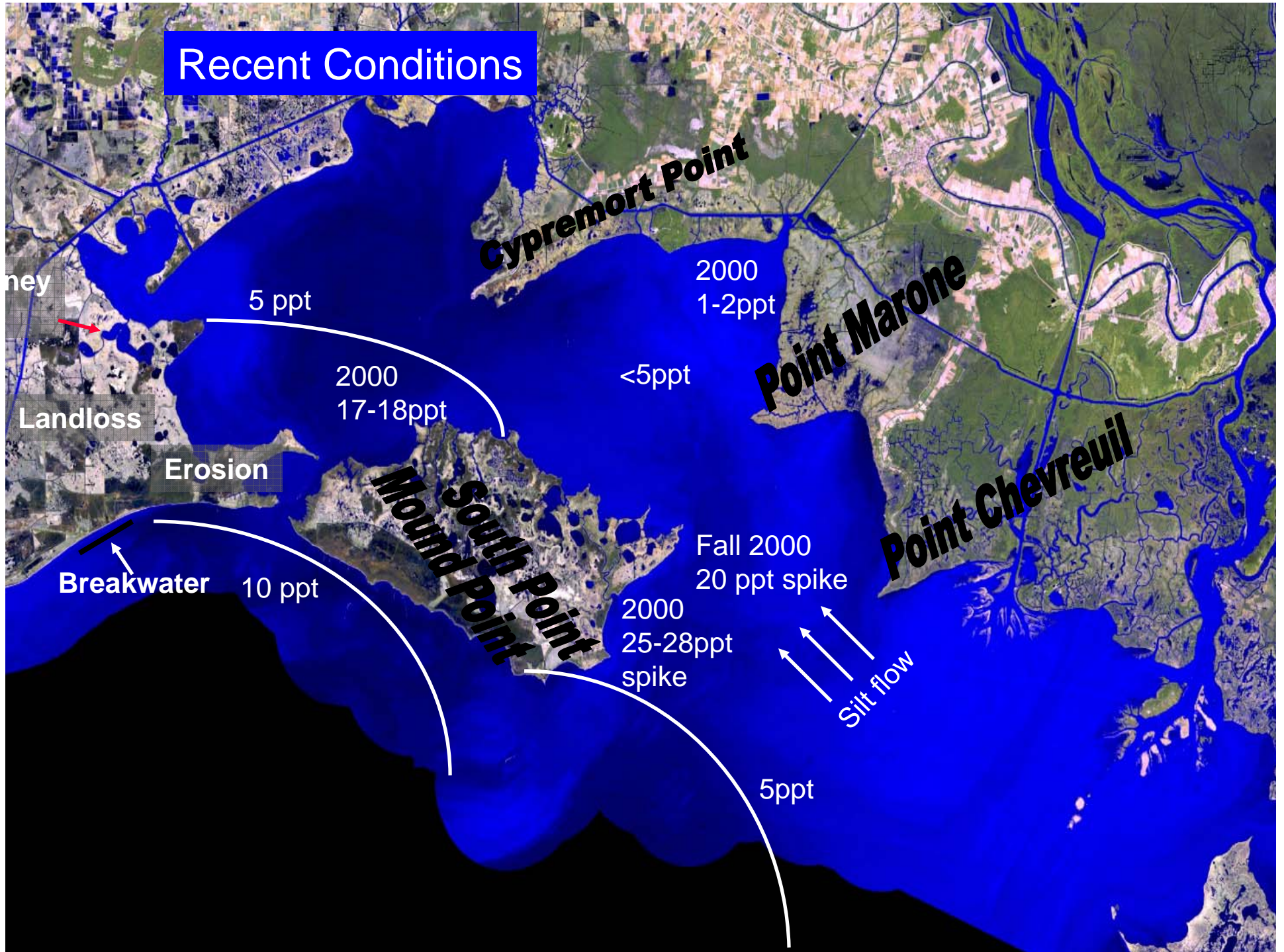


Note  
Delineations  
Note to scale

Many small reefs harvested about 10 years ago

Point au Fer Live oysters '99

# Recent Conditions



ney

5 ppt

**Cypremort Point**

2000  
1-2ppt

**Point Marone**

<5ppt

2000  
17-18ppt

Landloss

Erosion

**Point Chevreuil**

**South Point**  
**Mound Point**

Fall 2000  
20 ppt spike

2000  
25-28ppt  
spike

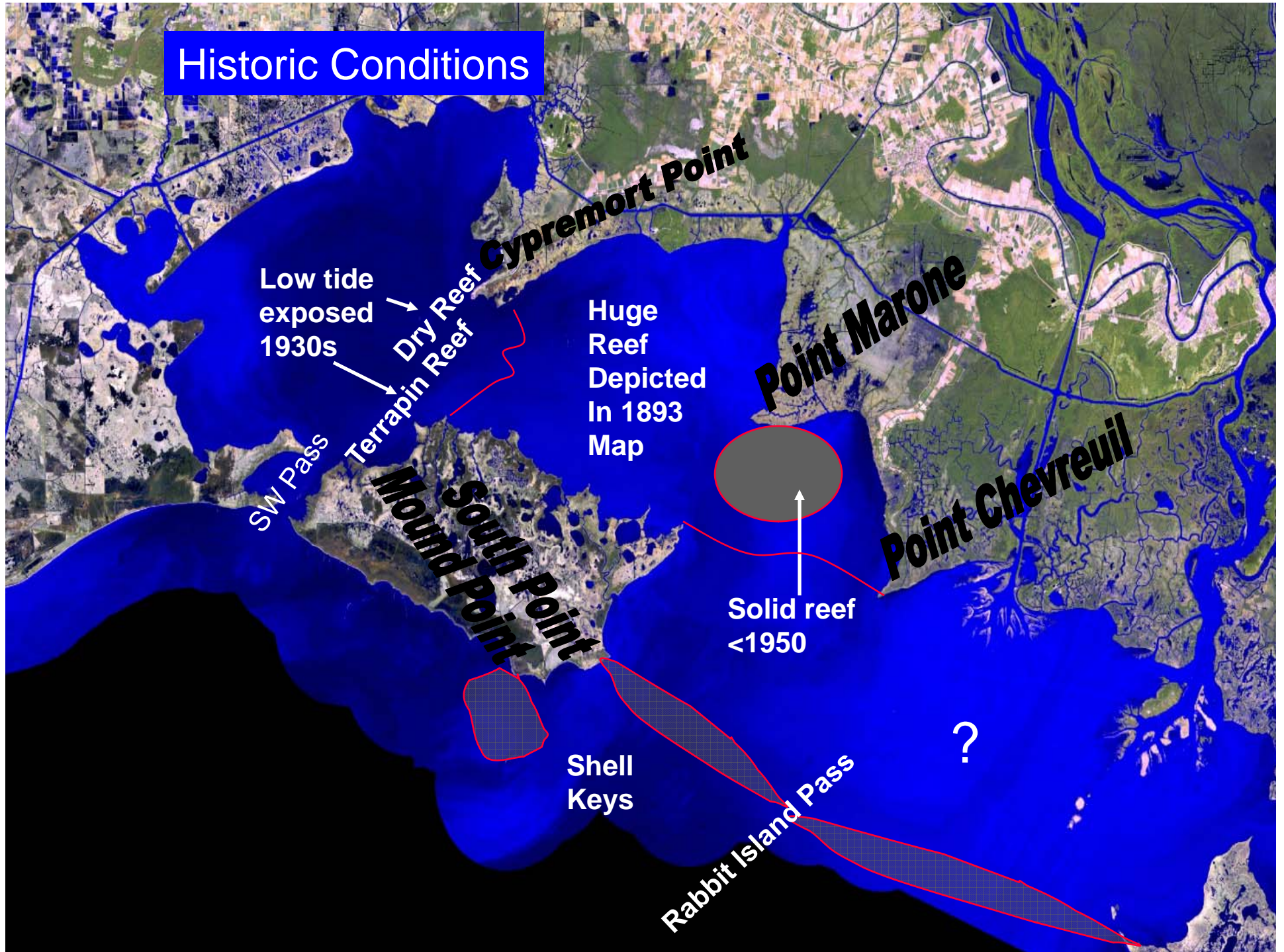
Breakwater

10 ppt

Silt flow

5ppt

# Historic Conditions



Low tide exposed 1930s

Dry Reef  
Terrapin Reef

Huge Reef Depicted In 1893 Map

Solid reef <1950

?

SW Pass

Mound Point  
South Point

Shell Keys

Rabbit Island Pass

Cypremort Point

Point Marone

Point Chevreuil

# Acknowledgements

**Ron Dugas**

**Paul Cook**

**Mark Shirley**

**Sherril Sagraera**

**Tim Vincent**

**Jack Phares**

**Sandy Corckern**

**Richard Legnon**

**Daniel Edgar**

**Fred Kyle**

**Wilbert Collins**

**Tracy Collins**

**LDWF (retired)**

**LDWF**

**Vermillion LCES**

**Vermillion Parish**

**Rainey Hq**

**Shucks Restaurant-Abbeville**

**St. Mary-St. Martin LCES**

**Cypremort Point**

**Cypremort Point**

**Franklin**

**Collins Oyster Co.**

**Collins Oyster Co.**