

ALABAMA SITES

SITE - DOG RIVER, MOBILE BAY, AL

SITE CODE - MBDR

TARGET SPECIES - *Crassostrea virginica*

NOMINAL SITE CENTER - 30° 35.50' N

88° 02.39' W

LOCATED ON NOAA CHART - 11376

SITE ACCESS - The boat launch ramp is at Dog River, which is south of I-10 on the Dauphin Island Parkway. Launch the boat at the Beach Comber ramp, and proceed out the Dog River channel to the Mobile Ship Channel, then go north to green channel marker "69". Turn into the short channel west of marker "69" and proceed to green channel marker "5". The site is located approximately 75 m away on a bearing of 280° from channel marker "5".

SITE DESCRIPTION - This collection site is in the upper reaches of Mobile Bay, and is near the upper distributional limit of oysters within the bay. The site is located on a reef which runs west-southwest from green channel marker "5", for approximately 300 m. Poling is required to locate the oysters on the reef. Station 1 is on the southwest end of the reef, Station 2 is approximately 100 m to the northeast and Station 3 is another 100 m northeast of Station 2.

OYSTER COLLECTIONS

1995 No collection.

1996 Medium to large oysters were abundant across the whole area.

1997 No collection.

SEDIMENT COLLECTIONS

1995 No collection.

1996 The dark brown silty sediment sample contained some shell hash and mussels.

1997 No collection.

SAMPLING METHODS

Oysters - stainless steel dredge

Sediment - stainless steel sediment grab and stainless steel scoop

WATER DEPTH - subtidal, 1.0 m