

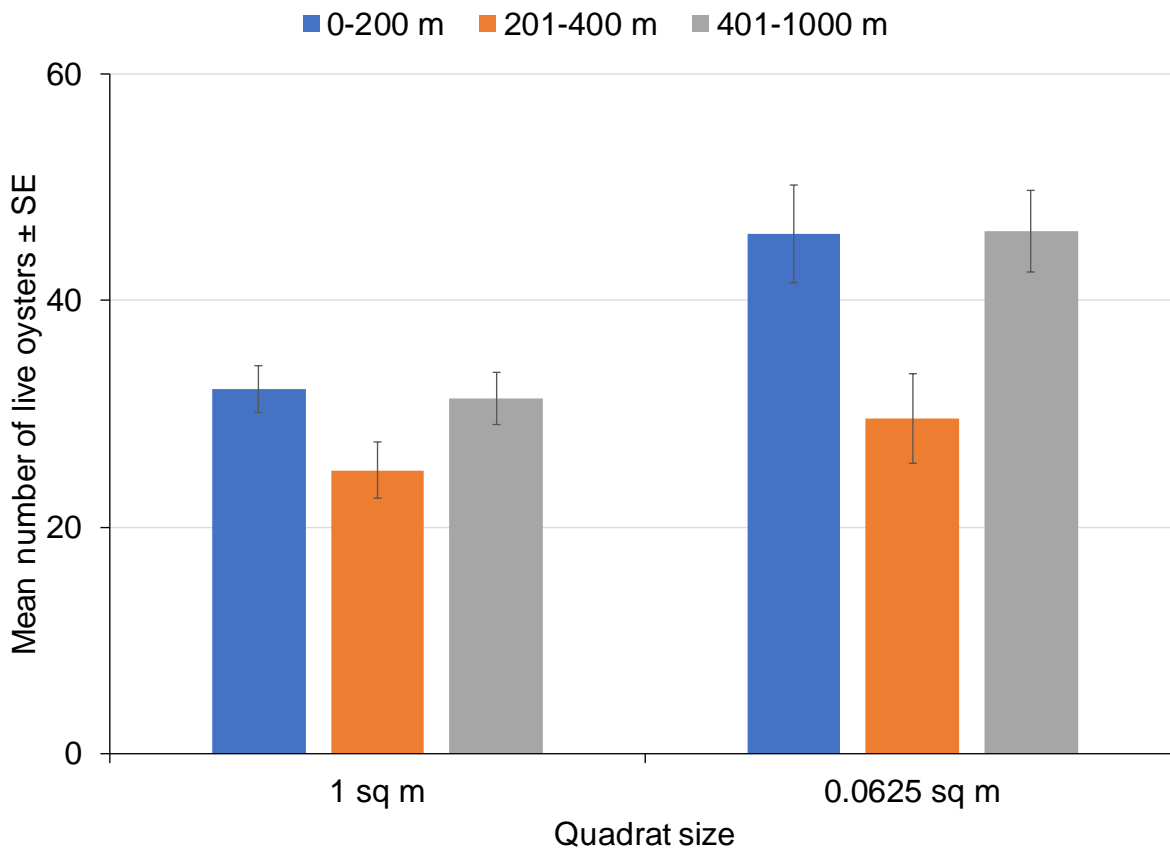
### Effects on Oysters

During the summers of 2017 and 2018, 46 randomly selected, oyster reefs in Mosquito Lagoon were surveyed by researchers from the University of Central Florida. During surveys, two methods were used to count live oysters, with each method repeated 4–5 times on each reef. Counts of live oysters generated by both methods were analyzed for significant differences among distances from a restored wetland. The results indicated that the number of live oysters differed significantly among the three distances ( $p < 0.05$ , see table below).

Results of a multivariate, permutation analysis of variance.

Source	df	SS	MS	F	p	Unique permutations
Distance	2	4,362	2,181	3.07	0.021	998
Residual	131	92,940	709			
Total	133	97,302				

Examination of the mean numbers of live oysters identified by the two methods showed the variation that gave rise to the statistically significant result (see figure below). Fewer live oysters were found on reefs that were 201–400 meters (659–1,312 feet) away from a restored wetland. Reefs within 200 meters (656 feet) of restored wetlands had nearly the same numbers of live oysters as those much further away. Thus, the sampling was sufficient to detect variation in numbers of live oysters, but there was no evidence that oysters near restored wetlands suffered increased mortality.



Mean numbers of live oysters ± standard errors (SE).  
m = meter, sq m = square meter