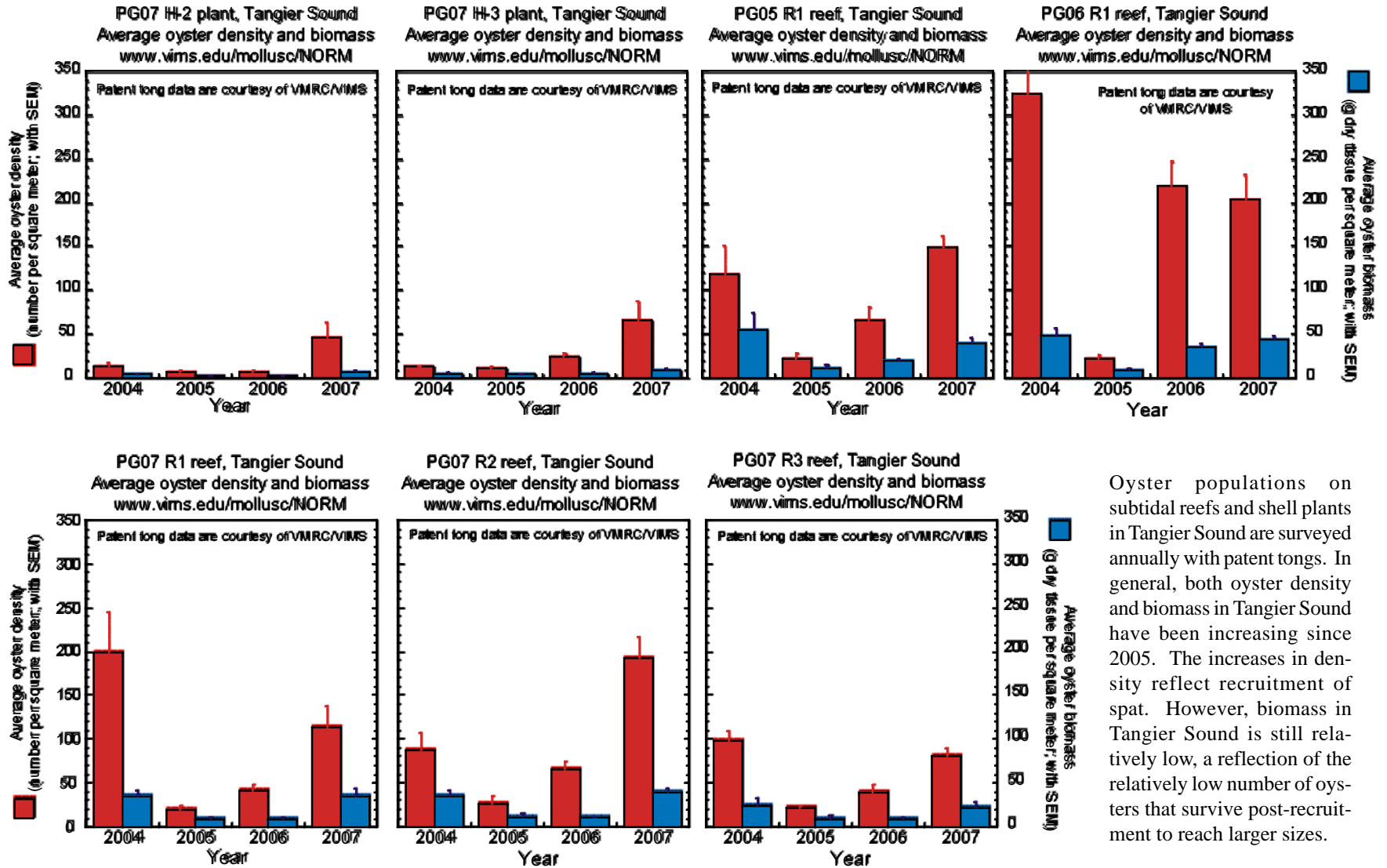


Speaker's Notes: Tangier Sound- Density and Biomass from Patent Tong Surveys 2004-07

Contact Ms. Melissa Southworth (melsouth@vims.edu) for additional information or questions regarding these data.



Oyster populations on subtidal reefs and shell plants in Tangier Sound are surveyed annually with patent tongs. In general, both oyster density and biomass in Tangier Sound have been increasing since 2005. The increases in density reflect recruitment of spat. However, biomass in Tangier Sound is still relatively low, a reflection of the relatively low number of oysters that survive post-recruitment to reach larger sizes.