

Tab D, No. 5(a)



NOAA
FISHERIES

Review of the Texas Closure for 2018

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NOAA Fisheries

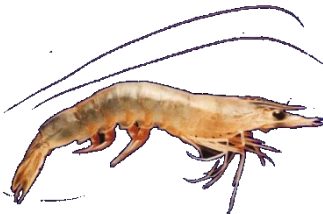
Southeast Fisheries Science Center

Galveston Laboratory

Galveston, TX USA

Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council

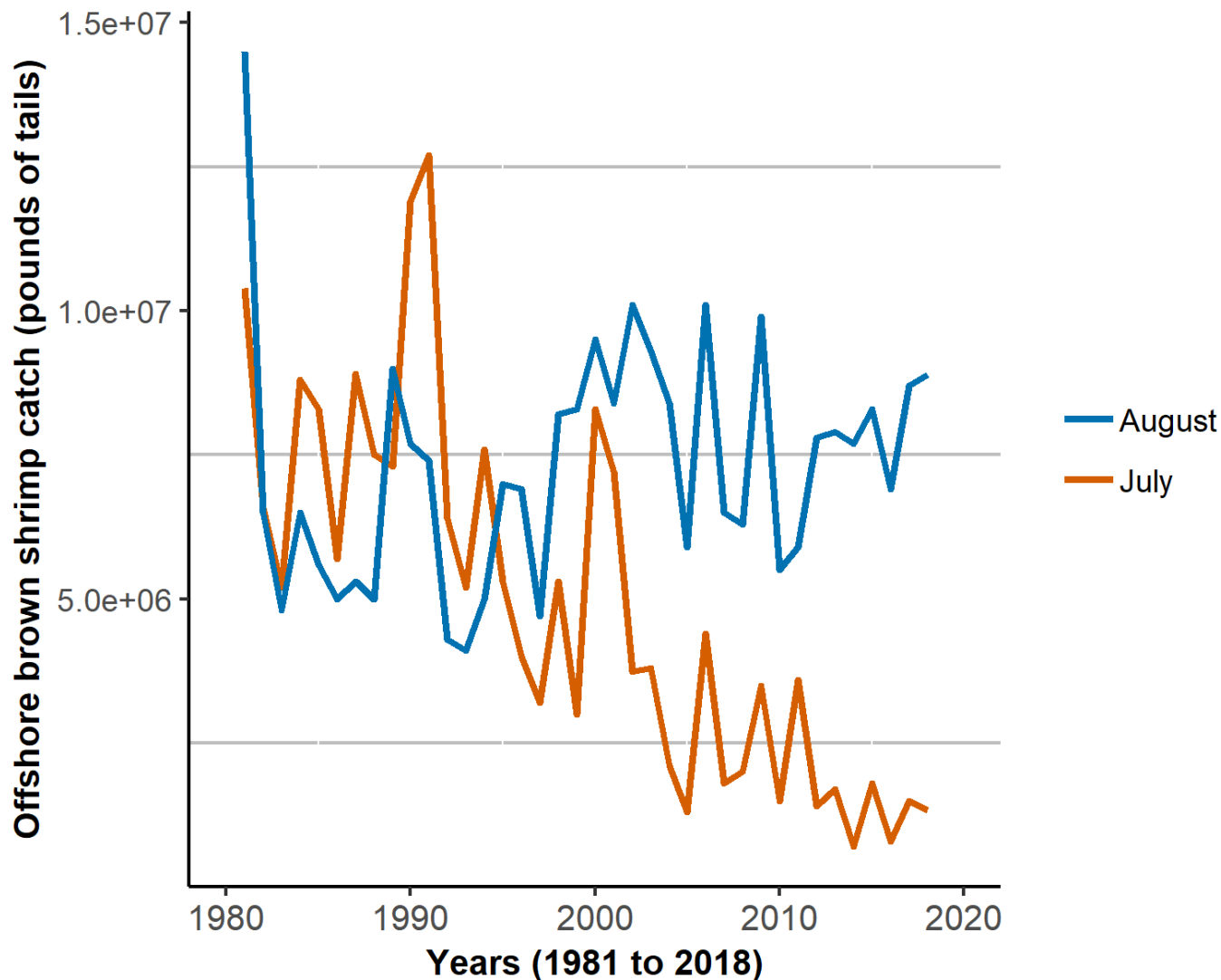
April 2019



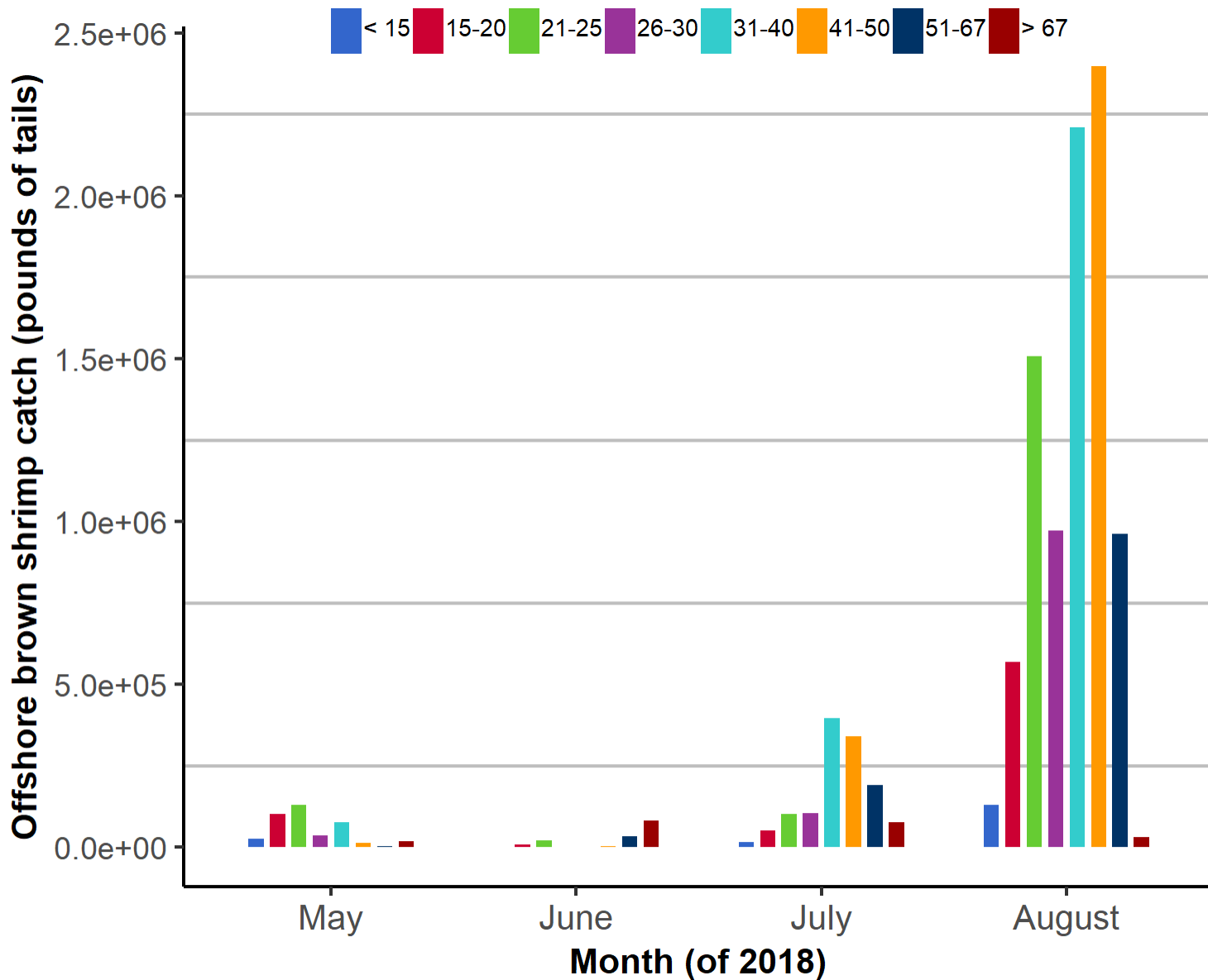
History of the Texas Closure

The GMFMC's Shrimp FMP was implemented in 1981 for the EEZ fishery.

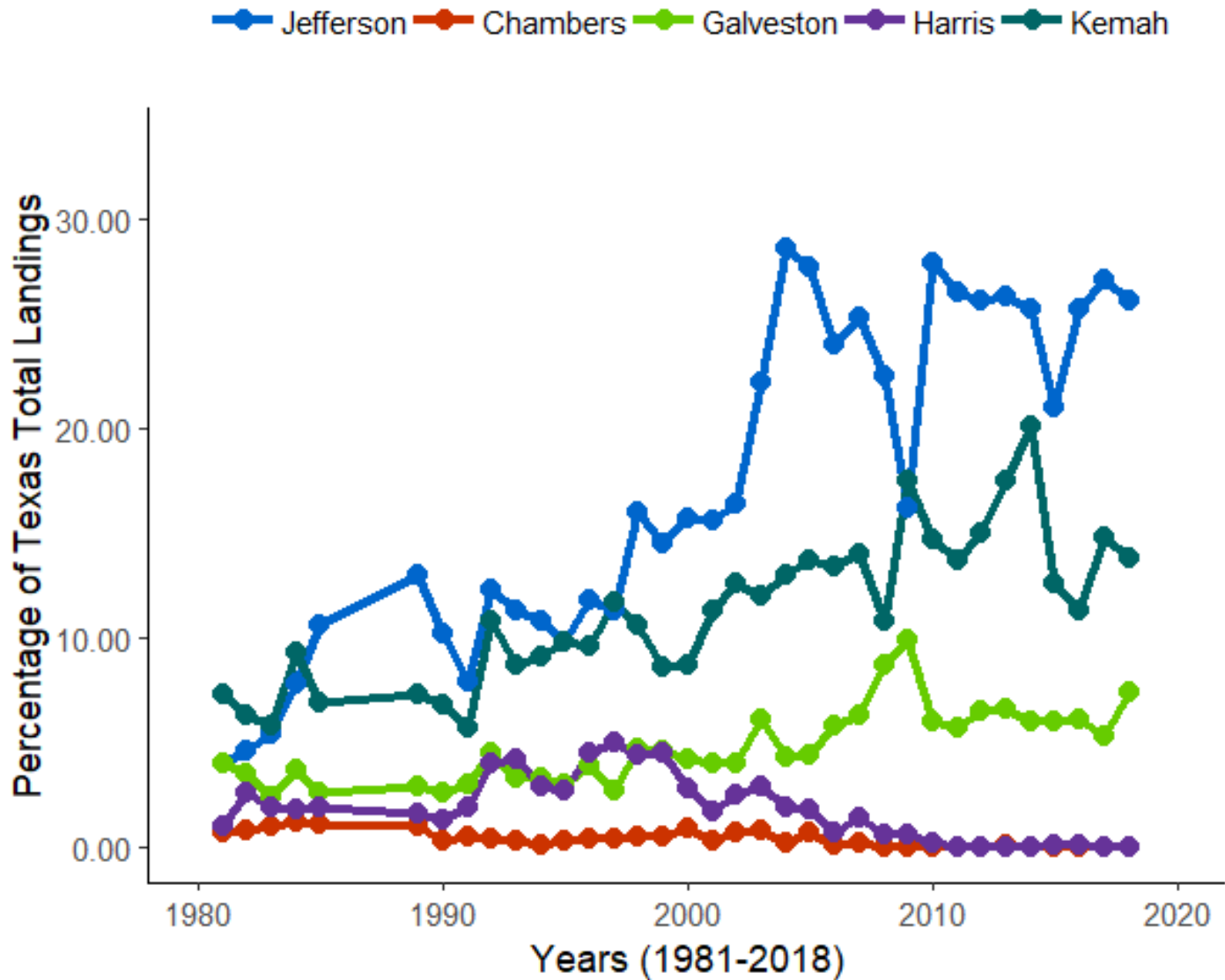
- Goal was to increase the yield of brown shrimp harvested from offshore Texas waters.
- Historically the closure is from Mid-May to Mid-July.
- Since 1990 the near shore (< 4 fathoms area) has also been closed in conjunction.



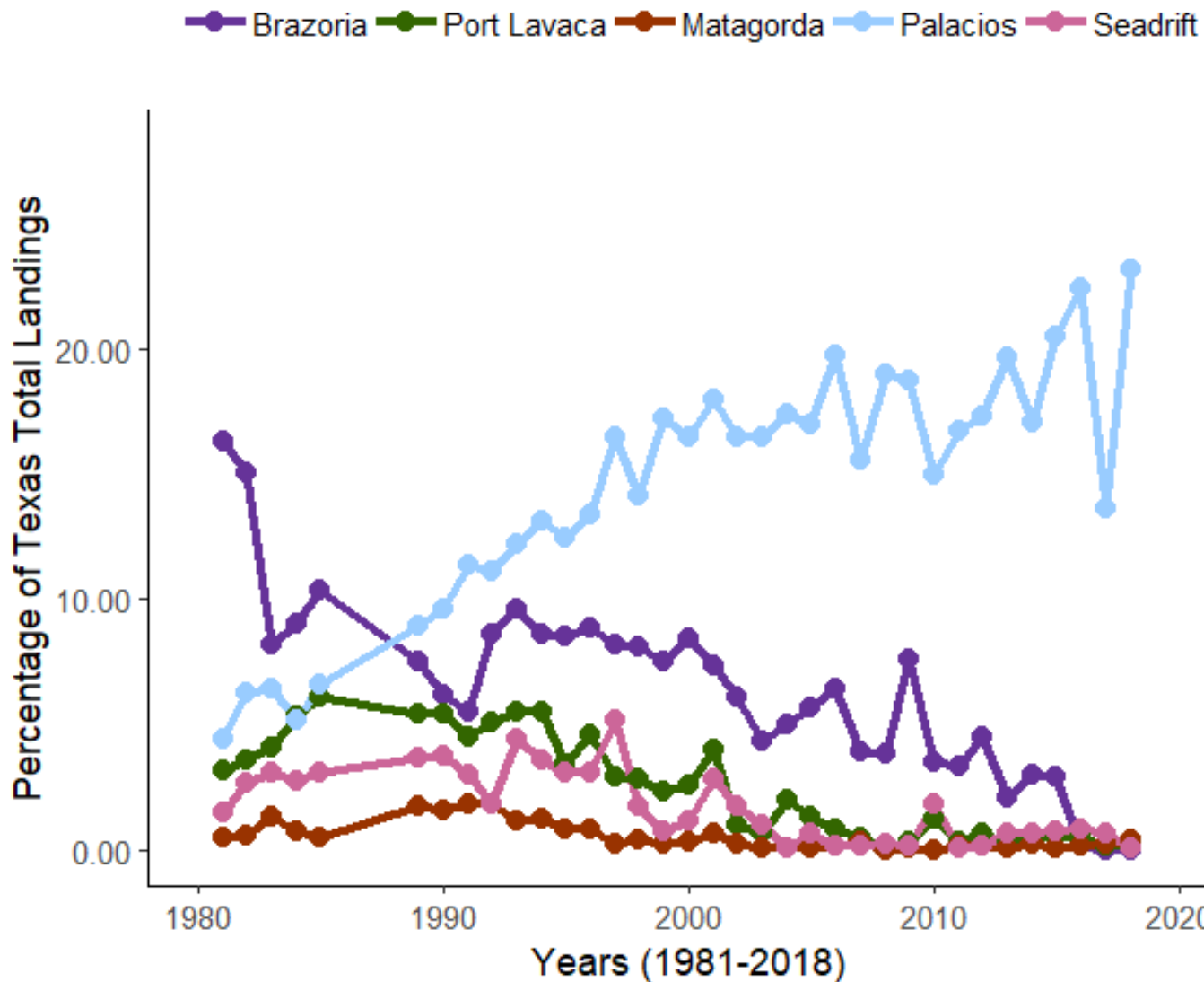
Texas offshore brown shrimp catch for July and August, 1981-2018



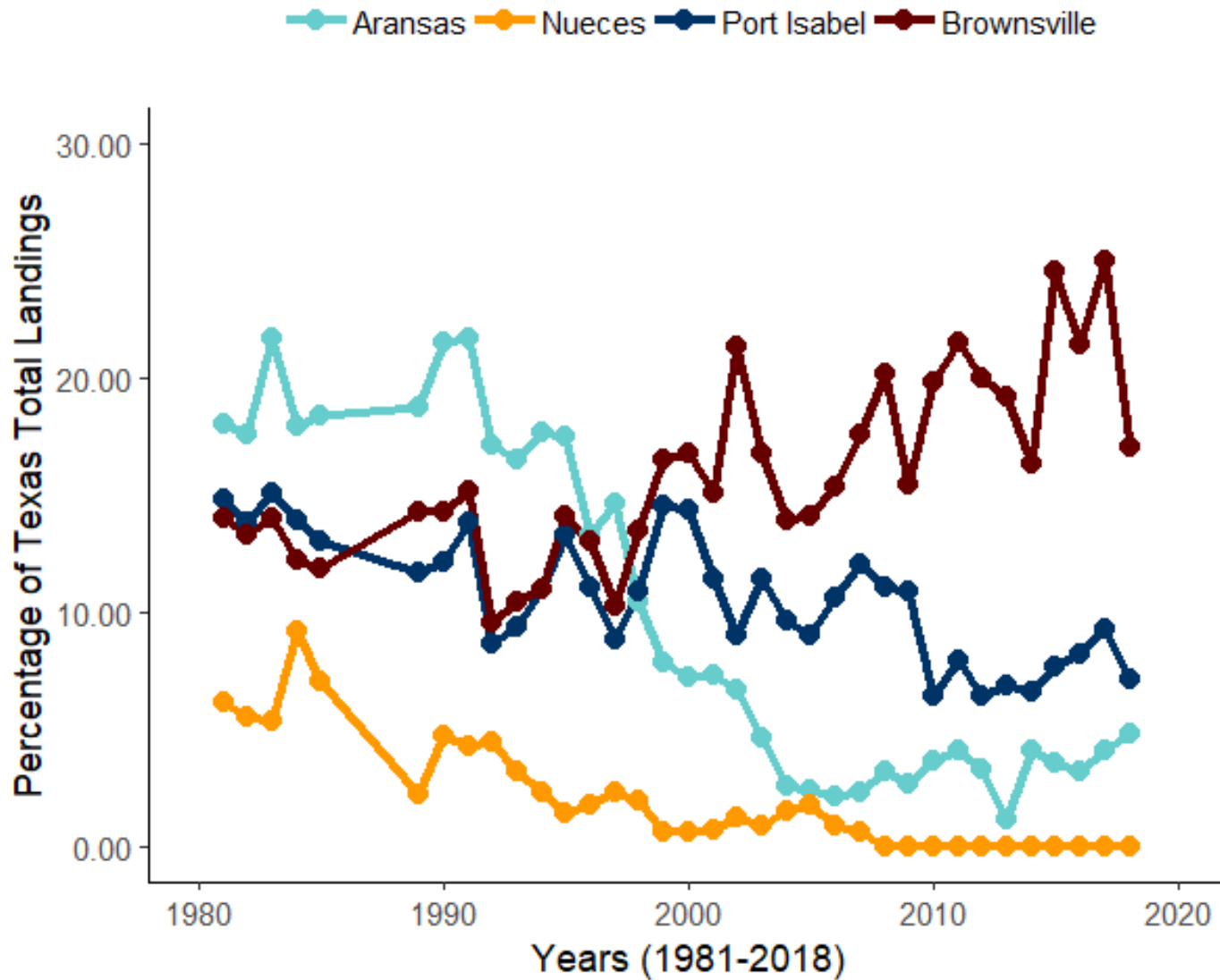
Monthly offshore brown shrimp catch for May – August, 2018



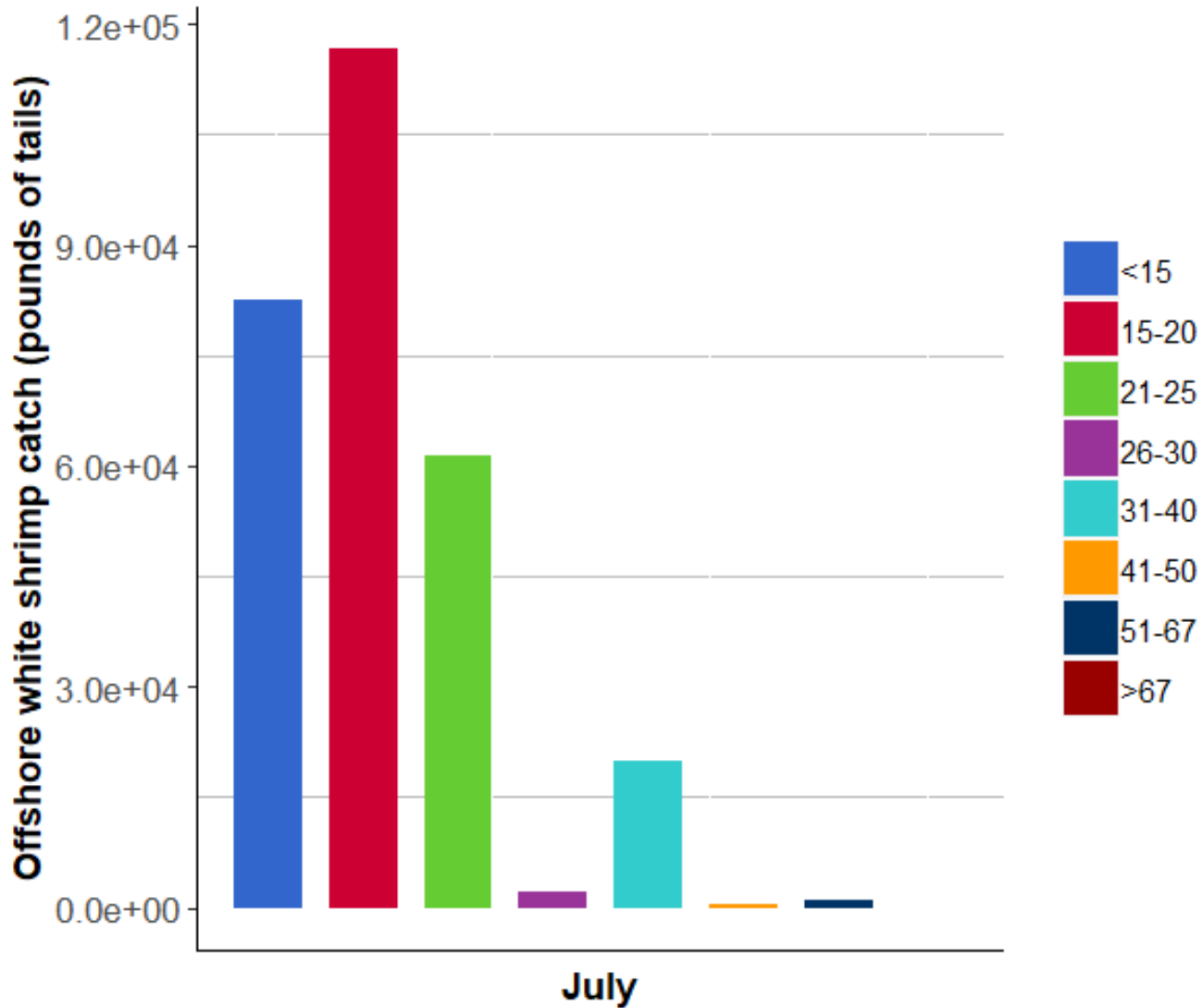
Gulf-wide shrimp landings by upper Texas ports May-August, 1981-2018



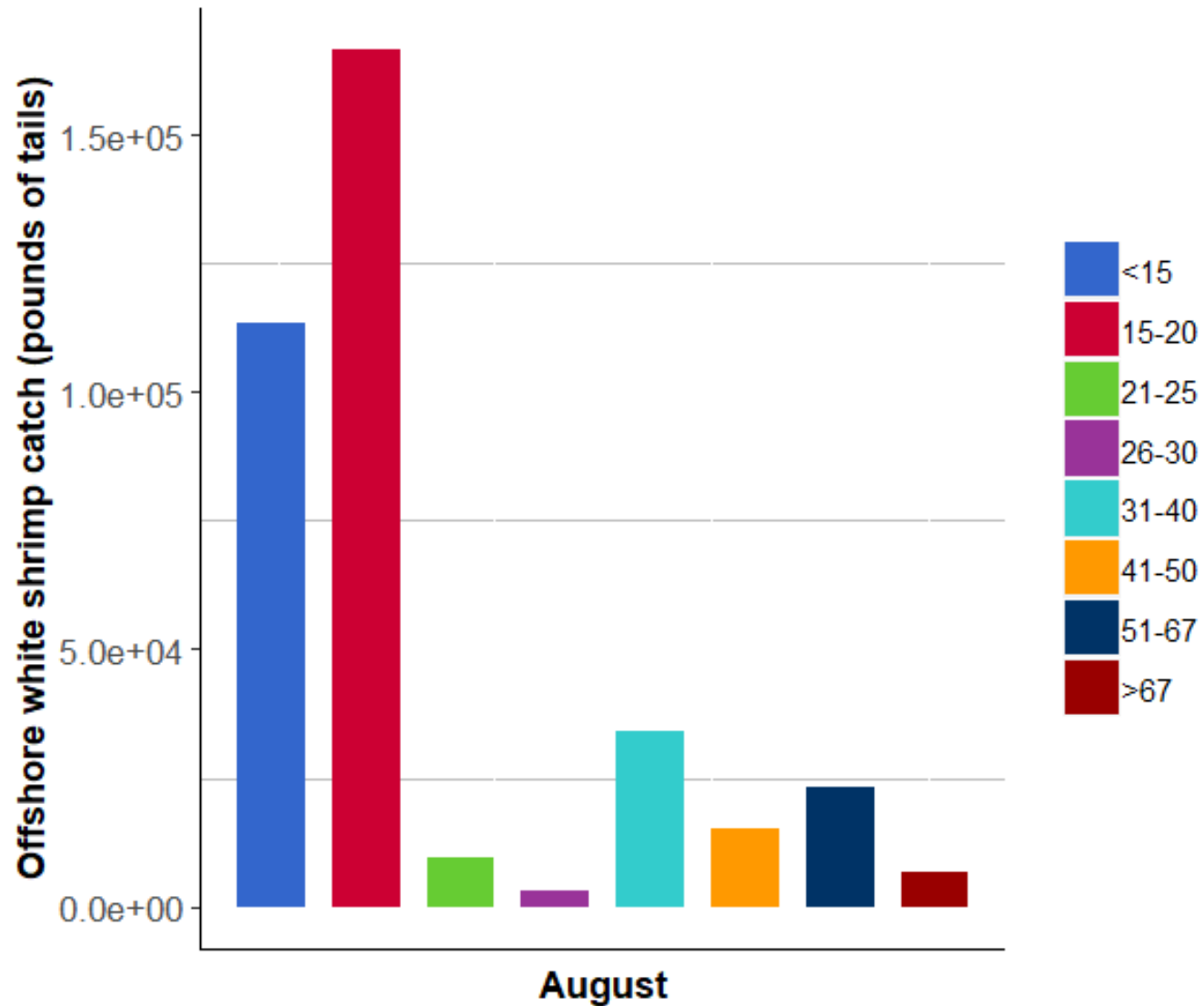
Gulf-wide shrimp landings by middle Texas ports May-August, 1981-2018



Gulf-wide shrimp landings by lower Texas ports May-August, 1981-2018



July offshore white shrimp catch for 2018



August offshore white shrimp catch for 2018

Texas Fishing Trends Summary

- Inshore brown shrimp catch in May-August below historical average (0.21 < 4.2 M lbs.); 51% of catch in May
- Offshore brown shrimp catch in May-August below historical average (10.8 < 13.0 M lbs.); in July-August, only 1.1% of catch in the >67 count size category

Texas Shrimp Landings by Port Summary

Some changes in distribution of shrimp landings (2018):

1. Increased landings at Port Chambers and Galveston, decreases at other upper TX ports
 2. All landings for middle TX ports decreased
 3. Lower TX ports: Brownsville and Port Isabel decreased, Aransas increased
- ❖ Jefferson County had highest % again this year

White Shrimp & SEAMAP YPR Summary

- White shrimp catch off Texas (July-August) below average again this year; with July-Aug catch in 2018 < 2017
- Percent change in yield values at $F=1$ and $M=0.15$ and 0.28 are 0 and 10.4% (Ingram and Pollack, 2018)

