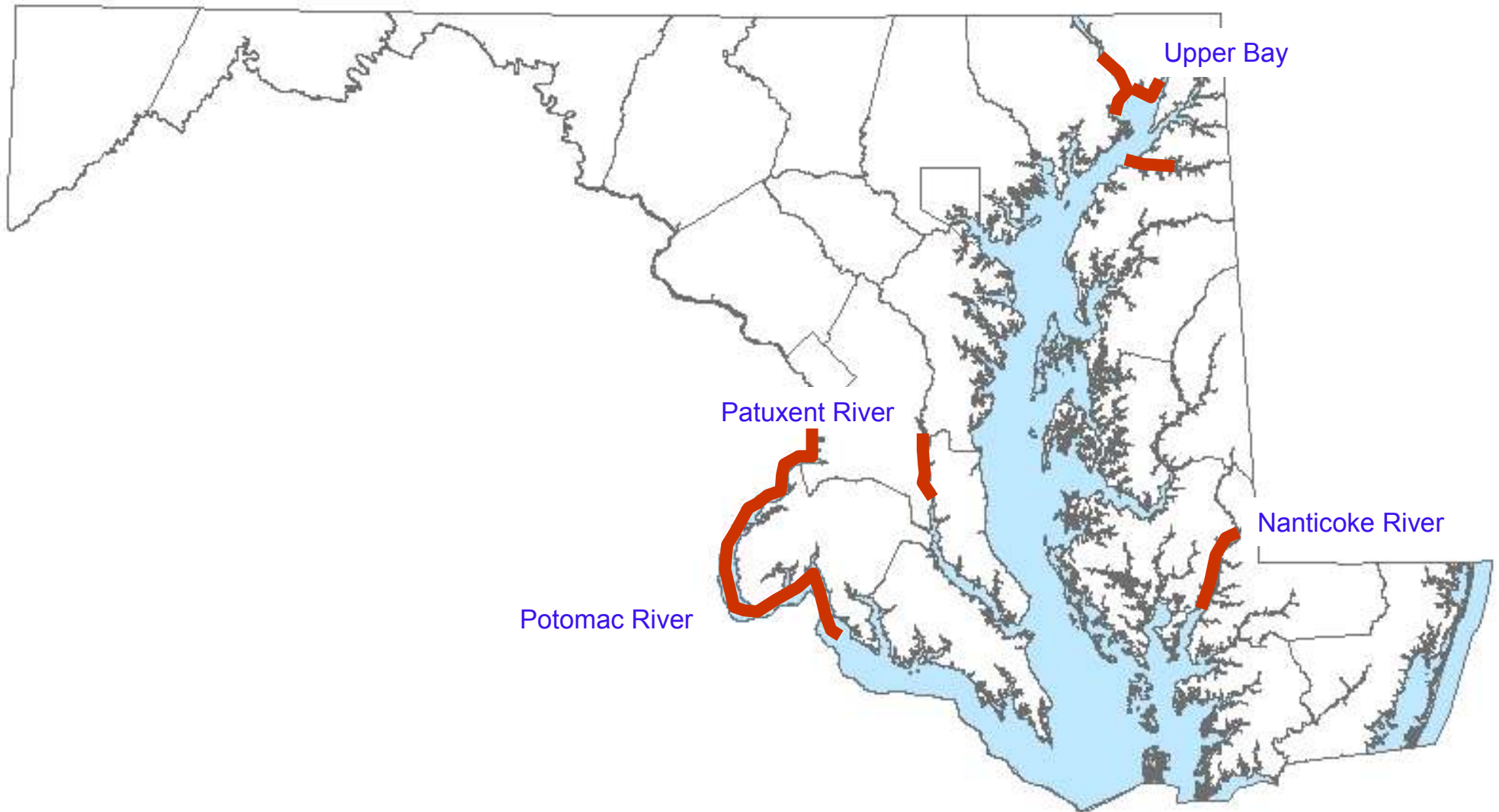


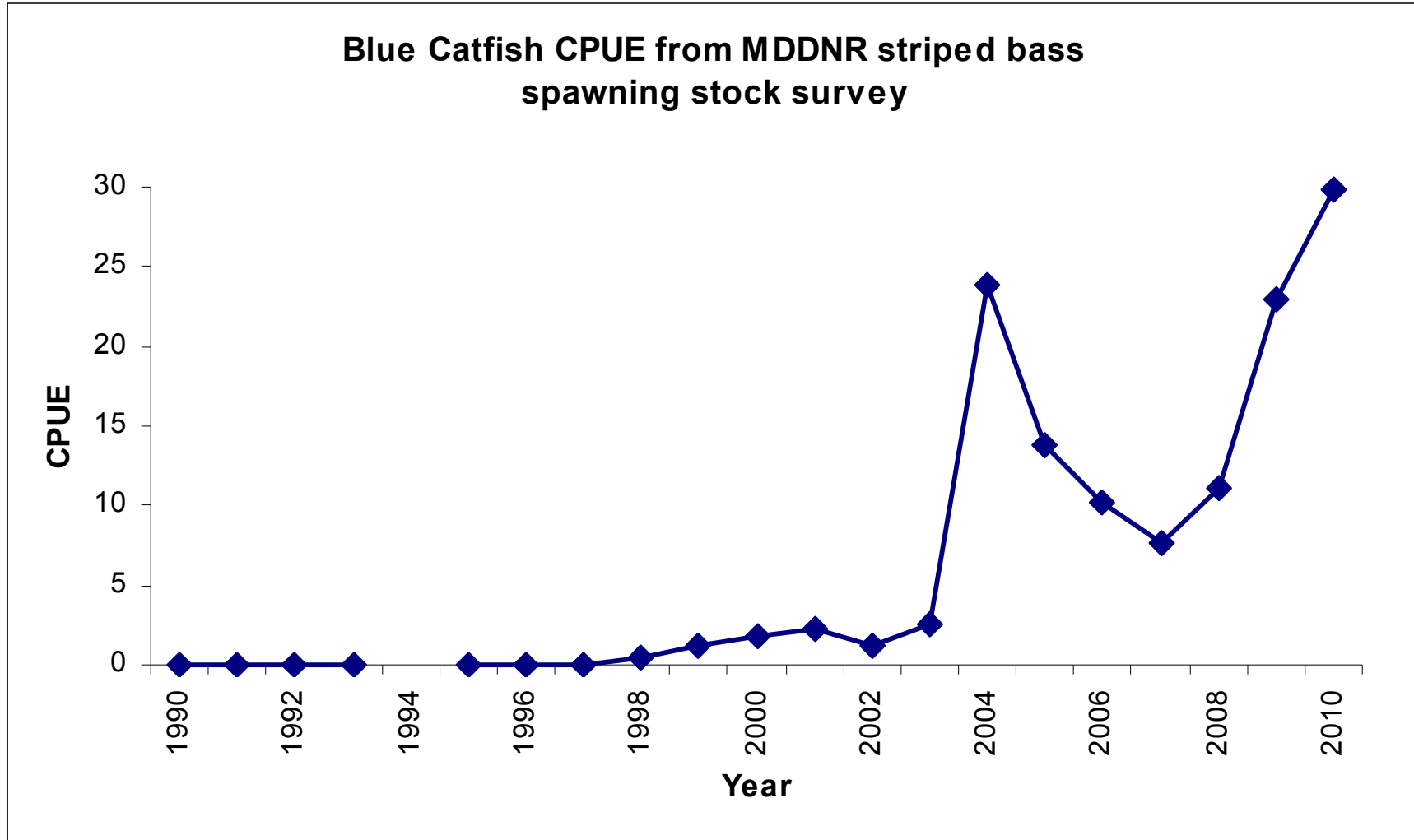


Tidal Blue Catfish in Maryland Waters

**Mary Groves and Dr. Joseph Love
MD DNR Inland Fisheries**

Blue Catfish distribution in Maryland

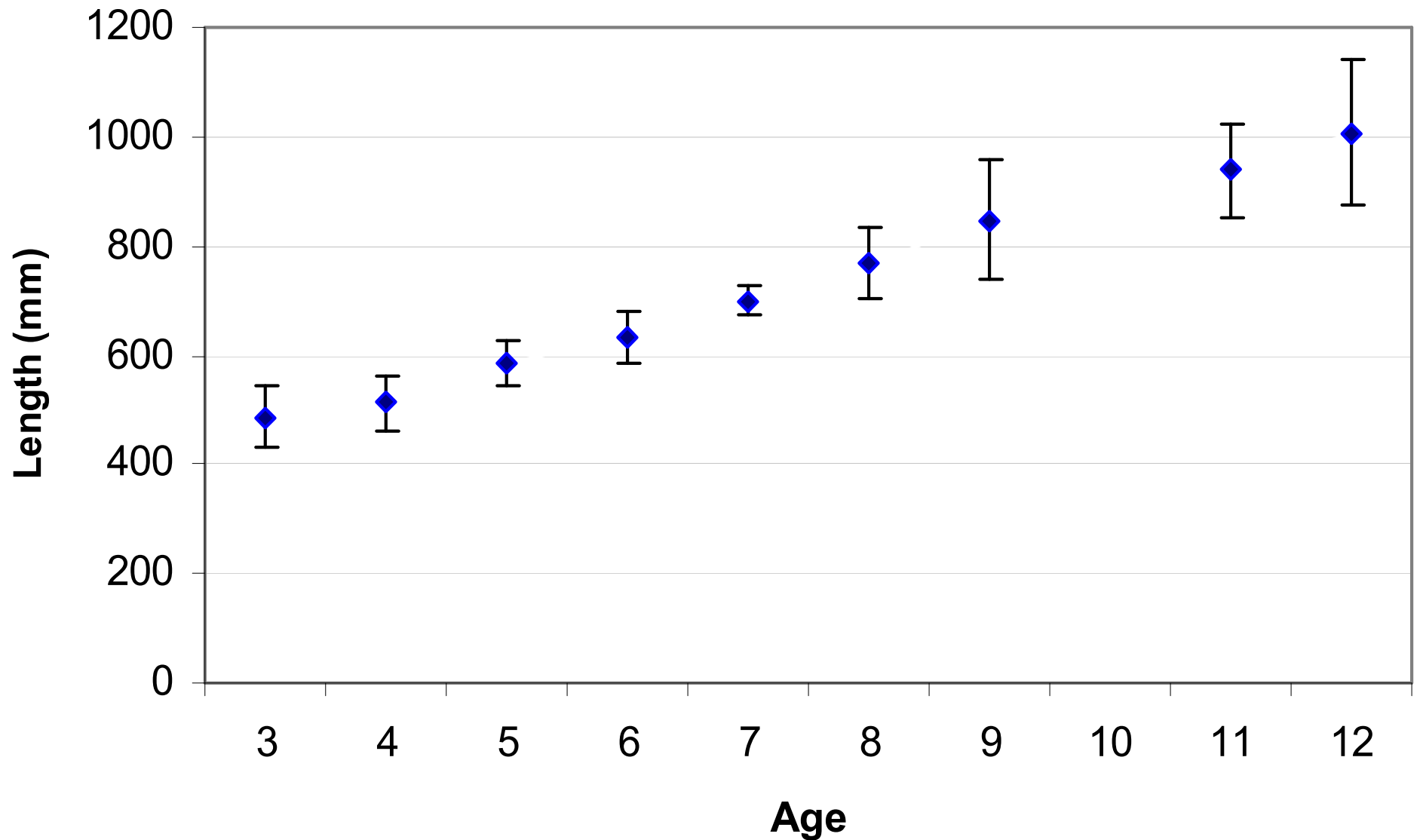




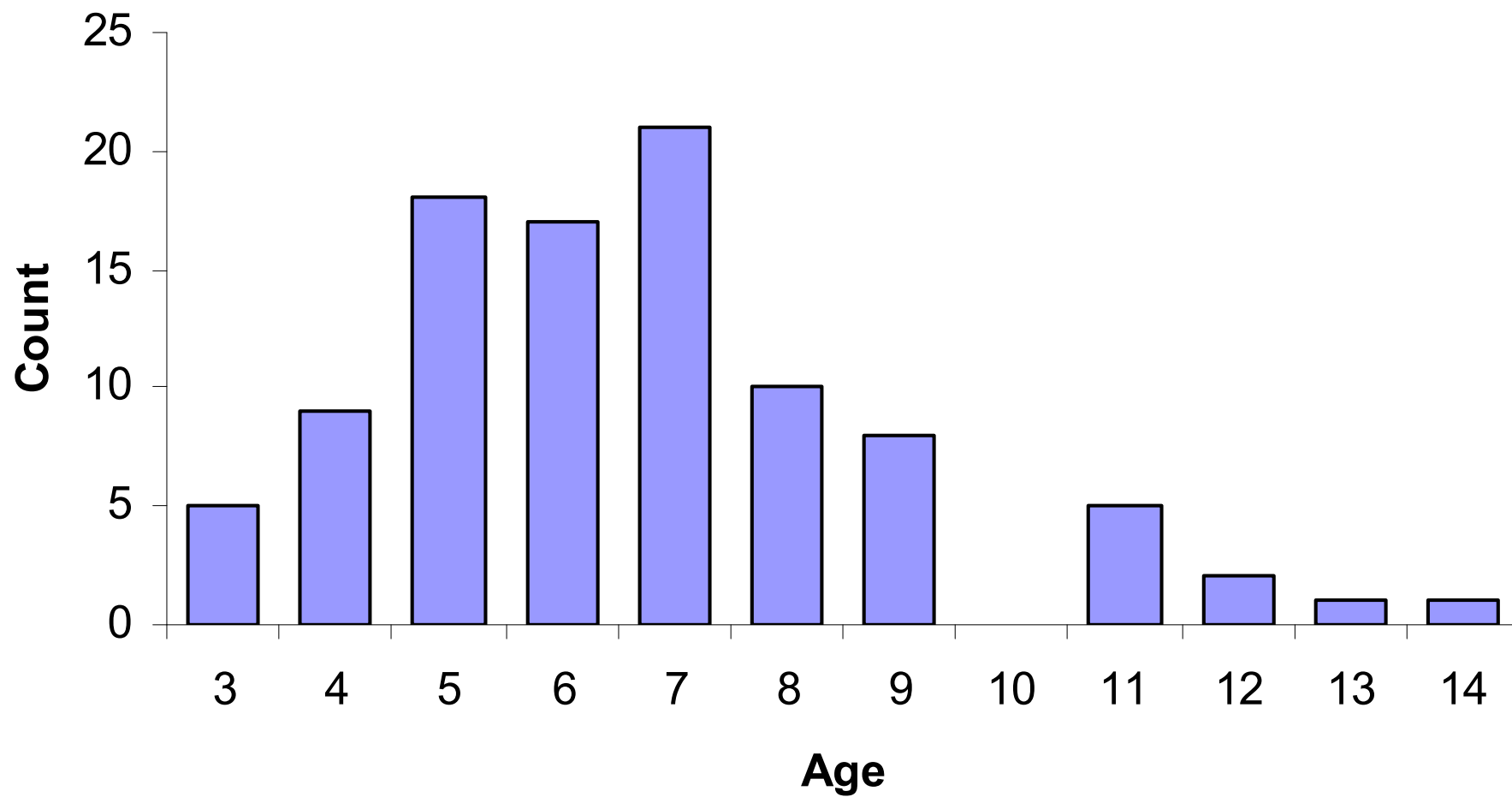
Effort corrected catch of blue catfish on the Potomac River during the MD DNR striped bass spawning stock survey. CPUE is standardized as the number of fish caught per 1000 square yards of drift gill net per hour. Data compiled by Eric Durell (MD DNR)

Tidal Potomac River Blue Catfish Length at Capture

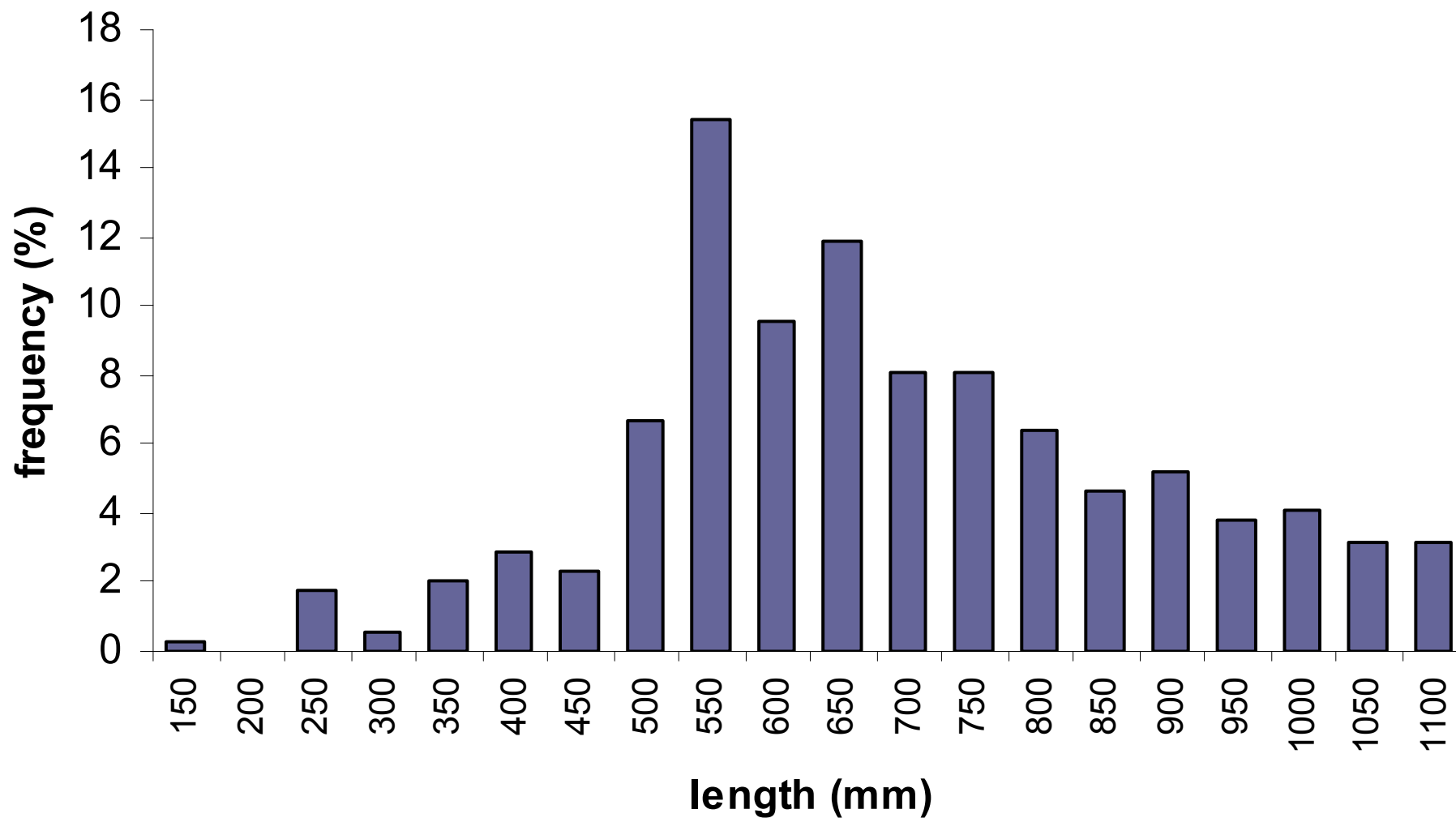
Mean TL +/- 95% CI



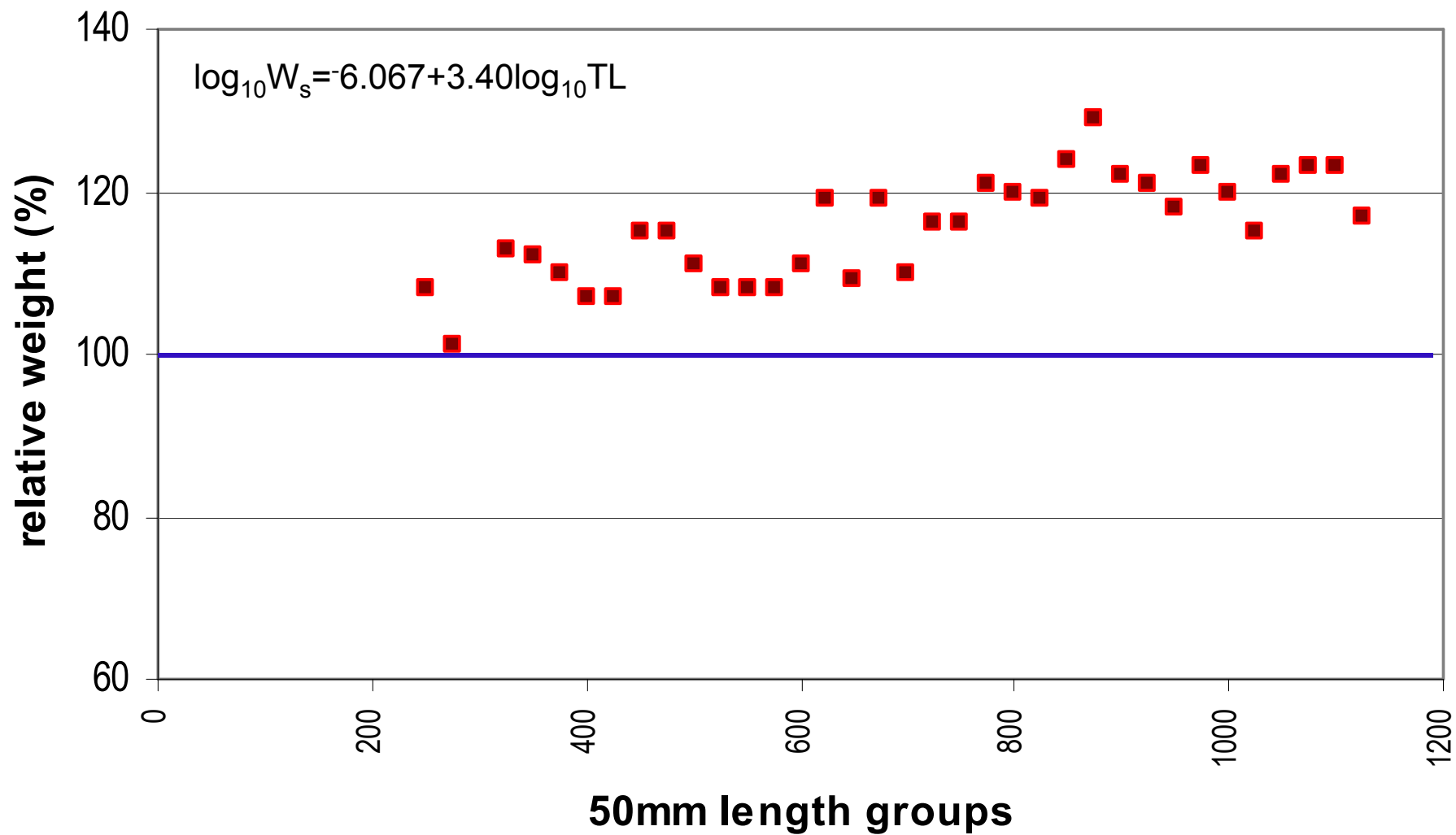
**2010 tidal Potomac blue catfish age distribution
from fish collected with electrofishing gear**



2010 tidal Potomac blue catfish length distribution from fish collected with electrofishing gear

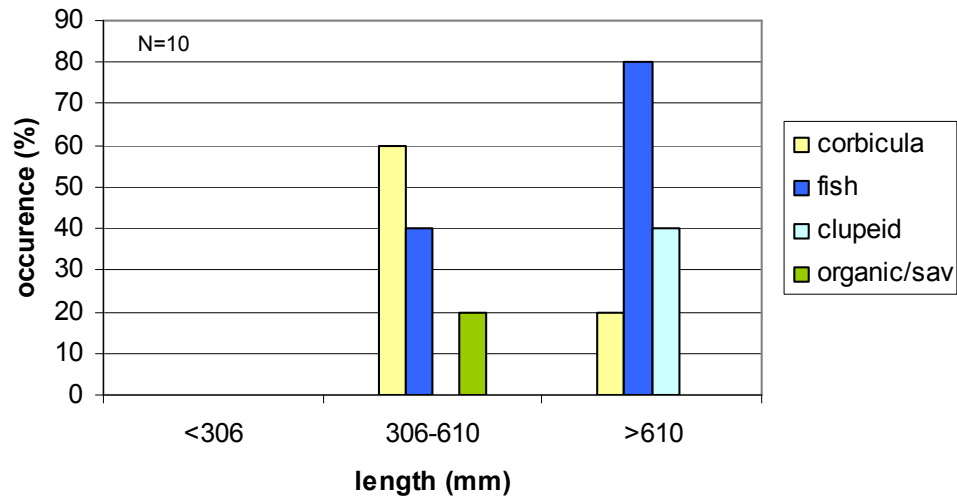


Tidal Potomac River Blue Catfish Relative Weights

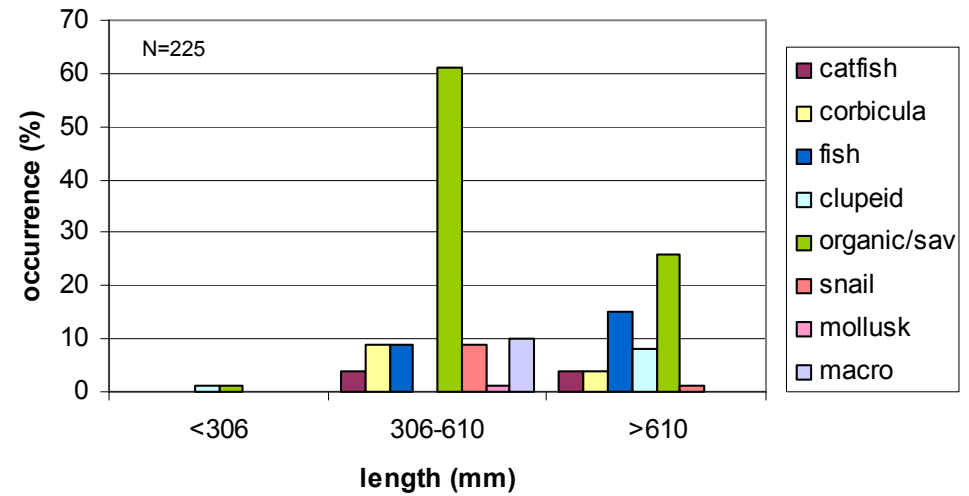


Tidal Potomac Blue Catfish gut content

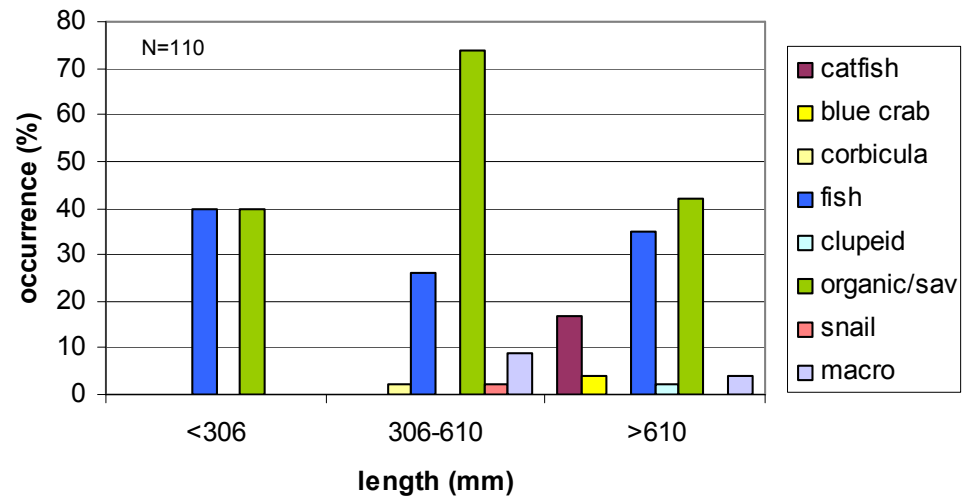
Spring



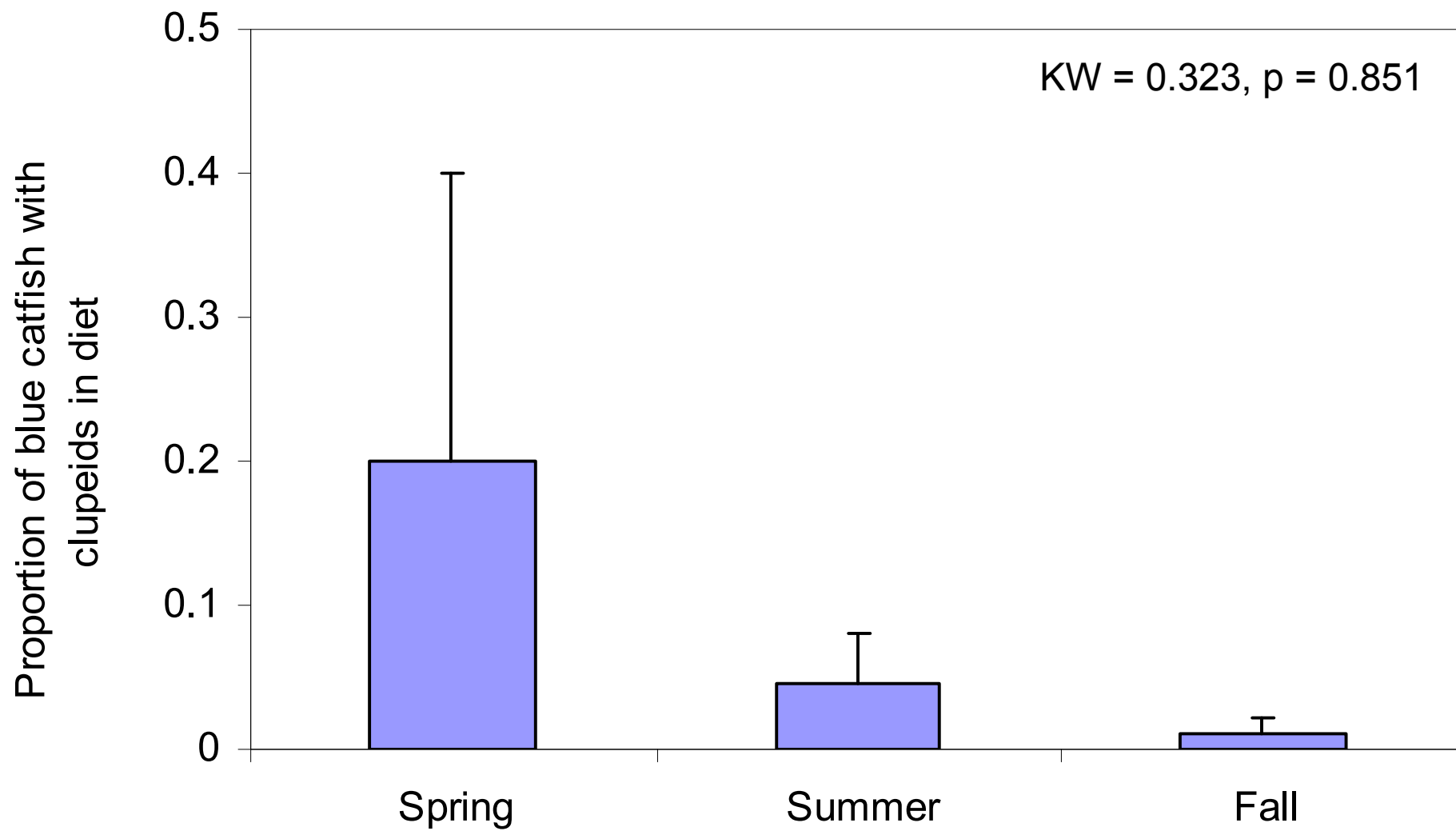
Summer



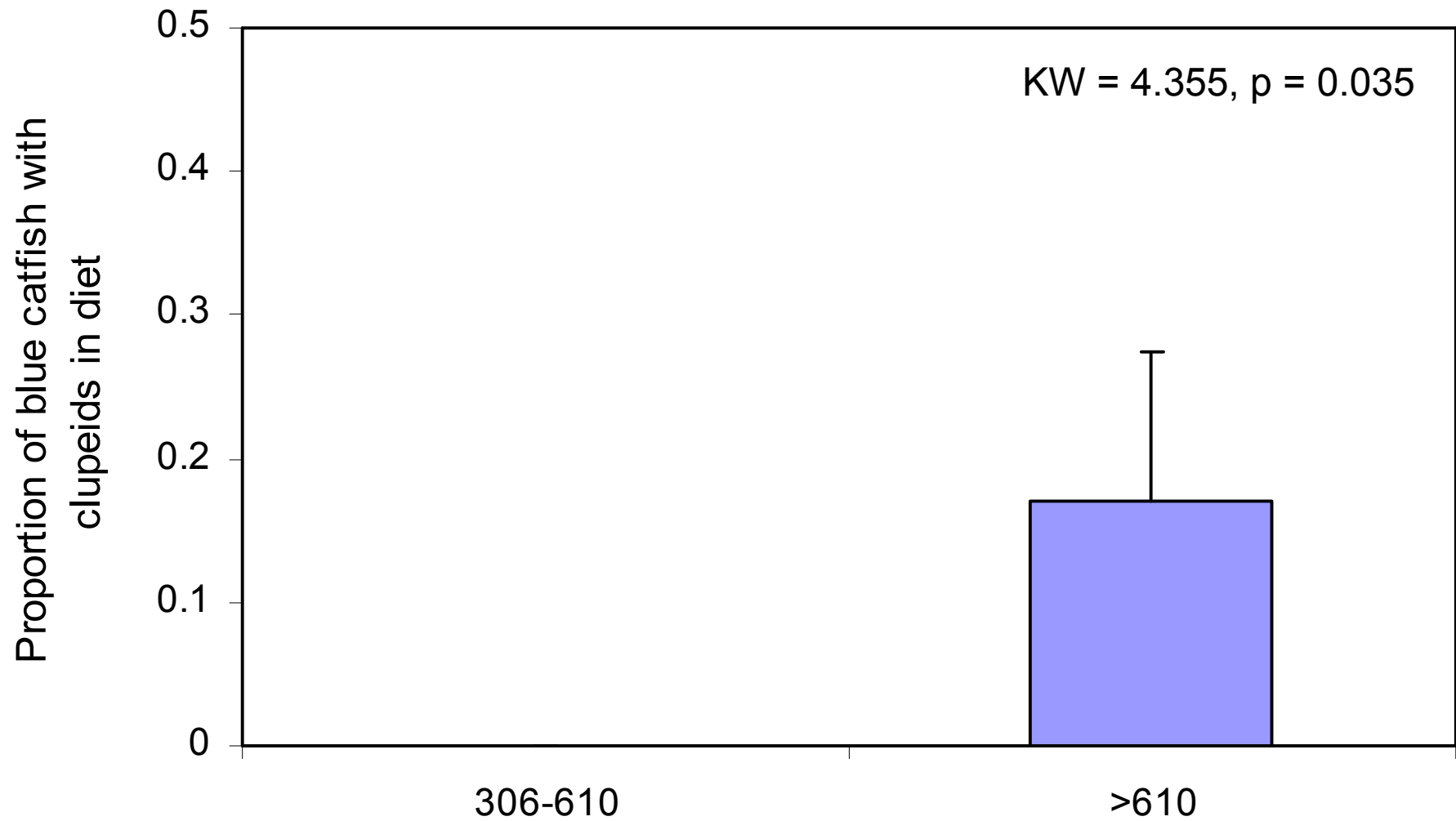
Fall



Tidal Potomac blue catfish diet analysis



Tidal Potomac blue catfish diet analysis





Blue catfish populations now occur in over 64 miles
of the Potomac River

Highest salinity encountered during surveys- 7.06 ppt

Fewer white catfish and channel catfish observed

Impact on shad restoration project?

Impact on largemouth bass population?

Growing catfish angling community dedicated to the
Potomac blue catfish population

Increased pressure to enact protective measures on
blue catfish harvest, particularly large fish