



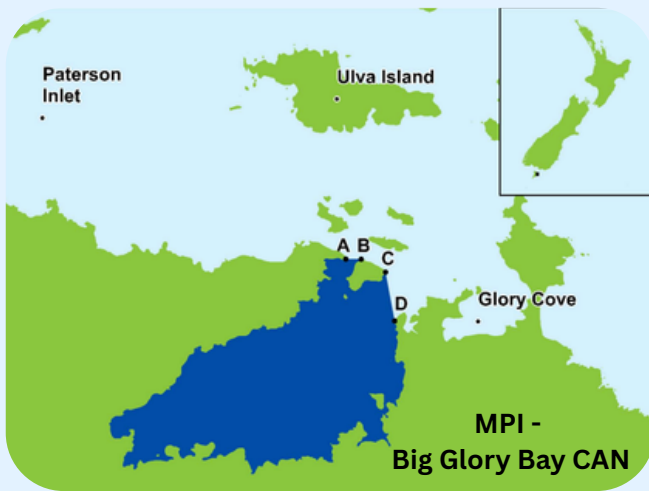
# OYSTER RECRUITS

Density and recruitment of dredge oyster populations in Big Glory Bay, Stewart Island

## Question

- Are dredge oyster (*Ostrea chilensis*) densities too low to support recruitment in Big Glory Bay, following the infection of *Bonamia ostreae*?

## Why is this important



- *Bonamia spp.* are a parasite that infects oyster tissue and result in a 90% mortality rate
- Dredge oyster are an important ecosystem engineer
- There's a large wild caught fishery for dredge oysters

## Method

- Dive sampling to estimate density & size structure of populations
- Use settlement plates to estimate annual recruitment
  - Set plates in spring & autumn
  - Collect after 3 months



Fun fact! I can be found from shallow water to depths of 150m