

CONCLUSIONS

We found a total of 1,018 mussels, with 768 being from the Tinkers Creek sites and 248 being from the Cuyahoga River sites. Out of the 1,018 mussels, 350 were *Lasmigona costata*, both live and shells. About 95% of the *L. costata* mussels were found in Tinkers Creek, and about 5% were found in the Cuyahoga River. We can observe a distinct pattern of *L. costata* having a prominent distribution in Tinkers Creek, but not in the Cuyahoga River.

Figure 2. Example of a *Lasmigona costata* shell. Note the distinct ridges on the posterior slope.

- We found 7 live and 9 dead *L. costata* at the 28 sites in the Upper Cuyahoga River.
- The *L. costata* mussels show a notable pattern of distribution in Tinkers Creek and an absence in the Upper Cuyahoga River.

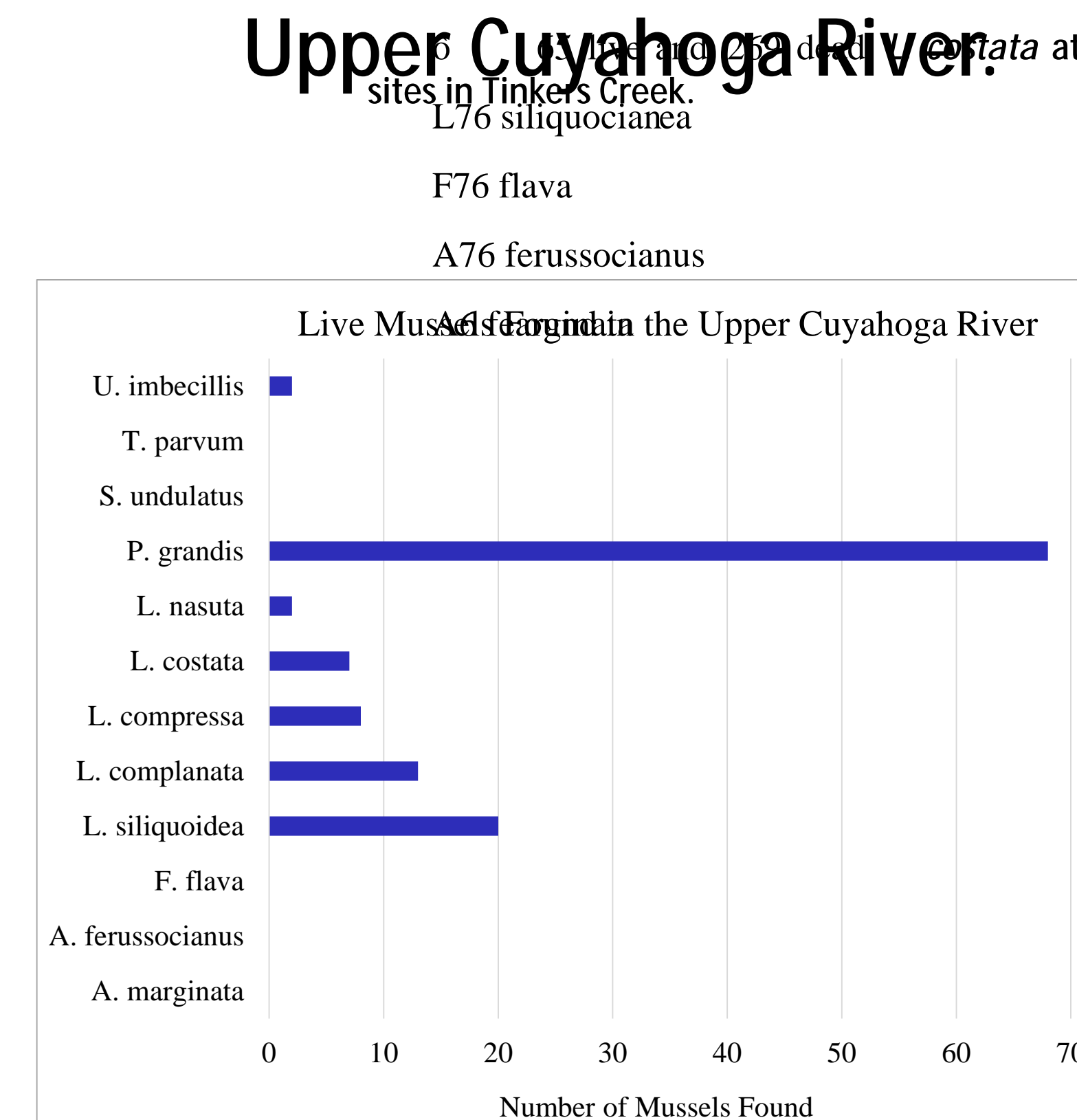


Figure 3. Bar graphs depicting all the species of freshwater mussel that were found, both live and dead, in Tinkers Creek and the Cuyahoga River.

Figure 4. Two live *Lasmigona costata* mussels that I found during my research. The lines visible on the shells indicate annual growth.

FUTURE WORK

The microgeographical distribution of *L. costata* is still under research today. For example, can these mussels be found at greater depths, such as in lakes or in the deeper parts of rivers that cannot be reached by hand. Using remote sensing and mapping tools, I will investigate differences between sites where *L. costata* was found and those harboring mussels of different species. It would also be interesting to compare the distribution patterns between these rivers and neighboring watersheds.

References

Haag, W. R. (2012). North American Freshwater Mussels: Naturam1 Tc 0.0.