

Table 1. Cold-seep sites included in this study.

Region	Site	Abbreviation	Latitude (mean)	Longitude (mean)	Depth (mean)	References
Gulf of Mexico	Louisiana Upper Continental Slope	<u>ULS</u>	27°44'N	91°16'W	550m	Bergquist et al. 2003, Cordes et al. 2005
Gulf of Mexico	Louisiana Middle Continental Slope	<u>MLS</u>	27°06'N	91°10'W	1500m	Cordes et al. in press
Gulf of Mexico	Louisiana Lower Continental Slope	<u>LLS</u>	26°21'N	94°30'W	2300m	Brooks et al. 1990, Cordes et al. 2007, Cordes et al. in press
Gulf of Mexico	Florida Escarpment	<u>FE</u>	26°01'N	84°55'W	3300m	Paull et al. 1984, Turnipseed et al. 2003, Cordes et al. 2007
NW Atlantic	Carolina margin Blake Ridge	<u>BR</u>	32°30'N	76°11'W	2155m	Van Dover et al. 2003
Barbados Prism	North Barbados Trench	BT	13.8333	-57.6666	4850m	Olu et al. 1997
Barbados Prism	South Barbados Orenoque A	<u>OA</u>	10°21'N	58°51'W	1700m	Jollivet et al. 1990, Olu et al. 1996
Barbados Prism	South Barbados Orenoque B	<u>OB</u>	10°19'	58°37'	2000m	Olu et al. 1996
Barbados Prism	South Barbados El Pilar	<u>EP</u>	11°13'N	59°21'W	1200m	Olu et al. 1996
Gulf of Guinea	Congo basin Regab	<u>Regab</u>	05°46.89'S	09°44.66'E	3170m	Olu-le Roy et al.2007, Olu et al. 2009
Gulf of Guinea	Congo basin Astrid	Ast	4°57'S	10°09.5'E	2830m	Olu et al. unpubl.
Gulf of Guinea	Congo basin,	HH, BH, WH	04°49'S-04°46'S	9°54'E-9°56'E	3100m	Sahling et al. 2008
Gulf of Guinea	Gabon margin, Guinness	Gui	1°34.64'S	8°32.90'E	680m	Olu et al. unpubl.
Gulf of Guinea	Nigeria margin	NIG	4°59'N	4°08'E	1350m	Cordes et al. 2007
Gulf of Guinea	Nigeria margin	NIG	2°58'N	6°38'E	1600m	Galéron, Olu, et al. unpubl.

The underlined sites are included in the similarity and principal component analyses.
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