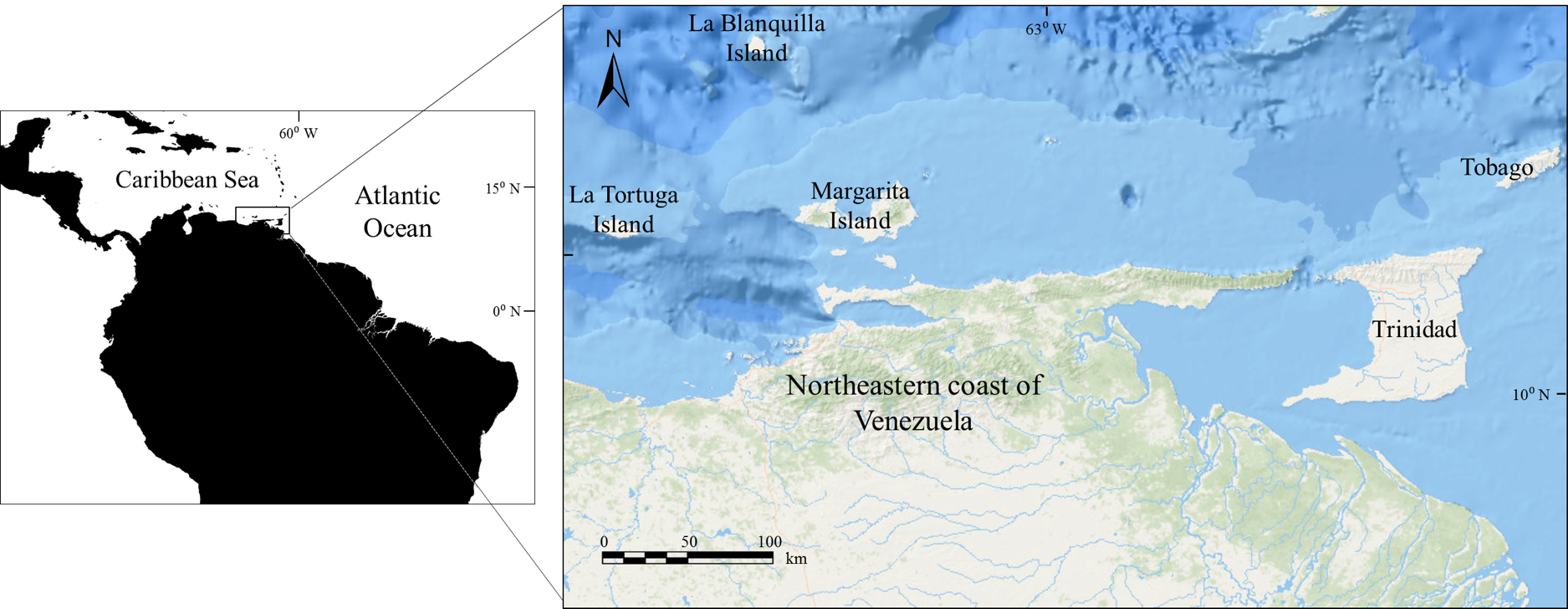
**DIGITAL APPENDIX 1**

Study area: Northeastern region of Venezuela



**DIGITAL APPENDIX 2**

Comparative information of growth parameters estimated for species of the genus *Mustelus*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Species | Sex | Max. size | Growth parameters | | | Study area | Authors |
| (cm TL) | *L*∞ | *k* | *t*0 |
| *Mustelus californicus* | Males | 93.0 | 101.8 | 0.35 | -1.00 | West coast, USA | Yudin & Cailliet (1990) |
| Females | 125.0 | 142.4 | 0.22 | -1.03 |
| *Mustelus henlei* | Males | 79.5 | 86.1 | 0.29 | -1.09 |
| Females | 100.0 | 97.6 | 0.23 | -1.38 |
| *Mustelus mustelus* | Males | 112.0 | 105.2 | 0.44 | -1.52 | Northwestern Atlantic | Conrath et al. (2002) |
| Females | 132.0 | 123.6 | 0.29 | -1.94 |
| *Mustelus asterias* | Males | 104.0 | 103.7 | 0.20 |  | Northeastern Atlantic | Farrell et al. (2010) |
| Females | 112.0 | 123.5 | 0.15 |  |
| *Mustelus higmani* | Males | 61.0 | 60.4 | 0.53 | -1.02 | Caribbean, Vzla. | Present study |
| Females | 71.6 | 71.1 | 0.38 | -1.17 |