

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Biloxi, Mississippi
Buena Vista Hotel
October 18 - 19, 1951

P R O G R A M

Thursday, October 18, 1951

9:30 AM CALL TO ORDER, Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Chairman.....Sun Room.

INTRODUCTION, Dr. W. C. Holmes, recently appointed Alabama
Commissioner, Foley, Alabama.

ROLL CALL and Other Introductions.

WELCOME, Mr. Hermes Gautier, Mississippi Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, Mr. Dudley Gunn, Secretary-Treasurer.

10:00 AM GULF EXPLORATORY FISHING (1950-51) and Discussion,
Mr. Stewart Springer, FWS, Pascagoula.

10:20 AM GULF FISHING INVESTIGATIONS (1950-51) and Discussion,
Mr. Wm. W. Anderson, FWS, Galveston.

10:40 AM GULF OYSTER INVESTIGATIONS (1950-51) and Discussion,
Dr. Philip A. Butler, FWS, Pensacola.

11:00 AM A PLAN FOR AN OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF GULF INSHORE WATERS,
Mr. Ed H. Dahlgren, FWS, Washington.

11:20 AM STUDENT MARINE FISHERIES INSTRUCTION, STATE OF VIRGINIA,
(Dr. J. L. McHugh) Reading by, Mr. Stacey C. Denham,
FWS, New Orleans.

11:40 AM GULF FISHERIES UNDER THE CONTROLLED MATERIALS PLAN,
Mr. Donald Y. Aska, DFA, Washington.

12:10 PM OPEN PERIOD, reserved for representatives of industry or
others.

ADJOURNMENT.

Thursday, October 18, 1951 (continued)

- 2:30 PM Commissioners will meet in executive session,
Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, presiding.....English Room.
- 2:30 PM Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data,
and representatives of FWS, industry, and others,
will meet in open session,
Dr. J. Nelson Gowanloch, presiding.....Sun Room.
- 2:30 PM Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws will meet in open session,
Mr. A. J. Harris, presiding.....Card Room.
- The Commission attorneys are invited to join the Commissioners
at 3:00 PM.....English Room.
- 3:30 PM Members of the Japanese Diet are invited to join the
Commissioners.....English Room.

Friday, October 19, 1951

9:30
~~10:00~~ AM

OPEN SESSION

REPORT, Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data
.....Dr. J. Nelson Gowanloch, Chairman.

REPORT, Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws
.....Mr. A. J. Harris, Chairman.

REPORT, any other matters for open session discussion.

ADJOURNMENT.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

10:30
11:00 AM

Dr. Gowanloch and Mr. Harris will please remain for this session.

Thursday, October 18, 1951

2:30 PM COMMITTEE TO CORRELATE RESEARCH & EXPLORATORY DATA,
Dr. J. Nelson Gowanloch, Chairman, presiding.

Open Session.....Sun Room.

Discussion of:

Gulf Exploratory Fishing Program.....1951-52.
Gulf Research Programs.....1951-52.
 Offshore Research
 Oyster Research
Interstate Cooperation, State Research.....1951-52.
Suggested Inshore Oceanographic Survey.
Improving State Landing Records.....1951-52.
Additional Information Relative Shrimp, since
 publication of Commission Informational
 Bulletin No. 1, May 15, 1951.

Other matters of scientific concern.

2:30 PM COMMITTEE TO CORRELATE FISHERY LAWS,
Mr. A. J. Harris, Chairman, presiding.

Open Session.....Card Room.

Discussion of:

Changes in fishery laws:

1951 Alabama Legislature, Mr. Harris.
1951 Florida Legislature, Miss Schulman.
1951 Texas Legislature, Miss Baker.
1952 La. Legislature (Proposed), Mr. Cain.
1952 Miss. Legislature (Proposed), Mr. Bickerstaff.

Other matters of legal concern.

(The Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws will please join the
Commissioners at 3:00 PM in English Room, continuing this
session later, if necessary).

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
312 Audubon Building
New Orleans 16, Louisiana

MINUTES
(Extract of Transcript)

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 18-19, 1951
BUENA VISTA HOTEL, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE OF COMMISSIONERS:

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
<u>ALABAMA:</u>	Earl M. McGowin Thomas A. Johnston W. C. Holmes	
<u>FLORIDA:</u>	George Vathis	William J. Hendry Bryant Patton
<u>LOUISIANA:</u>		Ernest S. Clements E. J. Grizzaffi Leander H. Perez
<u>MISSISSIPPI:</u>	Hermes Gautier Louis Simmons	Walter J. Gex
<u>TEXAS:</u>	Howard D. Dodgen Lawrence A. Kurtz	Jimmy Phillips
	George Vathis James N. McConnell James N. McConnell	(Proxy for Wm. J. Hendry) (Proxy for Ernest S. Clements) (Proxy for E. J. Grizzaffi--10/19)
<u>STAFF:</u>	W. Dudley Gunn, Secretary-Treasurer	

COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary Schulman, Reece O. Bickerstaff, J. Nelson Gowanloch, Clarence P. Idyll,
A. E. Hopkins, J. L. Baughman.

REPRESENTATIVES OF U. S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE PRESENT

A. W. Anderson, W. W. Anderson, D. Y. Aska, H. R. Bullis, P. A. Butler,
E. H. Dahlgren, S. C. Denham, H. G. Hague, C. H. Lyles, Stewart Springer,
R. T. Whiteleather.

REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRY AND OTHERS PRESENT

B. E. Thomas, Mrs. S. W. Buck, L. P. Caillouet, C. M. Carriere, A. B. Chauvin, G. J. Clause, S. W. Corbino, John Elion, F. G. Fountain, D. Guthrie, W. B. Hoover, S. Landry, E. M. Lapeyre, F. S. Lapeyre, J. H. Lapeyre, M. K. Lawrenz, James McPhillips, T. R. Means, J. S. Ramos, C. F. Rose, Sr., L. W. Strasburger, M. W. Thompson, A. J. Wegmann, Murray Wheeler, Harold Hanaumi, (Interpreter, Japanese Delegation).

MEMBERS OF JAPANESE NATIONAL DIET PRESENT

Tadashi Chida, Tatsuo Kinoshita, Zenko Suzuki, Kakugoro Tominaga.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM Thursday, October 18, 1951, with the Commission Vice-Chairman, Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, presiding. The Chairman called upon Mr. Earl M. McGowin who introduced Dr. W. C. Holmes, newly appointed citizen representative on the Commission for the State of Alabama. In introducing Dr. Holmes, Mr. McGowin referred to the very fine work he had done with regard to the marine fisheries while a member of the Alabama Legislature. He also pointed to the very active part Dr. Holmes is now taking in the development of the Baldwin County, Alabama, fisheries.

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll of Commissioners by states and introduced all conferees in attendance at the morning session.

Mr. Hermes Gautier, Mississippi Commissioner, and member of the Mississippi Seafood Commission, was called upon by the Chairman to extend a word of welcome on behalf of the State of Mississippi.

In the Secretary-Treasurer's annual report to the Commission, reference was made to the fine work on the Gulf accomplished during the year by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service. He referred to the offshore programs of fishery explorations and gear development being progressed by the FWS Exploratory Section at Pascagoula and the marine biological and oceanographic work being accomplished by the Gulf investigations office at Galveston. Mention was made of the teamwork of these two branches of the Service which will result in the gaining by industry on the Gulf of a complete picture of not only the fishes existing in the offshore waters but, in addition, complete information relative to their habitat and controlling influences of habitat. Reference was made to other productive work of FWS in the Gulf area including the oyster research program being conducted at the Pensacola laboratory, the red tide investigations at the Sarasota establishment, and fishery statistical and market news service functions, the last named now carrying on DFA work.

In concluding his remarks on the work of the Commission's primary research agency for the Gulf area, Mr. Gunn referred to the approximate \$400,000 to be expended during the current year by the subject federal agency as being a very modest amount in comparison with the extremely high productiveness of the various programs.

Referring to work of the compacted states, the speaker mentioned the added impetus to existing fishery programs and the developing of new programs in existence in all states. The expanding of such programs was said to be attributable to increased appropriations being made possible through the sale of dead oyster and clam shells.

The Secretary stated that all states participated in oyster reef restoration during the past year and that such projects, and others of a biological character, will be expanded during the coming year.

In Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, development of the oyster fisheries will continue to be the chief objective for the year 1951-52. In Florida and Texas the oyster program will be supplemented, with the former continuing the mullet study and carrying on both biological and technological work on Key West Brazilian shrimp, and the latter progressing the ecological survey of the 135 mile long Texas Laguna Madre.

Reviewing the matter of fishery reciprocation among the compacted states, the report stated that during the past year Alabama and Mississippi had completed a reciprocal shrimp agreement, that Alabama and Florida formerly had completed such an agreement as well as had Mississippi and Louisiana. Mr. Gunn stated that the Louisiana Legislature had not made any changes in existing laws on the subject of reciprocal agreements, that the next regular session would be in May of 1952. He also stated that certain sections of Title 56, Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, had been ruled unconstitutional insofar as they affect non-resident fishermen and non-resident fishing boats, in Federal District Court per decree entered August 20, 1951; that Louisiana had filed motion for a new trial, which is now pending.

Continuing, he said Texas does not have reciprocal fishery agreements with any state. Such authority was not extended by the 1951 Legislature. Texas waters are now open to fishermen of any state with the paying of a nominal annual boat license of \$6.00 plus \$3.00 per fisherman plus \$15.00 trawl license. Litigation in Texas on the same issues as have been raised in the currently pending Federal Court case in Louisiana was decided by courts in that state in favor of non-resident fishermen, some months ago.

Concerning the matter of shrimp investigations, it was pointed out that Commission Informational Bulletin #1 had been issued and directed to the legislators and marine fishery administrators of the several states for such consideration as might be deemed appropriate in the development of laws and regulations pertaining to the shrimp fishery of their respective state. A comprehensive report of the reaction to the suggested regulations will be available within the coming year. As more scientifically sound information becomes available, such data on the No. 1 industry of the coastal states will be passed to the proper state authorities.

Turning to the matter of shrimp imports, it was said two schools of action had developed in industry, with one continuing effort for federal legislation to limit imports, and the other having assumed a passive attitude

with regard to the imports matter but having formed an association with Mexican interests to promote consumer consumption of shrimp.

It was said the Commission is continuing its study of technological needs of industry on the Gulf and prospecting the future, the report pointed out the possibility of a full-scale on-the-ground technological program being inaugurated for the area in the not too distant future.

Relative to new subjects coming up for consideration of the Commission, mention was made of a possible oceanographic survey of inshore waters and an educational project to be directed toward familiarizing the younger generation with matters concerning the marine fisheries, the same being channeled through science teachers of coastal graded schools.

Mr. Gunn concluded with an expression of appreciation for the very fine cooperative effort much in evidence during the second year of the Commission's existence.

Reviewing the work of the FWS Exploratory Fishing and Gear Development Section, Pascagoula, Mississippi, Mr. Springer said that the M/V OREGON spent 141 days at sea and traveled approximately 15,000 miles in the Gulf of Mexico between October, 1950 and October, 1951 in the carrying out of the various programs. During the period 236 trawl drags were made, trap series were set 11 times, hand lines or electric reels were tried in 28 areas, and 71 additional point bathythermograph casts were made. Also, a series of 13 tests of mid-water trawls were logged by the Pascagoula staff using chartered shrimp boats. The speaker told of the progress of the shrimp project during the past year, emphasizing that the brown grooved shrimp, Penaeus aztecus, appeared about three weeks later in fishable concentrations this year, as compared with the summer of 1950, due to the slow change of water temperature from cool to warm. Work in the red shrimp, Hymenopeneus robustus, fishery was said to indicate their presence in Gulf waters at depths of over a thousand feet but the study of concentrations was a continuing one.

During the first week in September, Mr. Springer said the OREGON observed surface schools of tuna some 175 miles southwest of Southwest Pass and ran through the schools during the entire day, enroute from Campeche to Pascagoula..... about 115 miles being covered. The tuna were believed to run about 75 pounds average weight. Also during the first week in September, tuna were said to have been observed in heavily populated schools east and southeast of South Pass of the Mississippi River, outside the 150 fathom curve. Several taken were provisionally identified as Atlantic blackfin tuna, Parathunnus atlanticus.... weight average 8 pounds. The OREGON was not geared to take quantities of tuna from either of the mentioned areas. Although observations of the Gulf tuna have been limited, enough evidence has been collected to suggest their presence during the summer in the upper Gulf, surfacing in calm weather and remaining below the surface when the surface is turbulent, according to the speaker.

Miscellaneous observations by Mr. Springer pointed out that the taking of red snapper by traps appeared to be of little commercial significance, that

experiments are progressing with the bottomless or kite trawls and it is hoped such trawls will be found desirable for fishing on rough bottoms.

He concluded with reference to the great variety of fish and shellfish taken during the year as being valuable in the interpreting of fishing information and planning future programs.

Discussion: It was brought out that U. S. tuna fishing is accomplished by use of live bait, purse seines and trolling but not through use of the long line method; that live bait is used for chumming while the fish are actually caught on a barbless hook with attached feather as a lure; that the Lampara bait seine used for capture of bait is not injurious to the water bottoms of inshore areas where the small bait size fish are normally caught; that there appeared to be considerable quantities of very small or microscopic marine life present in the upper central Gulf at the time the tuna schools were sighted in September.

Concerning Gulf Fishery Investigations, Mr. W. W. Anderson stated the objectives of the fishery biological research program included:

Establishing through oceanographic techniques the flow patterns of the major drifts of the Gulf of Mexico.

Determination of the origin and movements of young and eggs of various fishes and survival of juveniles as influenced by water movements and water fertility.

Study of the organic constituency of sea water and application of such data to the behavior and survival of marine organisms, on a seasonal basis.

Collection of organisms and distribution to scientists properly qualified to make taxonomic and distributional determinations.

According to the speaker, the biological research vessel ALASKA has completed, since going into service in April 1951, scheduled initial cruises of the Gulf. The three cruises resulted in the coverage of 7,000 miles of Gulf water and the establishing of 125 observation stations.

Referring to salinity tests, Mr. Anderson stated 1156 salinity determinations were made during the three cruises; that several times that number of samples had to be taken to obtain the mentioned number of determinations.

Plankton tows have resulted in a considerable quantity of fish eggs and larvae being collected, said the speaker, but because of but little background information on the life history of the Gulf fishes being available, identification is of necessity progressing slowly.

Water fertility analyses, phosphates and nitrates, have been run on 371 samples, according to Mr. Anderson, and early determinations point to highest concentrations inside the 100 fathom curve.

Initial observation suggests the possible occurrence of more fish inshore from the continental shelf than outside, added the speaker.

Turning to the "red tide" investigations being conducted at the FWS Sarasota, Florida, laboratory, Mr. Anderson reported the occurrence of blooming organisms in the Indian River section of Florida which is proving a valuable testing grounds for the believed to be sources of toxic media associated with the ravaging effect on fish life by the "red tide".

Discussion: None.

In his report of the activities of the FWS Oyster Laboratory at Pensacola, Dr. Butler mentioned that during the past year several individual units of research, which make up the program of the Gulf oyster investigations, were concluded. The results are now in the process of analysis. Work has begun on a few new projects of a minor nature including life cycles of the boring clam and the stone crab. Approximately 65% of the research time will be spent on continuing projects such as the seasonal study of the oyster in relation to environmental changes and the work on genetics of the oyster. By next spring 30% of the research time will be available for the initiation of new studies, a portion of which will be devoted to a more exhaustive study of trapping or otherwise controlling the oyster drill.

Dr. Butler gave a resume of the activities during the past year, stating the purposes of Gulf oyster investigations and listing the various studies which included:

The annual reproductive cycles of the oyster in particular geographic areas... seasonal production of spawn and its relation to the annual variations in salinity and temperature. He mentioned that they had kept complete records for a three year period which show relative abundance of spatfall and the survival of this spatfall, and the inter-relationship between the setting of oysters and other sedentary animals.

Pattern of growth in oysters which has been studied both in the field and under laboratory conditions and on which they now have a great mass of data which is in process of analysis. These data show:

Increase in length and width of animal.

Changes in the internal capacity of the shells.

Age at which most important changes in this dimension take place in oyster.

Changes oysters undergo when they are cultivated as compared to when they are left growing in the wild state.

Relationship between oysters and the different parasites and predators in Gulf area.

Heredity in the oyster.

Raising oysters of known parentage for use in controlled breeding experiments to determine relative importance of genetic factors in controlling growth, quality and resistance to disease.

Study of similar factors in oysters of unknown parentage.

The speaker stated experiments show that some of the most desirable qualities of commercial oysters---shape; shell appearance, volume of meat per oyster, etc. may be largely controlled by good cultural practices. The work shows just as conclusively that the growth rate of individual oysters is very definitely a part of their hereditary complex and that oysters grown under carefully controlled conditions exhibit diverse rates of growth when kept in identical environmental conditions in laboratory tanks or experimental trays in their natural habitat. The tracing of gene inheritance in the oyster is going to be a most tedious task. He also mentioned that some oysters from the Chesapeake Bay area had been transplanted at Pensacola and the development and growth patterns in these oysters are being compared with Gulf oysters of similar age.

In concluding, Dr. Butler stated that during the past year, some hard clams, Venus, were transplanted from New England to Gulf waters and are growing remarkably well with the exception of attacks by predators.

Discussion: Considering spat collection, it was agreed by scientists that it is not possible to predict spatfall along the Gulf coast because of temperatures not being static from year to year as on the Atlantic seaboard. Oyster spawning has been controlled in the laboratory but it is questionable if the operation could be performed economically on a commercial scale. It is not thought clams can be produced in commercial quantities on the Gulf until control is first established over the predators. Fertilization of open or laboratory waters has not proven of benefit to oyster growth but has greatly increased plankton count in open waters in Texas, inviting fin fishes, particularly red fish, in large numbers.

Mr. Dahlgren's presentation of a study of the coastal bays and estuaries, a study suggested to tie in with those in progress for the Gulf waters, is attached to this report.

Presenting a paper concerning student marine instruction in Virginia, prepared by Dr. J. L. McHugh, Mr. Stacey Denham of FWS told of the general course in the marine fisheries offered vocational agricultural teachers of the Virginia coastal counties last summer. This one-week course was conducted at the Virginia Fisheries Laboratory, Gloucester Point. The purpose of such instruction was said to be that of imparting a better understanding of the Virginia fishery resources to the teachers, who in turn incorporate such material in their courses. The ultimate aim of the instruction, according to the presentation, is that of promoting a better appreciation of the fisheries in the future citizens of Virginia, the school having been judged the best medium for such an endeavor. The work is to continue on a greatly expanded basis, said Mr. Denham.

Discussion: Mr. Dodgen told of a program in effect in Texas which is called resource use education, a cooperative venture between the forestry service, the soil conservation service, the department of education and the game and fish commission. Each of the mentioned departments of state government has

employed an expert to develop material relating to conservation and present such material to the teachers. He said the program had worked so well in his state he would like to see such a program sponsored by the Commission for the coastal states of the Gulf. Mr. A. W. Anderson told of the FWS educational work, mentioning particularly motion pictures which can be made available for visual aid instruction. He offered full cooperation of his branch of the Service in assisting in the development of an overall fishery resource educational program for the Gulf.

Dr. Idyll said the Marine Laboratory of Miami University is approaching the subject of better educating the general public through offering short courses at the laboratory and through the issuing of informational or educational bulletins. He said they hoped to reach the graded school students more direct in the future and that Florida would welcome a coordinated program.

Dr. Butler, speaking of the interest of the public in the marine fisheries, said the Pensacola Laboratory announced a one day open house last April and the response was so good on the part of the general public, the invitation was extended to three weeks. Over 600 high school students and teachers viewed the exhibits.

Mr. Baughman said a one day open house at the Rockport, Texas, laboratory attracted 480 visitors.

Mr. Donald Y. Aska, speaking on the subject of Defense Fisheries Administration activities, stated that inventories are down, the rearmament program is leaving the drawing board and tooling stage, entering the production stage, and demanding an increasing portion of our resources. He said that every industry that uses controlled materials, steel, copper and aluminum in factory shapes, will be dependent upon allotments made to that industry by the DFA. The speaker said it appears shore construction will be reduced in the months immediately ahead due to the shortage of copper, and plate and structural steel; however, small projects requiring 25 tons of steel, or less, and correspondingly small amounts of copper and aluminum, have been provided for by NPA. He said vessel construction looks favorable as applications for material by large yards apparently have been filled almost 100%. Maintenance of existing facilities, shore and vessel, appears to be assured, according to Mr. Aska. He expects a slow-up on delivery time of engines but no real shortage; that tin cans are expected in good supply to January 1, 1952 and probably later since NPA now permits supply to users based on either their 1949 or 1950 requirements. Netting, rope, floats and leads were said to be in good supply with no shortages for the foreseeable future. Acids, especially sulphuric, are expected to continue to be short of demand.

In summation, Mr. Aska made the following suggestions:

- Try to anticipate your needs as far in advance as possible.
- Keep your equipment in the best possible repair--maintenance was never more important than it is today.
- Familiarize yourself with the NPA Orders that concern you--they are going to play an important role in your operations for quite some time.
- Boatbuilders, ship repair yards and manufacturers of fishing and processing equipment, should watch the papers for announcements of closing dates for the acceptance of applications for controlled materials.

Don't undertake any major construction until you are sure of your materials. Wherever possible in your construction plans, try to cut down on steel and substitute masonry and cement.

If you have trouble in locating materials to the point where the production of your boat or plant is impaired, let us know about it and we'll do everything in our power to help you.

Due to economy measures effected in September, DFA no longer maintains field offices of its own. However, the Market News offices of Fish and Wildlife Service are handling field cases for us and will be glad to render you every assistance possible. For this area, Mr. S. C. Denham of New Orleans, is serving as representative, with headquarters in New Orleans. If you have any material problems, contact Mr. Denham or write directly to DFA in Washington.

At the Open Period, reserved for comments of representatives of industry or others:

Mr. Al Wegmann stated the Commission had done a fine work in behalf of industry on the Gulf and he was expecting to witness still further progress in the months ahead.

Mr. Murray Wheeler said, as Public Relations Director of NFI, that the Institute was deeply interested in the work of the Commission. He asked for information from the Gulf area to incorporate into the Institute's public relations program.

Dr. Idyll spoke briefly on the mission of the Gulf and Caribbean Institute and invited all conferees to attend the 4th annual session, Miami Beach, SansSouci Hotel, November 12-16, 1951.

Mr. Harold Hanaumi, interpreter for the Japanese group, stated Mr. Tatsuo Kinoshita of the delegation wished to express his appreciation for the favors extended to the Japanese Diet representatives. Mr. Hanaumi in interpreting the remarks of the senior member of the delegation said the group was very much impressed by the fine cooperative spirit existing at the meeting; that they would take back with them to Japan a report of progress in the fisheries of the Gulf through the coordination of interstate effort.

The Secretary read letters of good wishes for the success of the 2nd annual meeting from A. J. Harris, Asst. Attorney General, Montgomery; Herbert Wiltsee, Regional Representative, Council of State Governments, Chicago; Charles Carry, Director, National Cannery Association, Washington; and A. B. Chauvin, Houma-Terrebonne (Louisiana) Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Dodgen closed the Thursday morning session after issuing an invitation to all conferees to attend the afternoon session, which session, he explained, would be open for discussion of any subjects concerning the Gulf fisheries.

The Chairman opened the afternoon session to representatives of the several states to explain for the benefit of industry the current state fishing tax laws.

Mr. Dodgen recognized Mr. Charles M. Carriere, Vice-President, National Shrimp Cannery and Packers Association. Mr. Carriere, appearing as a representative of the members of the mentioned association, explained that since the last meeting of the Commission the shrimp industry on the Gulf was divided in their thinking with regard to the matter of shrimp imports. He said one group, members of his association, favored the limiting of shrimp imports through the institution of federal import legislation, while the other group no longer favored import quota or tariff restrictions. He said the latter group had help form, and had entered into, an association with Mexican interests and that the association, Shrimp Association of the Americas, favored not limiting importations and expected to promote a wider acceptance of shrimp by the consuming public.

Mr. Carriere stated that while his group was not opposed to the idea that consumption could be increased through the medium of advertising, one of the projects said to be on the agenda of the Shrimp Association of the Americas, this was believed to be a slow method of obtaining the desired result. The speaker was asked several questions with regard to what constituted shrimp imports and a general discussion of that subject followed. Mr. A. W. Anderson clarified the questions: "Fish caught by an American boat with an American flag and American crew is called Product of an American Fishery and that Product of an American Fishery can enter the U. S. anywhere without duty. If, on the other hand, that same boat, in addition to making its own catch also purchased, we will say, shrimp from a Mexican vessel, the shrimp from the Mexican vessel is Product of a Foreign Fishery and would have to pay a duty on entering a U. S. port." Mr. Anderson answering a question by Mr. Dodgen, stated that it would be difficult for customs officials to correctly assess duty on a cargo of shrimp composed of shrimp taken from both an American and Foreign fishery.

Mr. Larry W. Strasburger, appearing at the request of Mr. John Mehos, President of the Texas Shrimp Association and Mr. Virgil Versaggi, President of the Shrimp Association of the Americas, to explain the formation of the international shrimp association, said the Texas Shrimp Association decided last spring that a tariff was not the complete answer to the problems affecting the shrimp fishery in that area; that it was thought the problems could be better settled by American and Mexican interests working out their mutual problems directly instead of through legislation enacted by the central governments. Mr. Strasburger told of the several meetings held in connection with the formation of the Shrimp Association of the Americas and how, now that the organization is functioning, they expect to add to the current membership by adding new associations. It was pointed out the international association is an organization composed of associations and not individuals. It was brought out in discussion that the Texas Shrimp Association had decided to assume a passive attitude regarding the several shrimp import tariff bills pending consideration by Congress. Mr. Dodgen suggested that an economic survey of the American shrimp industry might be desirable since the Congress would very likely require such a survey if consideration were to be given a tariff. To this Mr. Strasburger said he knew of no steps which had been taken to have a survey made but he thought it an

excellent idea, adding that the Texas Association feels there are numerous markets available in this country that have not been explored. Answering the Chairman's question as to who he thought should make such a survey, Mr. Strasburger said he thought an economic survey by the Fish and Wildlife Service would be acceptable to all segments of the shrimp industry because their findings would be taken as strictly impartial.

Mr. Carriere said, on question from Mr. Dodgen, that he thought an economic survey of the shrimp industry was desirable but added an opinion that a tariff should be put into effect now. He said a survey might take three to four years; that if a survey was made the Fish and Wildlife Service should do the work and that it would be desirable to progress the survey on a stepped-up basis.

Colonel Kurtz proposed the question as to what was the best course for industry to take considering that the retail price of shrimp was sufficiently high in the northern markets at this time to price many consumers out of the market, yet many shrimp vessels were tied up because it was apparently felt they could not be profitably operated at the current ex-vessel prices, and the above being experienced with the prospect for increased production, due to the exploitation of new grounds and the introduction of freezer boats into the fleet. Mr. Carriere stated he believed the solution to be the establishing of a tariff to limit imports.

Mr. Al Wegmann expressed the opinion that the shrimp industry is faced with a problem that could not possibly be solved in the immediate future. He said imports was a matter of considerable concern to NFI, that at a recent meeting of the Institute's executive committee the imports situation involving shrimp, tuna, red snapper, lobster tails, and other such imports, was discussed and a special committee was appointed to study the situation. He said a regional meeting of NFI was expected to be held in New Orleans in January and it was hoped the special committee would have a report prepared for presentation at the meeting, adding that all conferees at the Commission meeting were invited to attend. In conclusion, Mr. Wegmann impressed upon the group that Mexico had now entered into the production of speckled trout and redfish and that this entry into competition with the inshore fisheries of this country posed another problem due careful consideration.

Mr. J. S. Ramos said it is getting more difficult from month to month for the small American shrimp boat operator to earn what is considered a satisfactory livelihood, due to imports from foreign countries. He said the problem warranted a most careful study.

Mr. E. M. Lapeyre, Sr. asked Mr. Strasburger if he knew whether or not the Association of the Americas had decided upon a definite advertising program, to which the latter said, the matter of advertising had been placed before five or six advertising agencies throughout the United States and that they were to report back at a meeting of the Association to be held in Dallas, Texas, October 22, 1951.

Mr. M. W. Thompson of the Biloxi-Gulfport Herald, and retired advertising agency executive, suggested that the advertising medium of recipes for the preparation

of shrimp dishes be given serious consideration in any sales promotion activities.

Mr. Al Wegmann said advertising will no doubt increase the consumption of shrimp; that increasing the consumption of shrimp is going to increase the production of shrimp; that he thought increased production would come from foreign countries.

Mr. Dodgen asked Mr. A. W. Anderson what he thought about the value and methods of procedure of making an economic survey. Mr. Anderson stated there was no question as to the value of such a survey, that the House of Representatives, in recently passing an interim tuna import tariff, did so with the provision that the Fish & Wildlife Service make a comprehensive study of the tuna problem for certain aspects and the Tariff Commission for certain other aspects. He said, the FWS believes such surveys to be basic and that the Service, in making such studies, covers all factors that are considered to contribute to the economy. Mr. Anderson stated that all available time of the FWS fishery economics staff would be completely consumed until the dead line for the report on tuna to the House of Representatives, January 1, 1953; that no money was available for the employing of additional staff.

The meeting stood adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Friday, October 19, 1951

The Friday morning session was called to order at 10:00 AM by Mr. Dodgen, Chairman.

For a report on the meeting of the Commission Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data held Thursday afternoon with representatives of the FWS in attendance, Mr. Dodgen called upon Dr. Nelson Gowanloch.

Dr. Gowanloch's report was as follows:

Gulf Exploratory Fishing Program: In view of the apparent potential importance of tuna resources in the Gulf of Mexico and the successful results obtained in the shrimp fishery explorations, it is recommended that the emphasis of the exploratory project be shifted to a tuna survey at the time deemed most advisable by those in charge of the program. This recommendation does not represent a situation whereby the shrimp investigation is terminated but merely expresses a difference in what is regarded as a balance of urgency.

Gulf Research Program: It is the recommendation of the Committee that the offshore research program already outlined be continued since this program has not yet been continued long enough to justify any modification.

Oyster Research Program: It is the recommendation of the Committee that the oyster research program be continued as earlier represented pending further coordination of the oyster study activities of the five states.

State Landing Records: Your Committee considered in open meeting with associated interested institutions and associated interested individuals the highly desirable project that State Landing Records break down, if possible, production of shrimp into categories of production of the various commercial marine species. The need for this, your Committee believes, is obviously intensified by the probable early entrance of species of shrimp into the commercial fishery which have not until this time afforded market significance. It is the feeling of your Committee that however valuable such information would be, they can nevertheless at the present time formulate no hopeful, concerted plan whereby this objective can be accomplished.

Your Committee is continuing the exploration for some practical uniform method, if any, whereby such commercial statistics of shrimp production in terms of the individual species can be accomplished.

Inshore Oceanographic Survey: Your Committee agrees in principle with the proposal for a State and Federal cooperative hydrological survey of the inshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico and that the program as laid down seems most feasible if handled by a central agency or laboratory and that the Commission should promptly investigate ways and means of financing this program.

We further suggest that the operation of the central laboratory be a Federal function operated at Federal expense and that the various states should cooperate in the program by furnishing samples for analysis with the proviso that the results of these analyses be made available to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and, additionally, in a separate transcript to the contributing research agency immediately upon completion of the required analyses.

Fishery Educational Program: Your Committee recommends that a survey should be undertaken of the parallel educational programs or potential educational programs of the five member states of the Commission and, further, a corresponding examination be made of pertinent programs in other states and the advice of persons who have had special experience in these fields be sought and that, further, some action be recommended in assembling and providing for dissemination of listings of useful available reference works for future distribution to cooperating institutions and individuals as a means of furthering educational progress. It is the consensus of your Committee that even in this first tentative statement they should urge that the educational program be planned so that it would involve no sacrifice of any research activities.

The Chairman next called upon Miss Mary Schulman for a report from the Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws. Miss Schulman explained that, in the absence of a quorum the Commission attorneys did not meet Thursday afternoon, instead, joined with the Commissioners and industry for discussion of shrimp imports. Miss Schulman briefly reviewed the work of the 1951 Florida legislature in matters relating to the marine fisheries. Of special interest

to the conferees was information concerning the enabling legislation diverting funds derived from the sale of dead oyster and clam shells to the Board of Conservation, for enlarging the scope of biological research and oyster reef rehabilitation.

Mr. Dodgen expressed the gratitude of the Commissioners for the very fine attendance at the annual meeting and their appreciation for the information brought out during the well participated-in discussions. The Friday morning open session was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (RESUME)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1951

Gulf Exploratory Program, 1951-52. Commission voted not ask FWS change from current program.....shrimp - tuna - red snapper, emphasis on shrimp.

Gulf Research Program (Offshore Biological and Oyster Research) 1951-52. Commission favored FWS continuing as previously outlined.

Inshore Oceanographic Survey - new subject. Commission adopted resolution directed to FWS and state marine fishery directors to institute such work.

Marine Fisheries Student Education - new subject. Commission sanctioned same for Gulf States and set up plan to acquire necessary basic information.

Shrimp Imports. Commission favors all segments industry agreeing on need for impartial economic survey of shrimp industry as possible solution to conflicting thinking as to desirability for limiting volume importations.

Election of officers. Howard D. Dodgen, Texas, Commission Chairman; Hermes Gautier, Mississippi, Commission Vice-Chairman.

Appointment of Committee Chairmen. Committee to Correlate Exploratory and Research Data, J. Nelson Gowanloch, Louisiana. Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws, A. J. Harris, Jr., Alabama.

Prepared by: W. D. Gunn, Secretary-Treasurer.

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
312 Audubon Building
New Orleans 16, Louisiana

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

M I N U T E S

EXECUTIVE SESSION, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI (OCTOBER 19, 1951.)

The Chairman, Mr. Dodgen, called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Relative to the 1950-51 FWS program of offshore fishery explorations and gear development, Mr. Johnston expressed the opinion that the Commission should not request the FWS to change the program already outlined until the shrimp explorations have been completed; that he did not think the Service had found out enough about the Gulf shrimp fisheries to warrant a complete change to a tuna program; that tuna explorations might be carried on but as a secondary consideration.

Mr. Dodgen asked Dr. Gowanloch if he thought the FWS should at this time make a complete changeover to a full-scale tuna program, to which the latter replied that the Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data, after a lengthy discussion of the matter with FWS representatives Thursday afternoon, decided to recommend to the Commission that emphasis be shifted from shrimp to tuna about January 1st, adding, it to have been the thinking of the Committee that shrimp observations be carried on as have been tuna observations, that is, receive secondary consideration.

Colonel Kurtz stated he thought the shrimp explorations should continue, citing as his reason that shrimp is the largest of the Gulf coast fisheries from a production standpoint and from a standpoint of dollars invested in vessels, gear and shore handling facilities. He stated we should endeavor to further develop the Gulf shrimp fisheries for the benefit of industry, with tuna being of secondary consideration.

Further discussion of the subject brought out the general feeling of the Commissioners that the survey for shrimp in the Gulf should be continued as the primary objective in explorations until such time as all areas have been completely investigated and a comprehensive report rendered as to conclusions.

Mr. Johnston offered a motion that the FWS Gulf shrimp exploratory program, conducted by the OREGON, continue as previously outlined. Colonel Kurtz seconded the motion. The by-the-state vote was unanimous.

(Secretary's note: Initial exploratory program, Tampa, Jan. 1950, Shark - Tuna - Red Snapper. Mobile, July 1950, shark replaced by shrimp with shrimp to receive primary consideration, tuna and red snapper, secondary consideration.)

A brief round-table discussion followed in which the opinion prevailed that both the offshore research and oyster programs of the FWS were progressing nicely and as previously outlined. No motions made in connection with these programs.

Regarding the proposed inshore oceanographic survey, Mr. McConnell moved that the survey be conducted as outlined by Mr. Dahlgren in his Thursday presentation. Colonel Kurtz seconded the motion. Discussion of question followed. Mr. Dodgen called upon Dr. Gowanloch for his views in the matter, who stated as follows:

"Your Committee agrees in principle with the proposal for a State and Federal cooperative hydrological survey of the inshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico and that the program as laid down seems most feasible if handled by a central agency or laboratory and that the Commission should promptly investigate ways and means of financing this program.

"We further suggest that the operation of the central laboratory be a Federal function operated at Federal expense and that the various states should cooperate in the program by furnishing samples for analysis with the proviso that the results of these analyses be made available to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and, additionally, in a separate transcript to the contributing research agency immediately upon completion of the required analyses."

Mr. Johnston offered a substitute motion to the effect that the laboratory work be accomplished by the FWS Galveston laboratory and with that agency paying salary, equipment, materials or other expenses incurred at the central laboratory; that the individual states be responsible for the collection of samples in their respective waters, the dispatch of same and the payment of any and all expenses involved in such collection and dispatch of samples. Substitute motion was accepted by Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Gautier, and upon vote, was passed by the five states. The Secretary was instructed to incorporate this decision of the Commission in a resolution and direct same to the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Conservation Department Directors of the five states. Copy of the resolution follows Mr. Dahlgren's suggested program in attachment to these minutes.

The Chairman brought up the question of whether or not the Commission should sponsor a student fisheries educational program and asked Dr. Gowanloch for his Committee's thinking in the matter. He said it was the feeling of the Committee that the matter should be progressed in three stages, and that if it was the wish of the Commission they would immediately undertake to:

Analyze the present activities, if any, and potentialities of available sources in each of the five states.

Ascertain such activities as may be conducted in other states.

Organize and mimeograph bibliographies that would be available for distribution to interested individuals.

Mr. Dodgen stated that since Texas had a Director of Publications and Education, he would be glad to have the director prepare an outline of how the material should be selected, put together, and disseminated. All agreed this would be a long step toward getting the study underway. Mr. Dodgen said the outline would be ready for study at the April meeting and he would have the author attend the meeting.

Mr. Johnston moved that Mr. Dodgen's offer be accepted. Mr. McConnell seconded. Upon a vote the motion unanimously carried.

The Chairman requested Dr. Gowanloch to have the scientific committee proceed as the latter had outlined.

Mr. Johnston said that he believed it would be of great value to the directors or agencies in each state charged with the responsibility of leasing dead oyster-clam shell beds to have, before they make such leases, the experience of other states in that regard. Mr. Johnston moved that the Secretary be requested to write each of the directors of the five compacted states requesting that he be furnished (for the benefit of all states) full information relative to the leasing of reefs for the removal of shell, price per yard, and such other information as would be of value. Also, that this information be maintained at the Headquarters office on a current basis and disseminated to the state authorities concerned so that their subject files may also be maintained on a current basis. Mr. Vathis seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed when put to vote.

The Chairman suggested to the Secretary that the overall matter of oyster shells would be a good subject for a report at the spring meeting.

Mr. Dodgen entertained a motion that since minutes for the last Commission meeting at Pensacola, Florida, in April, had been distributed according to the rules and regulations, the reading of same be dispensed with and accepted as originally transcribed by the Secretary. Such a motion was made by Colonel Kurtz. Mr. Gautier seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion unanimously carried.

Copies of a suggested minimum budget, as prepared by the Secretary and approved by the Commission Vice-Chairman, were passed to the Commissioners.

In considering expenses for the forthcoming year, Colonel Kurtz said that in view of the rising costs of living he thought the Secretary-Treasurer's salary should be increased over the starting salary of \$6,000 which was established November 1, 1949. He made a motion to the effect that the salary be increased \$100 per month. Motion was seconded by Mr. McConnell. Before calling for a vote, Mr. Dodgen suggested that the increase of \$1200 per year be effective with the start of the next pay period, November 1st, to which Colonel Kurtz agreed. The states voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

The Commission budget for the current fiscal year 1951-52 was unanimously approved in the amount of \$15,196.39, Colonel Kurtz having made the motion for acceptance with Mr. Vathis seconding. Exhibit of budget is third attached to the minutes.

The approval of second annual audit of the Commission's accounts by the New Orleans certified accounting firm of Moses, Rittler and Dienes was included in the mentioned vote.

It was brought out in discussion that the original appropriation by the states of \$13,000 per annum for the expense of maintaining the Commission was set up only as an initial estimate, that with the increase in cost of operation it was not now possible to operate on the estimate made several years ago. It was agreed by all Commissioners that consideration should be given at once to an increase in annual membership dues for the five states and the amount to be given by each state pro-rated on the latest authoritative records of the value of fish and fishery products landed at the ports in each of the compacted states. The Secretary was instructed to give this matter his attention and report to the Chairman.

Coming next on the agenda was the matter of making certain amendments to the Commission rules and regulations. The Secretary reported that he had drafted several suggestions and furnished same to each member of the Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws, October 8th, for their study and report at the annual meeting. He stated that, since only Miss Schulman was present at the Executive Session, a report would not be representative. Mr. Dodgen, who had previewed the suggested amendments, referred to the time consuming process of studying same at the session. Mr. McConnell moved that a set of the current rules and regulations, and those suggested, be furnished each Commissioner and the subject be brought up again at the April meeting. Mr. Vathis seconded the motion. The states voted unanimously on Mr. McConnell's motion.

Turning to the election of officers and the appointing of Committees for the ensuing year, Mr. Dodgen asked Miss Schulman to conduct the election of the Commission Chairman. Mr. Johnston offered the name of Howard D. Dodgen, present Commission Vice-Chairman and Acting Chairman. Mr. McConnell seconded the nomination. No other names were presented. Upon a vote, Mr. Dodgen, of Texas, was unanimously elected Commission Chairman.

Returning to the chair, the Chairman entertained nominations for Commission Vice-Chairman. Colonel Kurtz nominated Hermes Gautier. Mr. Johnston's move that nominations cease was seconded by Mr. Vathis. Upon vote, Mr. Gautier, of Mississippi, was unanimously elected Commission Vice-Chairman.

The Commission Chairman reappointed Dr. J. Nelson Gowanloch as Chairman of the Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data and Mr. A. J. Harris as Chairman of the Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws.

The Secretary was requested by the Chairman to communicate with the directors of marine fisheries of each state and request the names of scientists and attorneys they desired to have represent their state on the professional committees.

In discussing the matter of shrimp imports, the Commissioners were of the opinion that better information involving the economics of the industry was needed; that an economic survey would do much toward bringing closer together the thinking of industry, which is now divided with some for and some against the limiting of imports; and that such a survey conducted by an accepted impartial agency, such as the Fish and Wildlife Service, would greatly assist the Commission in determining the relationship of import volume restrictions to the proper utilization of the shrimp fishery.

The session was adjourned at 12:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. D. Gunn, Secty-Treas.

Proposal for Cooperation of States
(through Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission)
In Study of Coastal Bays and Estuaries

As in all seas, the production of the Gulf of Mexico is dependent for the replenishing of lost nutrients in the surface layers 1/ either from the upwelling of the nutrient-rich waters which lie, unused and unusable, below the zone of light penetration, or from land drainage. It has become increasingly apparent that upwelling makes no important contribution to the fertility of the surface waters of the Gulf, and that the major fisheries in that body of water are dependent largely on the fertility added by drainage from the land. Since this drainage, for the most part, mingles first with the Gulf waters in the coastal marshes, and in the estuaries and enclosed bays, it is of importance that the biological, physical, and chemical processes which exist in these areas of mixing be recorded and interpreted. This is of particular importance because there is evidence that the productivity inherent in the pristine environment has been and is being reduced with the advent of "civilization."

Our present Gulf investigations include an oceanographic survey of the entire Gulf to determine, among others, (1) the quantities of nutrient chemicals (recognized as essential to life) extant in the surface and subsurface waters of the Gulf, (2) the influence of the nutrient-rich deep waters on those of the surface where sunlight permits the utilization of the basic nutrients by plants, (3) the biological, physical, and chemical mechanisms of the shelf waters through which the survival (and so the abundance) and the distribution of the important species of marine life are governed, and (4) the existence and the importance of elements and compounds whose role in the life of the sea is yet imperfectly understood.

In the few brief months of active operation in the Gulf, much basic information on these several points has been gathered. So much remains to be done that our funds and facilities, already taxed to capacity, cannot possibly be extended to cover additional tasks.

Meanwhile, the marsh areas, the estuaries and the lagoons which, in truth, have much to do with the life in the shelf waters, are not included in our present studies. Yet these inshore waters are being altered by the leveeing of the important rivers (which are no longer spreading their alluvial riches and their tempering fresh waters over the marshes), by the dredging of channels, and by the construction of fills. Unfortunately, there is no measure of the primal conditions, so there is no way of comparing the present with the past, but certainly it is better to start now to establish extant conditions than to delay longer.

It is proposed, then, for consideration by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, that each of the several States contribute to a combined effort to survey the inshore waters. Such a survey will supplement and complement

1/ There is a small but continued loss of these nutrients because some of the organisms which consume them die and sink beyond the reach of sunlight.

the entire job, or (2) support a chemist and his assistant at the Galveston Laboratory and accept only the responsibility for the collection and shipment of samples to Galveston.

Of these two arrangements, the latter appears to be the more practical and economical because it requires almost no laboratory or floating facilities beyond those in existence. It also allows the work to be divided amongst those best suited for their particular assignments. Thus, the Galveston laboratory is already operating on continuous routine analyses and because it has adequate supervision is in position to add more work load by the simple addition of additional personnel and a minimum of equipment (see below). The States have their patrol boats which can easily cover the territory and only need to be implemented by collecting gear and storage facilities for the frozen samples.

In addition to a competent chemist and his assistant, additional equipment will be needed for the Galveston laboratory as follows:

2 Fisher AC Electrophotometers at \$300.00	\$ 600.00
1 Frozen Food Storage Box - 12 cu. ft. (to hold over samples awaiting analysis)	500.00
Extra glassware	250.00
Miscellaneous items	150.00
Chemicals	1,500.00 per year

For each state the items for the boats will be as follows:

1 Foerst water sampler	\$ 40.00
1 Box for freezing bath	50.00
Storage and shipping boxes for samples	50.00

For the entire program, five thousand 100 ml, polyethylene plastic bottles will be needed--the number required for a given state will depend on the length of shoreline of that state. The total cost of these will be approximately \$1,500.00.

Prepared and presented by:

Mr. E. H. Dahlgren, FWS, Washington
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting
Biloxi, Mississippi
October 18-19, 1951.

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is composed of representatives from each of the compacted states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas who are concerned with matters relating to the better utilization of the fisheries (marine, shell and anadromous) which inhabit the waters of the seaboard of the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized by the Commission that the proper utilization of the fisheries cannot be accomplished without certain basic information, of which the hydrological character of the waters of the coastal bays and estuaries can form a recognized important part, and

WHEREAS, a hydrological survey of the inshore waters is considered necessary to the satisfactory completion of a similar program now being conducted by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico;


Now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, in order to gain a comprehensive knowledge of the chemical constituency of all of the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and thereby be in position to better recommend to the compacted states such fishery management plans as are essential to the development and perpetuation of the fisheries, recommends that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Marine Fisheries Directorate of the Gulf States exert a cooperative effort to institute such a survey of the marine waters common to each of the states served by the Commission, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission recommends the Galveston, Texas, laboratory of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service be designated as a central laboratory for the project; that all central laboratory work be accomplished at federal expense; that results of analyses for the five states be made available to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and a separate transcript be made available to the contributing state research agency upon completion of the required analysis; that the individual states arrange for the collection and dispatch of all samples taken within their respective waters and at state expense.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at a regular meeting of the Commission at Biloxi, Mississippi, October 18-19, 1951.


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

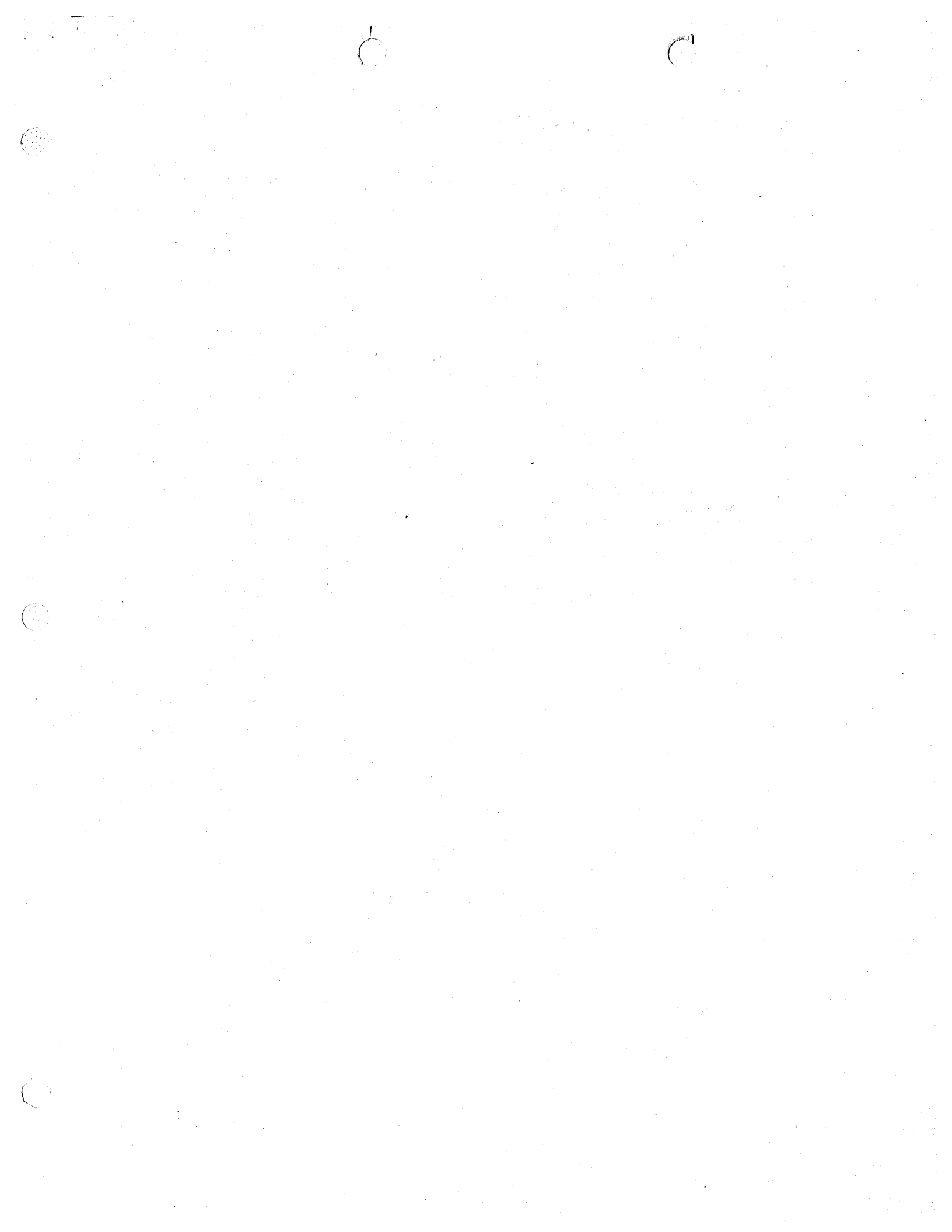
BUDGET

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 1951-52

Salaries	\$ 9,200.00
Rent - Office	1,080.00
Bond and Insurance Premiums	181.50
Accounting Fees	175.00
Telephone and Telegraph	390.00
Electric Lights	65.00
Travel - Personal and Auto	2,500.00
Postage	125.00
Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies	650.00
Subscriptions	10.00
Miscellaneous	25.00
Furniture and Fixtures	200.00
Social Security	90.00
Reserve Fund for Depreciation	504.89
	<hr/>
	\$ 15,196.39
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Approved by the Commission, October 19, 1951.



GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Pensacola, Florida
San Carlos Hotel (Ball Room)
April 19 (Thursday) -- 20 (Friday) 1951

P R O G R A M

Thursday, April 19, 1951

9:00 AM Registration.

9:30 AM Call to Order, Mr. Bert E. Thomas, Commission Chairman, Mobile, Ala.

Introduction, Mr. Earl M. McGowin, Director, Alabama Department of Conservation, Montgomery, Alabama.....Senator Thomas A. Johnston, Mobile, Alabama.

Roll Call of Commissioners and Introduction of Guests.

WELCOME, Mr. George Vathis, Supervisor, Florida Board of Conservation, Tallahassee, Florida.

MORNING BUSINESS SESSION

10:00 AM EXPLORATORY FISHING, Film, M/V OREGON,
Mr. Harvey R. Bullis, Fishery Methods & Equipment Specialist,
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pascagoula, Miss.

INITIAL RESEARCH CRUISE, M/V ALASKA,
Mr. W. W. Anderson, Chief, Gulf Investigations,
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Galveston, Texas.

INTERSTATE COOPERATION IN INSHORE FIN FISHES RESEARCH,
Dr. J. Nelson Gowanloch, Chief Biologist,
La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, New Orleans, La.

DFA ACTIVITIES ON THE GULF,
Mr. Donald Y. Aska, Area Supervisor,
Defense Fisheries Administration, New Orleans, La.

THE STORY OF MENHADEN, Film,
Mr. Jack L. Baughman, Chief Biologist,
Texas Game Fish and Oyster Commission, Rockport, Texas.

ACTIVITIES OF THE OYSTER INSTITUTE OF NORTH AMERICA,
Mr. David H. Wallace, Director,
Oyster Institute of North America, Annapolis, Md.

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Pensacola, Florida
San Carlos Hotel (Ball Room)
April 19 (Thursday) -- 20 (Friday) 1951

AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION

Thursday, April 19, 1951

DEMONSTRATION OF RESEARCH PROGRAM AT U. S. FISHERIES
PENSACOLA LABORATORY DR. PHILIP A. BUTLER

1. Relative importance of heredity and environment in oyster culture. Examples of oysters of known and unknown parentage showing different characteristics.
 - (a) Effect of sunlight on shell pigmentation.
 - (b) Effect of cultivation on shell quality.
 - (c) Relation of size to age.
 - (d) Types of growth resulting from different local conditions.

2. Biological difficulties encountered in oyster cultivation in the Gulf area.
 - (a) Parasites.
 - (b) Predators.
 - (c) Animals competing for the same space.

3. Oyster investigation techniques.
 - (a) Spat collectors.
 - (b) Plankton analyses.
 - (c) Growth trays.
 - (d) Physiological experimentation.

Thursday, April 19, 1951 (continued)

11:45 AM Discussion Period, Panel composed of speakers of the Morning Session....
Discussion Leader, Mr. Dudley Gunn, Commission Secretary-Treasurer,
New Orleans, La.

12:15 PM Adjournment.

12:30 PM ASSEMBLE: San Carlos Mezzanine for 12:45 PM departure
for U. S. Fisheries Pensacola Laboratory.

Motor trip to Laboratory, luncheon Pensacola Beach Casino.

AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION

2:30 PM Chairman and Discussion Leader, Afternoon Business Session,
Commission Vice-Chairman, Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Austin, Texas.

DEMONSTRATION OF RESEARCH PROGRAM AT U. S. FISHERIES PENSACOLA
LABORATORY,

Dr. Philip A. Butler, Chief, Gulf Oyster Investigations,
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pensacola, Fla.

Discussion Period.

4:30 PM Adjournment

Friday, April 20, 1951

10:00 AM Executive Session (separate program)

11:45 AM Adjournment.

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
312 Audubon Building
New Orleans 16, Louisiana

MINUTES
(Extract of Transcript)

REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 19-20, 1951
SAN CARLOS HOTEL, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE OF COMMISSIONERS:

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
<u>ALABAMA:</u>	Bert E. Thomas (Chairman) Earl M. McGowin Thomas A. Johnston	
<u>FLORIDA:</u>	George Vathis William J. Hendry	Bryant Patton
<u>LOUISIANA:</u>	E. J. Grizzaffi	Ernest S. Clements Leander H. Perez
<u>MISSISSIPPI:</u>	Hermes Gautier Louis Simmons	Walter J. Gex
<u>TEXAS:</u>	Lawrence A. Kurtz	Howard D. Dodgen Jimmy Phillips
	James N. McConnell (Proxy for Ernest S. Clements) H. E. Faubion (Proxy for Howard D. Dodgen) Hermes Gautier (Proxy for Walter J. Gex) James N. McConnell (Proxy for E.J.Grizzaffi--4/20)	
<u>STAFF:</u>	W. Dudley Gunn, Secretary-Treasurer	

COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

A. J. Harris, Jr., Francis X. Lueth, Mary Schulman, Clarence P. Idyll,
J. Nelson Gowanloch, Reece O. Bickerstaff.

REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES PRESENT

A. W. Anderson, Donald Y. Aska, H. R. Bullis, P. A. Butler, W. M. Chapman,
H. E. Crowther, E. H. Dahlgren, H. G. Hague, N. J. Haugland, Wm. Herrington,
Donald Powell, Stewart Springer.

REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRY AND OTHERS PRESENT

U. C. Bosarge, C. Birdseye, G. C. Broadhead, L. P. Caillouet, C. M. Carriere, W. P. Clark, S. W. Corbino, Paul Farmer, W. W. Gillis, Tip Mathews, James McPhillips, Perry Prescott, H. C. Stokes, L. W. Strasburger, F.W. Taylor, D. H. Wallace, A. J. Wegmann, F. E. Wells, Jr. and others.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 19, 1951, with the Commission Chairman, Mr. Bert E. Thomas, presiding.

The Chairman called upon Mr. Thomas A. Johnston who introduced Mr. Earl M. McGowin, newly appointed director of the Alabama Department of Conservation and ex officio member of the Commission from that state, and in so doing spoke of the latter's twenty years experience in the Alabama Legislature during which time much of his attention was directed to matters pertaining to conservation of natural resources.

Mr. McGowin spoke of the consolidation of a number of the agencies of the Alabama Government in 1939, at which time the Alabama Department of Conservation was created, and in which department was placed a division of Game, Fish and Seafood, Forestry, State Parks and State Lands. The speaker highly praised the action of the 1939 Alabama Legislature but stated that it appeared at this time that it would be advantageous to create another major division to be known as the Seafood Division, which division would be concerned primarily with the commercial salt-water fishing industry, thus segregating that important marine resource from fish and game. In concluding, Mr. McGowin referred to the work which has been accomplished in preserving and developing the natural resources of those lands to which the State of Alabama has retained title.

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll of Commissioners by states, following which all conferees were introduced.

Mr. George Vathis, Florida Commissioner and Supervisor, Florida Board of Conservation, was called upon by the Chairman to extend a word of welcome to the Commissioners and their guests.

The Chairman, following a word of praise for the progress of the exploratory program, presented Mr. Harvey R. Bullis, FWS, Pascagoula.

Mr. Bullis stated that the exploratory vessel OREGON, in its approximate twelve months of service, had completed 7 cruises totalling 145 days at sea, during which time 307 stations had been established in the offshore waters of the Gulf. He said that during the 7 cruises 234 individual shrimp trawls had been accomplished; 32 bathythermographs and temperature checks; 25 hand line stations; 5 trap; 4 fish trawl; 2 plankton tow and 2 gill net trawls.

The speaker pointed out that while that area of the Gulf extending from the Dry Tortugas to Aransas Pass had received the preponderance of exploratory attention in months past, limited investigations had been carried on in the deeper Gulf waters. He spoke of unsuccessful attempts to locate concentrations of shrimp between Cedar Keys and the Dry Tortugas. The prevalence of extended beds of loggerhead sponge, according to the speaker, prevented a satisfactory coverage of the bottoms. Future investigations will be conducted with trawls designed to eliminate the gathering of the mentioned sponges as there are indications that shrimp do exist in the area referred to. The vast sand and mud area lying off the Texas coast will, said the speaker, be the subject of further investigation. It was said that explorations to date indicate that shrimp are present in the offshore Texas area but generally are not sufficiently concentrated to cause the fishery to be commercially profitable. The Exploratory Section, it was learned, will investigate the possibility of the widely scattered shrimp moving into an area, possibly off the mouth of the Mississippi or Rio Grande rivers in which there would be increased concentrations due to the expanse of sand and mud bottom being more limited by area.

Mr. Bullis spoke of the Exploratory Section's activities in the study of the by-products of shrimp trawling, particularly that of salvaging all fish taken in 35 to 40 fathoms, or even deeper, for their possible commercial value. This investigation was said to include scrap fish for possible use in the reduction process.....for the procurement of meal, oil and solubles. Also in the by-products investigation it was learned that attention is being given to the salvaging of edible fishes such as the whiting, tile, angler, etc. The speaker pointed out that some of the fishes which have been taken incidental to the shrimp trawling operation are supporting commercial trawling operations in the Atlantic. It was understood that samples of the fishes mentioned above have been sent to technical laboratories operated by the FWS for further research following the tabulating of data at Pascagoula.

Of particular interest to the industry during the present emergency was the speaker's information as to progress being made in cooperation with the University of Miami Marine Laboratory in the study of net preservation.

Mr. Bullis concluded his presentation by showing a collection of slides to illustrate some of the work which is being accomplished by the OREGON.

Mr. E. H. Dahlgren, FWS, Washington, was called upon by the Chairman to cover a subject originally intended for Mr. W. W. Anderson, FWS, Galveston.

In his opening remarks Mr. Dahlgren stated that the reason for Mr. Anderson not being able to attend the Pensacola meeting was because he was on board the ALASKA, on its initial cruise.

According to the speaker, investigations by the scientific staff of the ALASKA will, in the course of time, determine the presence and seasonal or year 'round location of fishes known and thought to inhabit the offshore waters of the Gulf. It is understood that water samples will be taken to determine the chemical composition of the water.

Through the determination of the concentration of phosphorus, nitrogen, potassium and iron, it is understood the scientists will be able to compare the waters of the Gulf with other sea waters from which such data has previously been collected. Mr. Dahlgren explained that the degree of concentration of sea water is an indicator as to the abundance of fishes since the propagation of marine plant life depends upon the available nutrient salts, and that upon the abundance of marine plants was determined the concentration of marine animals upon which fishes feed. The speaker went further to point out that experiments would extend to tides, currents, temperatures and other considerations which affect the habitat of the pelagic fishes.

Mr. Dahlgren explained that shrimp and other bottom forms subsist largely on oil developed by tiny animals which feed on plants, adding that the ALASKA intended to make a survey of mud oils on the bottom of the Gulf, which determinations would give a clue to the distribution and range of shrimp.

Mr. Thomas, Chairman of the morning session, called upon Dr. J. Nelson Gowanloch, Chairman of the Commission's Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data, to present an outline of the Committee's plan for cooperation between the several states in the matter of progressing inshore research on the fin fishes.

Dr. Gowanloch briefly reviewed the need for research on the inshore fin fishes which prompted the Commission to adopt a resolution at the January 11th-12th Brownsville meeting. The speaker then explained how the scientific committee would allocate research among the several states in an effort to produce all desired information relative to the species of particular interest to the commercial and sports fishermen, and in so doing reduce the amount of time and effort required for such investigations by the several states.....this plan, of course, hinging upon favorable treatment by the state legislatures of the above mentioned resolution and approval of the plan by the Commission and interested state conservation officials.

Information gathered during the research activities, according to the speaker, could be accumulated, digested and published for the benefit of all interested parties by the Commission's headquarters office. Dr. Gowanloch pointed out that some data was already available for use by the scientists, and while the information was rather spotty, it could be of some value for purposes of comparison.

As next guest speaker on the morning program, the Chairman called on Mr. Donald Y. Aska, DFA, New Orleans, for a scheduled presentation of defense fisheries activities in the Gulf area.

Mr. Aska reviewed the activities of the Defense Fisheries Administration since its formation. He stated that the New Orleans Office had been established for such a short time it was not possible to present an extensive progress report concerning his assigned territory. He briefly treated of the formation of DFA, stating that the operations of the Administration were so closely interrelated to the work of the Fish and Wildlife Service, the former mentioned organization had drawn heavily upon FWS for its directorate and operating officials. Offices already established were named, and the speaker said an office for Jacksonville, Florida, which would serve all of Florida and the South Atlantic States, had been authorized and would be activated as soon as funds became available.

With reference to the mission of DFA, the speaker cited its basic purpose as being that of insuring the continued productivity of the fishing industry in this country, during the current emergency, through functioning as a claimant agency for the fishing industry in matters relating to materials. Mr. Aska told of surveys which were accomplished in February and March to provide NFA with possible material requirements necessary to the maintenance of current levels of production in the fisheries of the nation including those of the Gulf of Mexico. He told of an industry advisory committee having been formed. The speaker explained that while no provision had been made for new construction of any kind, an effort would be made through the allocating of materials to maintain existing equipment. He stated that regulations with regard to allocations would be issued from time to time and that this and other information of interest to the industry would appear in FWS Market News reports, such reports being available to anyone upon request. That DFA would serve in an advisory capacity on manpower matters affecting the fisheries was pointed out by the speaker.

Concerning the matter of the allocation of funds for the operation of DFA, Mr. Aska pointed out that the appropriations committees of the House and Senate had in the week previous recommended only a small portion of the funds requested by DFA for its operation during the final three months of the current fiscal year, and that future activities of DFA would depend upon action of the Congress.

Next on the agenda was the showing of the sound and colored film, "The Story of Menhaden". The picture presented the operation of the industry from the time the schools of menhaden are cited through the reduction of the fishes to meal, oil and solubles. The picture drew much favorable comment.

The Chairman welcomed Mr. David H. Wallace, Director of the Oyster Institute of North America, on the occasion of his first visit to the Gulf Coast and called upon him to tell of the activities of the Institute.

Mr. Wallace told of the mission of the Institute in line with the overall development of the oyster industry in the United States, including the fostering of programs relating to biological research, technological investigations, economic surveys and other activities such as sales promotion and the dissemination of information to the industry. The speaker gave a detailed accounting of the rehabilitation program now being administered in Chesapeake Bay and of the satisfying results being obtained through the concentrated efforts of all interested segments of the industry drawing upon that very productive area. In concluding, Mr. Wallace extended a welcome to all to attend the National meeting of the Institute to be held at the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., August 13-16, 1951.

To complete the morning session, the Chairman introduced the Commission Secretary, Mr. Dudley Gunn, to lead a panel discussion on subjects presented earlier in the program.

The discussion leader announced that all subjects would be taken in the order presented on the program and opened the discussion period for questions and comments on the exploratory fishing program.

Answering Mr. McConnell's inquiry if FWS intended to make films or slides showing new types of gear to be developed, Mr. Springer stated that the exploratory fishing section did anticipate the preparation of slides and drawings, the latter to be made available in pamphlet form.

The next two subjects presented for discussion, one concerning research investigations to be conducted by the scientists on the vessel ALASKA, and as presented by Mr. Dahlgren; and the presentation by Dr. Gowanloch of a suggested plan for interstate cooperation in the matter of inshore fin fishes research, apparently had been so well covered by the speakers, no questions were forthcoming.

Presenting for discussion the subject of DFA activities on the Gulf, Mr. Wegmann inquired of Mr. Aska if he thought industry could be of assistance in the procurement of the necessary funds for the operation of DFA, to which the latter replied it was possible that industry could help. Mr. Wegmann said that NFI had sent a resolution to Congress requesting that funds be appropriated for the continuation of the work of DFA, and suggested that letters from state representatives and industry be sent to Congressmen. Mr. McConnell suggested that the Commission give consideration to the adoption of a resolution urging the Congressional Delegation of the Gulf States to support legislation designed to provide adequate funds for furtherance of DFA activities. The Chairman appointed Mr. Harris, Miss Schulman and Mr. Bickerstaff on a resolutions committee to consider possible recommendations relative to Mr. McConnell's suggestion and called for a report at the Friday executive session.

No questions were forthcoming relative to the activities of the Oyster Institute of North America, which subject had been presented by Mr. Wallace.

Coming up next for consideration was the subject of menhaden, principally the use of the purse seine in the prosecution of the fishery. The discussion was participated in by a number of the conferees. The substance of the discussion was that the taking of menhaden in waters designated by the seaboard states was not to the detriment of any of the other fisheries, particularly those fisheries of primary interest to the sportsman.

(The brevity of the discussion period was undoubtedly attributable to the morning session having progressed considerably beyond the time originally planned for adjournment, time having been taken out to listen to the address of General Douglas MacArthur before the Congress).

Mr. Thomas expressed the gratitude of the Commissioners for the excellent papers presented and the fine attendance at the morning session and urged all conferees to attend the afternoon session at the FWS Pensacola Laboratory. The morning session was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

* * * * *

The afternoon session (April 19th), scheduled to be held at the Pensacola Oyster Laboratory, was called to order by Commission Chairman, Mr. Bert E. Thomas, at 3:00 p.m. and Dr. Philip A. Butler, Chief, FWS, Gulf Oyster Investigations was introduced.

Dr. Butler acquainted the Commissioners and their guests with the program underway at the Laboratory through the showing of experimental work being conducted both within and outside the Laboratory. It was Dr. Butler's expressed belief that heredity and environment are highly important in oyster culture. Examples of oysters of known and unknown parentage were shown and their different characteristics pointed out. Biological difficulties encountered in oyster culture were explained by examples as well as were techniques employed in the investigations. Mr. McConnell led a discussion period and many questions were answered by Dr. Butler. Mr. Wallace made some interesting observations relative to the oyster industry in general and told of activities of the states bordering Chesapeake Bay in the development and proper utilization of the oyster fishery in those waters.

The session was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Friday, April 20, 1951

The session was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Messrs. C. M. Carriere, New Orleans; James McPhillips, Mobile; and L. W. Strasburger, New Orleans, were invited by the Chairman, upon their request, to speak on the subject of shrimp imports. Mr. A. J. Wegmann was also asked to sit in at the opening part of the executive session. Messrs. Carriere and McPhillips spoke in favor of a tariff being applied on shrimp imports while Mr. Strasburger expressed belief that shrimp imports should not be limited either through imposition of a quota or a tariff.

The matter of imports was discussed at considerable length, during which period the economic well-being of the industry (past, present and anticipated future) was brought out, as well as matters relating to international relationship. Dr. Chapman contributed some pertinent off-the-record information.

The closed session began immediately (11:15 a.m.) after Messrs. Carriere, McPhillips, Strasburger and Wegmann excused themselves.

The Chairman entertained motion that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting (Brownsville, Texas, January 11-12, 1951) be dispensed with and approved in the form prepared and forwarded by the Secretary following that conference. Mr. Hendry made such a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Gautier, and upon vote the motion was passed by each state.

The Secretary read a financial report, which report is first attached to these minutes. Upon motion of Mr. Gautier, seconded by Mr. Vathis, the Commission unanimously accepted the report as presented.

Colonel Kurtz was recognized by the Chairman and expressed his belief that the Commission should strive to have all states work together for the common good. Following a brief discussion period relative to reciprocal agreements, Mr. Thomas called upon the Secretary-Treasurer for a status report involving reciprocal agreements. The report is second attached to these minutes.

The Chairman called upon Mr. Harris, Chairman of the resolutions committee appointed at Thursday's session, for a report on the committee's decision as to suggested Commission action relative to requesting that funds be appropriated by Congress for the operation of DFA for the remainder of the federal fiscal year (to 7-1-51).

Mr. Harris stated the committee had met and discussed the desirability of Commission action at considerable length. It was the decision of the resolutions committee that the Commission take no action in the matter at the present time. Mr. Harris said the resolutions committee, all being members of the Commission's legal committee, was of the unanimous opinion that the Commission had not been given the authority by Congress to make such recommendations to that body as that under consideration, or others which did not pertain directly to promoting the better utilization of the fisheries of the Gulf Seaboard by developing joint programs for the promotion and protection of such fisheries and the prevention of the physical waste of the fisheries. Following a discussion period, the Secretary was instructed to continue gathering information relative to DFA activities and to keep the Commissioners fully informed.

Opening the question of further Commission participation in the matter of shrimp importations, Mr. McConnell (proxy for Messrs. Clements and Grizzaffi) urged consideration of the adoption of a resolution by the Commission changing the Brownsville adopted shrimp imports quota resolution to that of an imports tariff resolution, and additionally, that effort be made to secure the assistance of the Atlantic and Pacific Commissions in presenting the matter to the Congress.

Mr. Harris stated that the resolution committee was of the opinion that the resolution adopted at Brownsville relative to shrimp quotas being imposed should not be changed to request the Gulf States Congressional Delegation to consider a tariff instead of the original request for a quota.

In a generally participated-in discussion which followed, the consensus of opinion, as summarized by Mr. Johnston, appeared to be that since the information at hand on the subject was incomplete, and since it was not known just what retribution measures may be taken if a tariff was imposed, as well as not being fully informed as to the policy of the U. S. Government, or how the tariff would be administered, the matter should be deferred until such time as fuller particulars were available. Mr. Johnston moved that the Commission postpone a decision as to further action until the next regularly scheduled meeting, and in the meanwhile that a committee be appointed to gather all pertinent information necessary to the preparation of a tariff resolution for presentation for the Commissioners' consideration.

Mr. McConnell seconded the motion. When put to a vote by states, the motion unanimously carried. The Chairman appointed Mr. Harris, Miss Schulman, and Messrs. Bickerstaff and Cain to serve on the Committee, and stated the Secretary would assist the committee.

Mr. Thomas called upon Dr. Gowanloch for a report on shrimp investigations, to which the latter responded that the scientific committee had nothing to add to their original recommendations concerning uniform shrimp regulations.

Continuing on the subject, shrimp recommendations, which have been under consideration for the past two meetings, or since last October 19-20, the Chairman called upon the Secretary for a status report. The report is third attached to these minutes.

In a discussion which followed, it appeared a majority of the Commissioners were in favor of preparing the recommendations in the form of a resolution for submitting same to the several state Governors and the Legislatures, in the form originally presented by the scientists, with request that the regulations be enacted into law. It was pointed out by Mr. Johnston that the Commission's duty was to recommend the enactment of fishery laws based on scientific fact, that political considerations were not the duty of the Commission but that of the State Governments. Mr. Vathis expressed himself as favoring passage of the regulations. Colonel Kurtz said he did not believe all states were in accord with everything suggested by the biologists but that the recommendations should be submitted to the several states as originally set out by the biologists and that the states could accord the recommendations such legislative treatment as desired.

Colonel Kurtz moved for adoption of the recommendations as prepared by the biologists. The original recommendations are last attached to these minutes. Mr. Hendry seconded the motion. Mr. McConnell stated Louisiana could not go along with the recommendations being presented as suggested by Colonel Kurtz and Mr. Vathis. Upon a vote by states, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Texas voted in the affirmative and Louisiana voted negatively.

The subject remained open for discussion. Mr. Bickerstaff suggested that the recommendations be submitted to the respective legislatures for their study and consideration rather than being submitted on a basis that they be enacted into law. Mr. Johnston suggested the recommendations be submitted only to the State Legislators and State Marine Fisheries Administrators, and in the light as suggested by Mr. Bickerstaff.

Mr. McConnell said he would be agreeable if the recommendations were presented as outlined by Messrs. Bickerstaff and Johnston. The Chairman then called for another vote on the subject and all states were in agreement.

Mr. Gautier moved that the Secretary be instructed to draft a resolution expressing the thanks of the Commissioners to Messrs. Taylor and Wells of the industry at Pensacola, and to Mr. Vathis, for the entertainment provided during the Pensacola Meeting. Mr. Hendry seconded the motion and all states voted favorably. The resolution is fourth attached to these minutes.

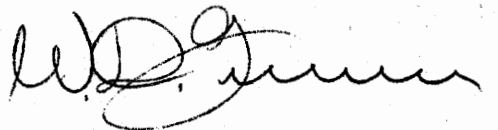
Mr. Hendry reviewed the work which had been done by the Florida Board of Conservation's contract biological research agency, the University of Miami Marine Laboratory, emphasizing the assistance furnished the

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission through the Laboratory's staff members attending meetings and furnishing biological data relative to the Florida fisheries. He also mentioned that the Laboratory was assisting the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service in experimental work designed to develop fishing net preservatives and was currently accumulating landing reports from the Florida fishing industry and preparing same for monthly publication by the Fish & Wildlife Service. Mr. Hendry moved that the Commission acknowledge the work of the Marine Laboratory in the form of a resolution. Mr. McConnell seconded the motion and upon vote by states, the resolution was approved. This resolution is fifth attached to these minutes.

The Chairman stated, if the rotation plan for meetings was to be continued, the annual meeting would be held in Mississippi. He also stated that, per current directive, the meeting would occur on the third Thursday and Friday in October, which would be October 18-19, 1951. All agreed the meeting should be held in Mississippi. The delegation from that state suggested the Buena Vista Hotel at Biloxi be the meeting place, to which all were in agreement. Mr. Thomas instructed the Secretary to make necessary arrangements with the management of the Buena Vista.

With no response forthcoming upon a call for other business, the Chairman adjourned the executive session, and the Pensacola, Florida Meeting at 12:55 p.m. April 20, 1951.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary-Treasurer

WDG:esh

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
As of March 31, 1951

BANK BALANCE, PER STATEMENT MARCH 31, 1951	\$ 7,847.68
PETTY CASH ON HAND, INCLUDING STAMPS.....	19.58
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,867.26

UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED.....	\$ 94.35
WITHHOLDING TAX UNPAID.....	274.90
UNPAID BILLS.....	0
	<hr/>
	369.25

TRUE BALANCE..... \$ 7,498.01

DUE FROM MEMBER STATES..... \$ 5,000.00

REPORT - RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS - SECRETARY

(4-17-51)

The resolution involving reciprocal agreements was distributed to the Governors and Legislatures of the several states as directed. Acknowledgments of receipt of the resolution have been made by the interested states. The present status of reciprocal agreements among the Gulf States is as follows:

Alabama and Florida have a reciprocal agreement concerning shrimp.

Louisiana and Mississippi have a reciprocal agreement concerning shrimp.

Alabama and Mississippi have engaged in preliminary discussions involving reciprocal agreements covering shrimp and fin fishes.

The Alabama Conservation Department already has the authority to make reciprocal agreements concerning fish and shell fish.

The Mississippi Seafood Commission has authority vested in it to consummate reciprocal agreements on shrimp. The last information I have had is that a bill will be introduced in the Mississippi Legislature, meeting in January 1952, requesting that the Mississippi Seafood Commission's authority be extended to include fishes other than shrimp.

The Alabama Legislature, meeting in May 1951, will be requested to set non-resident license fees to be the same as resident fishermen of that state.

The favorable action of the mentioned Alabama and Mississippi Legislatures may lead to a reciprocal agreement between those two states.

I am informed that the Florida Legislature will be asked to extend the authority of the Board of Conservation of that state to enter into reciprocal fishery agreements other than shrimp. It is a little early yet to know what action will be taken in the State of Louisiana since their Legislature does not meet until May of 1952, but it does seem possible that the Legislature of that state might be favorable to granting authority for reciprocal agreements permitting the landing of fin and shell fishes when such catches are made in international waters.

The State of Texas now has a law which states, in effect, that a boat from any state may fish in its waters, having the same privileges accorded resident fishermen of that state, with the payment of an annual boat license of \$6.00 and \$3.00 per fisherman on the boat plus \$15.00 trawl license. It is the feeling of the Texas Game, Fish & Oyster Commission that since this law is now in effect, and since it will in all likelihood not be changed because of certain decisions which have been rendered by the Federal Courts, it is unnecessary that the Texas Game, Fish & Oyster Commission request consideration of legislation permitting reciprocal agreements.

REPORT - UNIFORM SHRIMP REGULATIONS - SECRETARY

(4-16-51)

The matter of developing uniform shrimp regulations for the Gulf States has been discussed at a number of Commission meetings, the first being at Tampa in January of 1950. The matter was discussed again at Biloxi in April of last year. Further discussion was heard at Mobile in July 1950. It was at the Mobile meeting that the Commission's Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data, together with Messrs. Anderson and Lindner of U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, were asked to meet and draft uniform shrimp regulations for the Gulf. They met in New Orleans in August of last year. These suggested regulations were discussed both by the Commission and industry at the annual meeting in New Orleans in October, and it was decided by the Commission that further study of the suggested laws was needed.

Following the annual meeting approximately 800 copies of the suggested regulations were furnished to industry of the five states for their study and comment. The subject again came up at the Brownsville meeting in January of this year. The subject was fully discussed at the Brownsville meeting, with industry participating, and it was decided that further study was still needed. It was suggested that the Commission State Delegations hold meetings with interested organizations within their states. Due to commitments on the part of members of the State Delegations, it was not possible to schedule meetings with industry of the various states.

Should the Commission recommend to the Governors and Legislatures of the several states enactment of the regulations into law in their present form, it seems, judging from discussions which have been had, the encountering of legislative difficulties on:

Closed seasons.
Defining of inside & outside waters.
Per pound count.

Legislative difficulties probably would not be encountered on:

No trawl or mesh size limitations.
Permitting heading on ground.
Allowing night shrimping in all waters during
open season.
Revision of bait fishing regulations.

The commercial industry favors the tightening of bait fishing regulations, however, it should be remembered the Commission has not heard from that segment of the industry engaged in gathering shrimp as bait for sports fishing; also, the Commission does not have the sportsman's point of view.

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission met in regular session at the San Carlos Hotel, April 19th and 20th, 1951, in the City of Pensacola, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the sojourn of the Commissioners and their guests while in Pensacola was made extremely delightful due to the many courtesies extended; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners wish that their deep gratitude for the very warm hospitality extended be properly acknowledged; now

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners express in the form of a resolution their most sincere appreciation to Mr. George Vathis for the welcoming party at the San Carlos Hotel on the evening of April 18th; to Mr. Francis W. Taylor and to Mr. Frank E. Wells, Jr. for the very lovely fellowship hour at the Pensacola Yacht Club on the evening of April 19th, and to Mrs. Francis W. Taylor, Mrs. Frank E. Wells and Miss Isabel Taylor for motoring the ladies to the many points of historic interest and scenic beauty in and around the City of Pensacola.

* * * * *

The foregoing is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, April 20, 1951, at a regular Commission meeting held at the San Carlos Hotel in the City of Pensacola, Florida.



Secretary-Treasurer

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, being a compact of the five Gulf States, has as its purpose the better utilization of the marine fisheries of the seaboard of the Gulf of Mexico, by the development of a joint program for the promotion and protection of such fisheries and the prevention of the physical waste of the fisheries from any cause, and,

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission has received valuable assistance from members of its scientific committee in studying problems affecting the fisheries of the coastal waters, and,

WHEREAS, the directorate and staff of the Marine Laboratory of the University of Miami has been particularly helpful to the Commission in supplying scientific data concerning various of the fin and shell fishes common to the waters of the compacted states, and additionally, aided the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, primary research agency of the Commission, in the compilation of catch statistics for the State of Florida, which procedure is essential to the determination of fishery populations and their perpetuation, and, is further assisting in the overall program for the Gulf through developing preservatives for fishing gear, now,

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission acknowledges, through the medium of a resolution, its deep appreciation for the splendid work being accomplished by the University of Miami Marine Laboratory through its Director, Dr. F. G. Walton Smith and Research Associates, Drs. Clarence P. Idyll and Louis R. Revis, and others, who have given so generously of their time and knowledge at Commission meetings, and in performing laboratory and field experimentation considered essential to the accomplishment of the prescribed mission of the Gulf States compact.

The foregoing is a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at a regular Commission meeting held at the San Carlos Hotel in the City of Pensacola, Florida, April 19-20, 1951.


Secretary-Treasurer

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE REGULATION OF THE SHRIMP FISHERY OF THE GULF OF MEXICO
SUBMITTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES
COMMISSION.

The recommendations that follow are based upon present knowledge of the shrimp and the shrimp fishery. Future developments may require revision of these recommendations. The purpose of the recommendations is to obtain the maximum poundage of shrimp from each year's crop without unduly hampering the industry.

We base these recommendations on the knowledge that it is not necessary to protect the spawning stock and we assume that it is advantageous to protect the small shrimp.

While most of our knowledge is based upon research on the common shrimp, Penaeus setiferus, we have no reason to believe at this time that suggested regulations will not apply equally well to the grooved shrimp, Penaeus aztecus and Penaeus duorarum.

The following facts concerning the life history of the common shrimp we consider to be fundamental for the framing of regulations of the fishery:

1. Spawning occurs approximately from March through September in the offshore waters. The eggs are laid directly into the water and are not carried by the female. A female shrimp will lay between 500,000 and 1,000,000 eggs at a spawning.
2. The eggs hatch within a few hours and the young shrimp are carried by currents to the bays and estuaries which are the nursery grounds.
3. On the nursery grounds during the summer the young shrimp grow very rapidly, generally more than doubling their weight each month.
4. As they increase in size they move to waters of higher salinity. In Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the west coast of Florida the young appear in abundance on the inside fishing grounds by mid-June; in Texas by mid-July.
5. Shortly after appearing in abundance on the inside fishing grounds the larger shrimp begin to move to the outside waters. Thereafter there is a constant movement of these larger shrimp from the inside to the outside waters.
6. With the approach of winter and the resultant lowering of water temperature this movement is speeded up. The result is that the larger shrimp have moved to the outside waters leaving the smaller shrimp in the inside waters. At the same time the growth rate of the shrimp is appreciably decreased due to these lower temperatures.
7. With the approach of spring and the resultant warming of the waters the small shrimp which wintered over in the inside waters assume a very rapid rate of growth and soon catch up in size with the earlier spawned individuals. Concurrently they move from the inside to the outside waters. In these outside waters spawning takes place. At spawning these shrimp are approximately one year old. Few if any survive to spawn a second year. Therefore for all practical purposes the common shrimp is an annual.

We define inside waters to be all waters landward of the three fathom line in the Gulf of Mexico. Outside waters are all waters seaward from the three fathom line in the Gulf of Mexico.

Closed Seasons

Inside waters:

The first closed season for inside waters should be, for the area east of the Louisiana-Texas boundary, to and including St. Marks, Florida, from June 15 to August 31. The closed season for the inside waters of Texas should be from July 15 to September 15.

The second closed season for inside waters in all states should be from December 15 of one year to March 31 of the following year.

The first closed season is suggested to protect the small shrimp during the period of their most rapid growth. The different season suggested for Texas waters results from the fact pointed out above that the young shrimp appear later in the inside waters of this area.

The second closed season is suggested for the purpose of protecting the small shrimp that are wintering over in the inside waters. These shrimp produce the spring run.

Outside waters:

The outside waters should remain open to fishing in all states throughout the entire year.

There is at present no indication of a relationship between the number of spawners and the resulting crop. At no season of the year do small individuals predominate in the shrimp population in outside waters.

Size Limits

We recommend no size limits and that those now in effect be abolished.

When a size limit is imposed the basic purpose of the regulation is defeated by culling. Shrimp smaller than the legal size which have been killed in the fishing operation are discarded. The closed seasons recommended above if strictly enforced should provide adequate controls. While of no biological significance it is a fact that size limits are difficult to enforce which further detracts from their usefulness.

Night Fishing

Night fishing should be permitted in all waters during open seasons.

Whether a shrimp is caught during the day or during the night, the effect on the population is the same.

A ban on night fishing would almost eliminate the grooved shrimp fishery which has become of great importance and has promise of considerable development.

Gear

No limitations are suggested on size of trawls or mesh.

We have no evidence that trawling is harmful or beneficial to the bottoms. The criticism that large trawls take an undue quantity of shrimp from the inside waters is not sound since it makes no difference to the shrimp population whether or not the shrimp are caught by a large or a small trawl. Competition between units of the fleet is an economic rather than a biological problem. Again we believe that the recommended closed seasons properly enforced should suffice for adequate control.

The size of mesh used in a trawl does not control to any marked degree the size of shrimp caught. In any case, we have already stated that the size of shrimp caught during open seasons does not need to be controlled.

The data we have shows that no significant quantities of important commercial or sport fishes are taken in shrimp trawling operations. In order to permit the escape of the small numbers of important fish which are caught it would be necessary to increase the size of the mesh to an extent which would seriously decrease the ability of the trawl to catch shrimp. The value of the shrimp caught by trawling operations is so vastly greater than the value of the fish incidently caught that to curtail shrimping in order to prevent the capture of these fish would be unjustified.

Heading of Shrimp on the Grounds

There is no necessity for prohibiting the heading of shrimp on the fishing grounds.

Shrimp are cannabalistic, they will eat their fellows dead or alive. It is highly unlikely that the presence of shrimp heads on the bottom will cause live shrimp to avoid that area. Returning shrimp heads to the sea is replacing a portion of nutrient removed.

Bait Fishing

It is suggested that the shrimp bait fishery regulations be seriously reconsidered since there is much evidence of the abuse of this privilege.

/s/ William W. Anderson
Chief, Gulf Fisheries
Investigations
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

/s/ Milton J. Lindner
Chief, Fishery Mission
to Mexico
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

/s/ C. P. Idyll
Research Associate
Marine Laboratory
University of Miami

/s/ J. L. Baughman
Chief Marine Biologist
Texas Game, Fish & Oyster
Commission

/s/ James Nelson Gowanloch
Chief Biologist
Louisiana Department of
Wildlife and Fisheries

/s/ Francis X. Lueth
Senior Biologist
Marine Laboratory
Alabama Department of Conservation

SECRETARY'S NOTE:

The foregoing recommendations represent a true copy of the original recommendations adopted at a joint meeting of Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission attorneys and biologists, together with biologists of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as indicated, in special and executive session at the Monteleone Hotel in the City of New Orleans, Louisiana, August 18, 1950.


Secretary-Treasurer

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Brownsville, Texas
El Jardin Hotel
January 11 (Thursday) and 12 (Friday) 1951

P R O G R A M

Thursday, January 11, 1951

- 9:00 AM Registration.
- 9:30 AM Call to Order, Commission Chairman, Mr. Bert E. Thomas, Mobile, Alabama.
Roll Call of Commissioners and Introduction of Guests.
WELCOME, Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Executive Secretary, Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, Austin, Texas.
- 10:00 AM PLANS OF THE DEFENSE FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION, Mr. R. T. Whiteleather, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.

Series of 10 Minute Presentations: APPLICATION OF PROGRAMS OF THE DEFENSE FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION TO GULF:

EXPLORATORY COMMERCIAL FISHING, Mr. R. T. Whiteleather, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.

TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH, Mr. H. E. Crowther, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.

MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH, Mr. William W. Anderson, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Galveston, Texas.
- 11:00 AM Panel Discussion: PROMOTING DEFENSE FISHERIES PROGRAMS THROUGH COORDINATED EFFORT of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and Industry.

Discussion Leader, Commission V-Chairman, Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Austin, Texas.

Panel

Mr. A. J. Wegmann, Bagille Seafood Company, New Orleans, Louisiana,
Mr. Carlton Crawford, Crawford Packing Company, Palacios, Texas,
Mr. Virgil Versaggi, Versaggi Shrimp Company, Brownsville, Texas,
Mr. Norman Hoagland, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pascagoula, Mississippi, and
Messrs. Whiteleather, Crowther and Anderson.

(M-10 1351)

12:00 Noon Adjournment.

12:05 PM Committee Meetings:

Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data, called by
Dr. J. N. Gowanloch

Committee to Correlate Fisheries Laws, called by Mr. A. J. Harris

2:30 PM Tour of Brownsville Shrimp Processing Plants.
(Party to assemble lobby El Jardin for prompt departure at
appointed time - 2:30 PM.)

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Friday, January 12, 1951

9:30 AM Panel Discussion: SHRIMP REGULATIONS,
Mr. A. J. Harris, Leader.

Panel: Dr. J. N. Gowanloch, Mr. F. X. Lueth,
Dr. F. G. Walton Smith or Dr. C. P. Idyll
Mr. J. L. Baughman and Mr. W. W. Anderson.

10:30 AM Panel Discussion: RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS,
Miss Mary Schulman, Leader.

Panel: Mr. A. J. Harris, Mr. Reece O. Bickerstaff,
Mr. A. S. Cain, Miss Erma Baker.

11:30 AM Adjournment.

11:40 AM Commission Executive Session.

12:00 Noon "EXPLORATORY FISHING":

"The Outlook for Gulf Commercial Fishing Explorations",
Mr. A. W. Anderson, Chief, Branch of Commercial Fish-
eries, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington,
D. C.

"All in a Day's Fishing on the Oregon", Mr. Stewart
Springer, Fishery Engineer in Charge, Exploratory
Fishing and Gear Development Section, U. S. Fish
and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.

12:30 P. M. Lunch.

2:00 P. M. "The Brazilian Shrimp Fishery off Key West", Dr. Clar-
ence P. Idyll, Research Associate, Marine Laboratory,
University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida.

General Discussion.

2:30 P. M. "CATCH STATISTICS":

"Catch Statistics and their Relationship to the Gulf
Commercial Fisheries Explorations", Mr. Charles H.
Lyles, Statistical Section, U. S. Fish and Wildlife
Service, New Orleans, Louisiana.

General Discussion.

3:00 P. M. "FISHERIES LAWS":

Report of Committee to Correlate Fisheries Laws,
Mr. A. Sidney Cain, Jr., Attorney, State of
Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

General Discussion.

3:30 P. M. Adjournment.

3:40 P. M. Commissioners' Caucus.

Saturday, April 15, 1950

9:30 A. M. Resume of Discussions at Commissioners' Caucus:

(a) Gulf Biological Research Program, Dr. J. Nelson
Gowanloch.

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
312 Audubon Building
New Orleans 16, Louisiana

M I N U T E S
(Extract of Transcript)

REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 11-12, 1951
EL JARDIN HOTEL, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS.

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE OF COMMISSIONERS:

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
<u>ALABAMA:</u>	Bert E. Thomas (Chairman)	Phillip J. Hamm Thomas A. Johnston III
<u>FLORIDA:</u>	George Vathis William J. Hendry	Bryant Patton
<u>LOUISIANA:</u>	E. J. Grizzaffi	Ernest S. Clements Leander H. Perez
<u>MISSISSIPPI:</u>	Hermes Gautier Louis Simmons	Walter J. Gex
<u>TEXAS:</u>	Howard D. Dodgen (Vice-Chairman) Lawrence A. Kurtz	Jimmy Phillips
	A. J. Harris, Jr. (Proxy for Phillip J. Hamm) James N. McConnell (Proxy for Ernest S. Clements) J. L. Baughman (Proxy for Howard D. Dodgen- session 1/12/51)	
<u>STAFF:</u>	W. Dudley Gunn, Secretary-Treasurer	

COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

J. Nelson Gowanloch, Francis X. Lueth, J. L. Baughman, C. P. Idyll (Proxy for F. G. Walton Smith), A. J. Harris, Jr., Mary Schulman.

REPRESENTATIVES OF USF AND WL PRESENT

R. T. Whiteleather, H. E. Crowther, W. W. Anderson, Norman J. Haugland.

REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRY AND OTHERS PRESENT

H. L. Albey, Antoine Alario, Sydney W. Buck, L. Philip Caillouet, A. B. Chauvin, Carlton Crawford, H. Morgan Daniel, B. J. Duplantis, W. L. Hardee, W. E. Kennon, E. M. Lapeyre, Jr., Ted R. Little, A. B. Lorino, Ruel McDaniel, W. D. McMillan, G. W. McNeir, Eugene Olsen, G. L. Palmer, J. E. Sadler, L. W. Strasburger, Adam P. Smith, Robert E. Tompkins, Virgil Versaggi, Eugene Webster, A.J. Wegmann, Ray Steele, Ellen Daniel, Bascom Cox, F. M. Daugherty, Jr., William King, E. D. McRae, Jr., Dewey W. Miles, S. H. Nichols, William G. O'Rear, Robert H. Parker, Ernest C. Simmons, Walter Wernett.

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM Thursday, January 11, 1951 with the Commission Chairman, Mr. Bert E. Thomas, presiding.

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll of Commissioners by States, following which all conferees were introduced.

The Chairman presented Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Commission Vice-Chairman, who officially welcomed the Commissioners and their guests to the State of Texas.

As first guest speaker, the Chairman introduced Mr. Richard T. Whiteleather, FWS, Washington, to speak on the plans of the Defense Fisheries Administration.

Mr. Whiteleather told of the formal establishing of the DFA, December 4, 1951, and of the streamlined organization, composed of FWS officials, designated to carry forward the mission of that organization. The DFA programs will be to a major extent a recast of similar programs instituted in 1941, according to the speaker. The duties of the Administration will be many-fold, said the Washington official, including the developing of gear and other fishing essentials as substitutes for materials due to be diverted in sizeable volumes to Defense requirements. The reduction of manpower required in the fishing operation is said to be a DFA goal and essentially is this research programized due to the anticipated call of the Military upon the nation's pool of manpower. Continuing, Mr. Whiteleather spoke of plans in the liaison field, particularly with such agencies as the Quartermaster Corps. He spoke of production goals; of the continued effort of the FWS in the normal duties of that federal agency and particularly of the continuation of such functions as the compilation of statistical, marketing and other economic data basically necessary to the developing of production goals. The speaker also told of plans to estimate potential food supply; the industries' requirements for scarce material; and other considerations which could be valuable information as to the necessity of, and appropriate levels of, price controls and rationing and for determining the desirability of fish allocation and concentration programs.

It was understood to be one of the aims of DFA to endeavor to obtain for the industry an equitable share of materials, distributed where most urgently needed, after military requirements are met. Relative to the subject of manpower, Mr. Whiteleather stated the Administration has no power or authority as to deferments but suggested employers and employees may take individual cases before the appeal boards of the local interested draft boards. He also stated that the fishing industry had been listed as an

essential activity by the Department of Commerce for the guidance of the Department of Defense. In conclusion, the speaker suggested that industry inform itself of NPA regulations, which can be done by reading of bulletins available through the Department of Commerce.

Mr. Whiteleather continued at the speaker's table to inform the conferees that no recasting is presently planned in connection with the current exploratory fishing programs being carried on in the Gulf of Mexico. He said the OREGON will probably be called upon to do scouting work in locating concentrations of fish, reporting the finds by radio to the fleets, and thereby saving industry the expensive and time-consuming procedure otherwise associated with locating fish. The developing of gear, particularly substitute structural items, will be stepped up, according to the speaker.

The Chairman called upon Mr. H. E. Crowther, technological authority of the FWS, Washington, to discuss the application of technology to a furtherance of the defense effort.

Mr. Crowther explained general research is now being conducted on various species of fishes to determine the effects of freezing and extreme heat on the chemical properties of protein. Also important to the defense emergency, said the speaker, is work being done in the field of dehydration. Important to an intensified emergency program, as concerns the Gulf area, Mr. Crowther suggested the possible use of trash fish, now being discarded, for fish meals. He also mentioned the desirability of determining the nutritive value of Gulf fish and fishery products; the developing of substitute materials for cans, wrappers and packages. Close liaison is expected to be maintained with the QMC and industry, said the speaker, so that problems of the Military relating to technology can be expeditiously solved.

Mr. W. W. Anderson, FWS Chief of Gulf Investigations, Galveston, was presented. Mr. Anderson stated he had no information at this time which would alter the present program of biological research to be undertaken in the spring by the vessel ALASKA.

For a panel discussion with reference to Defense fisheries programs, Mr. Thomas introduced Mr. Howard Dodgen to lead the discussion period.

The Discussion leader then presented the panel, including Messrs. A. J. Wegmann, Carlton Crawford, Virgil Versaggi, Norman Haugland, Richard Whiteleather, H. E. Crowther and W. W. Anderson.

Proceeding with discussion: Mr. Wegmann, Bagille Seaford Company, New Orleans, appealed to industry, executive and fishermen alike, to develop teamwork and plan for the future.

Mr. Crawford, Crawford Packing Company, Palacios, stressed the necessity of government, labor, industry and the Commission pooling efforts in existing emergency.

Mr. Versaggi, Versaggi Shrimp Company, Brownsville, emphasized the urgency of a united front in the defense endeavor.

Mr. Haugland, FWS, Pascagoula, pledged the continued and added effort of the OREGON'S crew in exploratory fishing.

Mr. Whiteleather, FWS, Washington, passed out printed suggestions relative to securing of scarce items and asked industry to present related problems to DFA.

Mr. Little, Texas Fishermen's Association, Rockport, praised the work of the Commission and pledged the support of Texas fishermen in defense measures.

Mr. Baughman, Texas Game Fish & Oyster Commission biologist, Rockport, spoke of the lack of preparedness for emergencies in normal times, citing the abandonment of the war-born Texas shark industry following hostilities, as an example.

Mr. McMillan, Texas Fishermen's Association, speaking for labor in the fishing industry, expressed appreciation for the work being accomplished by the Commission and stated industry could depend on the fishermen coming through in an emergency.

Mr. Steele, National Fisheries Institute, Washington, referring to the fishing fleet as the nation's first line of defense, lauded the fishermen for their contributing in the late war and said their efforts received nation-wide recognition.

Mr. Alario, representing the Jefferson Parish Fishermen's Association of Louisiana, Westwego, pledged the best efforts of their association in the defense program.

Mr. Cox, Brownsville attorney, complimented the Commission on the movement to eliminate fishing barriers through reciprocal agreements.

Mr. McNeir, Texas Fishermen's Association, spoke of the crippling influence of state fishing barriers.

Mr. Strasburger, Envoldsen Shrimp, Inc. New Orleans, also spoke of the desirability of the exchange among the several states of fishing privileges.

Mr. Gautier, Commissioner from Mississippi, told of a survey being made by Tuna, Inc. Moss Point, to determine amount of scrap fish being thrown away and the feasibility of handling such fish in their reduction plant. He urged fishermen to sell scrap fish caught incidental to shrimp trawling and sell at a **nominal** figure in order to encourage development of such a new enterprise.

In bringing the discussion period to a close, Mr. Dodgen urged the closest of cooperation between Federal and State agencies, the Commission and the various segments of industry in all matters pertaining to the defense fisheries effort.

Mr. Dodgen returned the morning session to the Chairman, Mr. Bert Thomas, and with the calling of two committee meetings, scientists and attorneys, to immediately follow adjournment, closed the session at 12:25 PM.

Following a luncheon tendered the Commissioners and out-of-city guests by the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce and the Brownsville Shrimp Producers Association, a motorcade proceeded to the Port of Brownsville to witness the handling of shrimp from ship-side unloading through the cleaning, packing, glazing and freezing operation at the port's processing facilities.

Friday, January 12, 1951

The Friday morning open session of the meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Bert E. Thomas at 10 o'clock.

Following the introduction of guests not present at the Thursday session, the Chairman gave a resume of progress which had been made in the study of shrimp regulations, and following a distribution of certain recommendations prepared by the Commission scientists, introduced Mr. Harris of Alabama to lead a discussion period on the subject of uniform interstate regulations for the Gulf States.

Mr. Harris briefly reviewed the suggestions offered by the biologists, asked the conferees to give serious consideration to the basic determinations outlined by the scientists, and pointed to the urgent need for educating the shrimp fishermen through the application of non-biological terminology in explaining the benefits to be derived by the institution of a biological approach to the matter of perpetuating the shrimp fisheries. He also cited the need for sound economic thinking in the matter of developing all laws pertaining to the fisheries of the Gulf.

Dr. Gowanloch, Mr. Lueth, Dr. Idyll, Mr. Baughman and Mr. W. W. Anderson were called to form a panel.

Dr. Gowanloch told the conferees, as Chairman of the Commission Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data, the Scientific Committee was not trying to impose their thinking on industry, that the biologists simply presented conclusions, which were based on twenty years of solid work in the shrimp fisheries, for what they might be worth in the developing of shrimp regulations.

Mr. Baughman explained that proper closed seasons were necessary to the protection of immature shrimp, that with the closing and opening of the shrimping season at the proper time size limits could be eliminated because the shrimp would have had an opportunity to grow. He also mentioned that size limitations when enforced during periods when shrimping should not be allowed had caused the throwing-away of much immature shrimp.

Mr. Baughman then briefly presented the reasons for the suggested dropping of laws preventing night fishing, the principal reasons being that such laws were hindering the taking of the grooved species and that there was no biological basis for preventing the taking of shrimp during the dark hours.

With regard to the heading of shrimp on the ground, the speaker said there is no reason for this procedure being disallowed, actually, he said, the operation was helpful in building of the nutrient content of the water. As a closing thought, Mr. Baughman stressed the need for examining the current regulations relative to the taking of shrimp for bait.

Mr. Anderson said the recommendations were the best information in possession of the biologists at this time, and even though the conclusions were the result of some twenty years of research, the studies were continuing and the Commission would certainly be advised if changes were found desirable in the future.

Mr. Lueth said in Alabama 70-80 percent of the shrimp fishermen will go along with the recommendations as set out by the biologists. The percentage will be higher, he said, when more shrimpers are fully informed as to the background of thinking incorporated in the conclusions of the biologists.

Mr. Harris asked Dr. Idyll if he knew whether or not the Atlantic States had developed any recommendations relative to the shrimp fishery. Dr. Idyll said the south section of the Atlantic Commission had discussed shrimp regulations but had not to present developed any recommendations of a uniform interstate character. Dr. Idyll continued and explained that the biologists in setting-out the recommendations thought in terms of poundage catch and not individual catch. He pointed out that shrimp are an annual and that certain regulations applied to other fisheries were impractical from a standpoint of sound management in the shrimp fishery. Dr. Idyll said in conclusion that the suggested regulations were for the overall good of the industry and were the best that could be produced under the complex circumstances that exist.

The discussion leader complimented industry on their participation in the study of proposed shrimp regulations at previous Commission meetings and called upon Mr. Carlton Crawford for his views. Speaking for a large part of the Texas industry, Mr. Crawford said they were inclined to go along with the recommendations of the biologists 100%.

Mr. Chauvin stated his views were his own and desired it be understood his expression of opinions were not those of the industry in Louisiana. Continuing, Mr. Chauvin stated he did not think the Louisiana industry would go along 100% with the suggested recommendations in their present form. He said total tonnage production of shrimp in Louisiana has not declined but the average tonnage per boat has declined. The speaker said he thought the small fisherman who operates inshore would be seriously hurt if the shrimping season were to be shortened, as suggested. Mr. Chauvin thinks a size limit should be placed on shrimp during closed season if shrimping is to be allowed at all times of the year in waters seaward of the three fathom line in the Gulf of Mexico. The speaker stated there existed in Louisiana very heavy inshore fishing which other states did not have. In concluding, Mr. Chauvin said he was interested in working along with the Commission in arriving at regulations which would be of uniform nature and satisfactory to all concerned.

Mr. Antoine Alario, speaking for the Jefferson Parish (Louisiana) Fishermen's Association, and for himself as a small boat operator, said his Association favors summer closed season terminating the 3rd Monday in August instead of August 31st, as suggested in the recommendations. He said the winter closed season per biologists' suggestion of December 15th of one year to March 31st of the following year was satisfactory with those he represented. Mr. Alario said his organization favored a size limit on shrimp and mentioned 68 as desirable.....not smaller.

Mr. McNeir, Texas Fishermen's Association, said a great many of their members did not want size limit abolished. He suggested a 50 count preferable to 65. Mr. McNeir also said the Association favored "inside" waters being defined as from beach in and outside waters from beach out. In this connection, the speaker pointed out that the 3 fathom mark was only about 1/4 mile off shore at Brownsville but approximately 1 1/2 miles off shore at Galveston. A definition for inside and outside waters, as suggested by Mr. McNeir, would, according to the Association's thinking, be better for the small boat fisherman.

Mr. Strasburger, Envoldsen Shrimp, Inc., speaking as a biologist, praised the scientists for their fine work in preparing the recommendations. Speaking as a representative of industry, the speaker said he thought the inside waters should not be closed December 15th but earlier. He said he had observed that thousands of barrels of small and immature shrimp are caught and marketed, especially in Louisiana, earlier in the year, beginning the last of November. He is of the belief if the winter season were to be closed December 1st more large shrimp would result in the spring; however, the speaker added, this may not be economically feasible. The same may possibly hold for a June closing, said Mr. Strasburger. In conclusion, the speaker called upon all segments of the industry in all states to arrive at recommendations which would prove for the overall good.

Mr. Wegmann, speaking lastly on the panel, pointed to different conditions existing in each of the states and said it would be necessary to reach a compromise settlement before uniform interstate regulations could be perfected; however, he added, he believed such compromises as necessary could be effected. Referring to closed season, Mr. Wegmann thinks the differences of opinion can be effectively compromised. On the subject of bait fishing, the speaker urged the recommending of statutes which would prevent abuse of the privilege as to size limit. Mr. Wegmann said that the matter could rest with the several states. If in the open seasons shrimp were being taken which did not come up to the size limit, it should be up to the Department in charge in that state to immediately close those waters until such time as the shrimp grew to specifications.

Mr. McMillan, Texas Fishermen's Association, said he believed the fishing industry of Texas would be opposed to the summer closed season, as suggested for inside water, if the definition of inside waters were not changed from that stated in the recommendations. He said, the fishermen of Texas would vigorously object to the closing of any waters which are now considered outside waters.

Mr. Vathis, Acting Session Chairman, thanked Mr. Harris and members of the panel, then introduced Miss Mary Schulman to lead a discussion period on the subject of reciprocal agreements.

By way of preliminary remarks, Miss Schulman said Florida now has reciprocal shrimp fishing agreements with Alabama, Georgia and North and South Carolina. Such agreements were said to all be the same, with each state treating out-of-state shrimp fishermen as they would treat resident fishermen. The Florida State Board of Conservation has at this time authority to enter only into reciprocal agreements involving shrimp, according to the speaker, but it is hoped the Florida Legislature, meeting in April 1951, will broaden the powers of the Board to include other fisheries. Prior to opening the reciprocal agreements session to general discussion, Miss Schulman told of the proposed new salt water fishing code which will be introduced into the 1951 Florida Legislature, following a meeting of members of the Senate, House and Industry, which code is designed to repeal all local bills existing in the various counties and completely revise the conservation laws.

Mr. Wegmann was recognized and said he was of the opinion state barriers should be eliminated. Mr. Wegmann clarified his statement by saying he meant to imply that he thought all compacted states' fishermen should be allowed, with the payment of the license of that state, to come into port and unload fish or shrimp taken in water outside the states' boundaries, but he did not mean out-of-state fishermen should be allowed the same fishing privileges in any state as the state accorded its resident fishermen.

Mr. Gautier said he thought all waters should be open to fishermen of any state with the paying of the same license assessed resident fishermen. With reference to the \$2,500.00 annual license imposed on non-resident boats by Mississippi, Mr. Gautier feels the Mississippi Seafood Commission should not attempt to enforce the law because the Supreme Court has ruled against such high licenses in other such cases and would doubtless rule likewise should such a case originate in Mississippi.

Mr. Baughman said if the states did not settle on state licenses at a reasonable amount they were inviting intervention by the federal government.

Mr. Harris and Colonel Kurtz appealed for the establishing of reciprocal fishing agreements among all of the compacted states.

Following the discussion period, Mr. Thomas expressed the gratitude of the Commissioners for the splendid contribution made by industry to the success of the open session of the meeting and extended an invitation to anyone who might have something they wanted to present in the executive session to appear at the caucus. The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 12:30 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Friday, January 12, 1951

The Chairman, Mr. Thomas, recognized both Messrs. Bascom Cox and W. D. McMillan, each of whom brought to the attention of the Commissioners the increasing quantities of shrimp which are being imported into the United States. Each expressed the view that the imports were increasing to such proportions that the volume constituted a real threat to the economy of the American shrimp fishing industry. They requested the Commission to give serious consideration to the matter of quotas being a desirable medium through which overstocking of local markets may be at present, and in the future, eliminated.

Mr. Thomas thanked the gentlemen for appearing and told them the subject had come up in other Commission executive sessions and if they would supply the Secretary with information relative to such action as their organizations had progressed, relative to the subject of shrimp imports, it would be helpful in considering the subject further at the April Commission meeting.

Messrs. Gautier and Grizzaffi spoke in favor of the Commission taking action on the matter of import quotas being imposed and the latter offered a resolution to that effect to be sent to the Congressional Delegates of the Gulf States..... Col. Kurtz seconded. In discussion, Col. Kurtz suggested consideration of the matter before putting to a vote and mentioned the possibility of approaching the Mexican Government relative to that country placing an export duty on shrimp that would keep prices in line on this commodity when produced solely by industry of this country. Mr. Thomas again suggested more information was desirable before the Commission should take final action. Mr. McConnell asked Mr. McMillan if he thought a delay in acting on the matter would seriously affect the shrimp industry. Mr. McMillan said he thought a start should be made now, and that it may take two years to remedy the situation. Mr. Wegmann suggested Mr. Grizzaffi amend his resolution to include importations of shrimp from all foreign countries, that NFI was proceeding on that basis. Mr. Grizzaffi amended the resolution to include all foreign countries, as suggested. On vote the proposed resolution unanimously passed. Resolution is herewith first attached. Mr. Harris suggested since the Commission and the State Department had always worked so closely together that copies of all correspondence with the Congress be furnished the latter..... Dr. W. M. Chapman's office. No objections were raised to Mr. Harris' suggestion and the Secretary was instructed by the Chairman to comply.

The Chairman entertained a motion that the reading of the minutes of the October 19-20, 1950 Commission New Orleans meeting be dispensed with. Mr. Harris offered a motion that the minutes be approved as forwarded to the Commissioners by the Secretary. Col. Kurtz seconded the motion and upon vote the motion was passed by each state.

The Secretary was called upon for report. He presented a financial report, copy of which is herewith last attached. Report of anticipated distribution of the Commission's First Annual Report was given, including Congressional Delegates of the Gulf States, Governors, Cabinet Members and Legislators of the compacted states; 120 odd newspapers and magazines of the Gulf States; fishermen's associations and unions of the several states; other organizations and commissions outside of the Gulf area; college and university libraries of the party states and individuals..... retaining some 50 copies of the 1500 printed as a reserve supply.

Mr. Thomas entertained a motion to amend that portion of the Houston, Texas meeting of October 16-17, 1949, which pertained to allowing the Secretary-Treasurer six (6¢) per mile for use of his private car in the performance of his duties, since Commission delegates had at the November 1950 Gulf and Caribbean Institute approved the purchase of a car for his use, which purchase was consummated January 2nd, and that the operating expenses of said car be paid by the Commission. Mr. Vathis moved and Mr. Grizzaffi seconded such a motion and upon vote the motion carried all states.

The Chairman appointed Mr. A. J. Harris as Chairman of the Committee to Correlate Fisheries Laws and as successor to Mr. Sidney Cain, stating he had been advised the latter was returning to private practice.

Mr. Harris was called upon to explain the reciprocal fishing agreements resolution drafted by the Commission attorneys at their August 1950 New Orleans meeting and deferred at the annual October 1950 Commission meeting for further consideration. Mr. Harris explained that the proposed or suggested resolution, if passed by the Commission, would recommend to the Governors and Legislatures of the several states that appropriate legislation be passed to enable the states to enter into reciprocal fishing agreements with one another. He then put the resolution into the form of a motion which motion was seconded by Mr. Hendry. In discussion, Mr. Grizzaffi asked if the resolution pertained to inside or outside water. Mr. Harris said his motion pertained to all waters. Mr. Grizzaffi suggested that the resolution be made to apply to outside water at this time and that the Commission go into the inside waters matter later. He added that he could not vote for the motion as outlined by Mr. Harris without taking it up with his people back home and he believed Mr. McConnell was of the same opinion. Mr. Harris then said that he left out any mention of inside or outside water and that the State Legislatures could, if they so desired, pass a law permitting reciprocity in either inside or outside water, or both.....that if the Louisiana Legislature so desired they could pass a law concerning the outside water and not the inside water. Mr. McConnell said he believed Louisiana would be agreeable to vessels of the several states coming into its ports and discharging their cargoes but that he would have to abstain from voting on such a measure because he did not have Commissioner Clements' authority. Mr. Baughman informed the Commissioners that there no longer existed a quota on fishing licenses in Texas and that any fisherman of any state could come into Texas waters and fish for the annual license fee charged fishermen of that state, namely \$6.00.

Col. Kurtz said he did not believe it was generally understood that a boat from any state of the five states could come to Texas and buy a license for \$6.00 and a trawl license for \$15.00 and fish in any bay where it wants to go or unload at any port it chooses. He said they (Texas) wanted the same privileges in other of the member states. Mr. Baughman also stated Texas would like to have the same measure of reciprocity accorded elsewhere. Mr. Grizzaffi said that he had conferred with several of the Louisiana fishermen present at the meeting and that they were against the fishing of inside waters by other than Louisiana fishermen unless present state regulations were complied with, and until such time as the matter could be taken up with the industry in that state, he would have to vote against the motion before the session. Miss Schulman stated that regardless of the Commission's recommendations to the State Governors and Legislatures it did not mean that the states would write such recommendations into law. Mr. Thomas reminded that there was a motion before the body and called upon the Secretary to call the roll for a vote by states. Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Texas voted for adoption of the resolution and Louisiana voted in opposition to the resolution. The resolution is herewith second attached.

A short discussion period followed concerning recommended shrimp regulations, as drafted by the Commission scientists in August 1950 and discussed at the New Orleans October 1950 meeting, during which discussion period it was brought out that the Commission was still in possession of insufficient economic data to recommend uniform interstate shrimp fishery regulations to the proper authorities of the several states. Mr. Harris motioned for deferment of the matter to allow each state the opportunity to present the matter to industry in the respective states..... Mr. Vathis seconded the motion..... upon vote, all states passed the motion.

Mr. Hendry made a motion to effect that the next regular Commission meeting, since it was Florida's turn on the rotation plan, be held in Pensacola. Mr. Vathis seconded the motion and, upon an affirmative vote of all states, Pensacola was designated for the next meeting.

Mr. Baughman motioned that, because of the existing emergency and during the extent of the present emergency, the Commission hold only two meetings annually. Mr. Vathis seconded the motion. Mr. Thomas called upon the Secretary to read his suggestion, made and deferred at the annual meeting, concerning the two meeting per year suggestion. The two meeting per year plan, with provision for special meetings, was passed unanimously when put to a vote by states..... it reads:

"The Commission shall have two regular meetings each year, one designated as the 'Annual Meeting' shall occur on the third Thursday and Friday in the month of October and one designated as the 'Spring Meeting' shall occur on the third Thursday and Friday in the month of April. Meetings other than regular meetings shall be designated as Special Meetings. Upon the written request of a majority of the Commissioners of each state from three or more states, the Chairman shall call a Special Meeting of the Commission."

Coming out of a meeting of the Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data held on Thursday, January 11th, was a resolution pointing to the urgent need for inshore biological and economic research into species of fishes of importance to the commercial and sports fishermen. The Committee Chairman, Dr. Gowanloch, pointed out that should the Commission see fit to pass such a resolution to the proper state authorities and the matter received favorable treatment by the several states governments, the State Conservation directorates would eventually be in position to properly manage certain of the inshore fisheries which was not possible at present because of the lack of information. When put to vote by states, following motion of Mr. Hendry and second by Mr. Harris, the motion unanimously carried. The resolution involved is herewith third attached.

Mr. Baughman was recognized by the Chairman and said he wished to pass along a few thoughts of Mr. Dodgen's in reference to working very closely with the Defense Fisheries Administration. Mr. Thomas said he did not think it necessary to put the matter to a vote but instructed the Secretary-Treasurer to assist in every way possible the work which the Defense Fisheries Administration has undertaken. Mr. Gunn told of the manner in which the headquarters office had been in close touch with the DFA since its inception in early December and of plans to disseminate information of the Administration's activities to the Commission's mailing list.

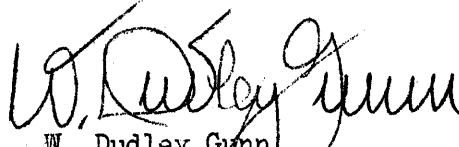
Mr. Thomas spoke of the work being accomplished by the Gulf and Caribbean Institute and of the needs of the Institute for funds for the printing of the Third Annual Institute proceedings. Mr. Vathis moved that the Commission contribute \$100.00 toward printing the digest..... Mr. Grizzaffi seconded and the vote was unanimous by states.

On motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Gautier, and unanimous vote of the states, the Secretary was instructed to prepare and distribute a resolution to all who contributed to the success of the Brownsville meeting, including the business session, the inspection trip to the Port of Brownsville and entertainment.

Mr. Thomas urged all State Delegations to meet with their industry before the April 19-20, 1951 Pensacola meeting so that definite recommendations concerning uniform interstate shrimp regulations could be prepared and approved at the spring meeting.

With no further business to come before the executive session, the Chairman stood the meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

WDG:esh

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is concerned with the development of the known and latent fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico, particularly, the shrimp fisheries in process of exploration by its primary research agency, the Department of the Interior U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, definite information is now available to the shrimping industry concerning the existence of certain species of shrimp which inhabit the deeper waters of the Gulf, such depths varying from 15 to 250 fathoms, contiguous to the coast lines of the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas; and

WHEREAS, it is conceded that capital investment, as well as production costs, mount in direct proportion to the depths from which shrimp are taken; and

WHEREAS, the prosecution of these fisheries at such depths is likely not to progress to a degree necessary to establish a high level of production, considered essential to the strengthening of the nation's food resources, unless shrimp fleet operators feel justified in making additional investments in equipment and gear necessary to the exploitation of these fisheries; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing feeling among the industry on the Gulf that the steadily increasing volume of shrimp importations into this country from foreign sources will, if not curtailed, so saturate the home markets that future sales prices will decline to levels rendering such investments inadvisable; and

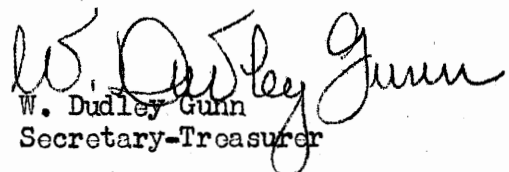
WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States can assist in the development of the mentioned shrimp resources by setting quotas on the importation of shrimp from all foreign countries;

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission go on record as favoring quotas being placed on shrimp importations from all foreign countries, in order to encourage the prosecution of the mentioned off-shore shrimp fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico by the American fishing industry, and that copies of this resolution be directed to each of the Congressional Delegates of the five Gulf States.

* * * * *

The foregoing is a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, January 12, 1951, at a regular Commission meeting held at the El Jardin Hotel in the City of Brownsville, Texas.

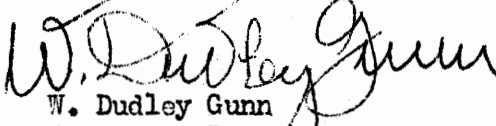

W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

A RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, That the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission hereby recommends to the Governors and to the Legislatures of the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas the enactment of laws permitting the several States, members of this compact, to enter into reciprocal fisheries agreements with one another.

* * * * *

The foregoing is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission January 12, 1951 at a regular Commission meeting held at the El Jardin Hotel in the City of Brownsville, Texas.


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is composed of representatives from each of the compacted States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas who are concerned with matters relating to the better utilization of the fisheries (marine, shell and anadromous) which inhabit the waters of the seaboard of the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, there are certain species of fish, including sea trout, redfish, flounder, mullet and others, which are highly valuable as commercial and sports fish but about which insufficient knowledge of a biological and economic character is available to assure their proper management; and


WHEREAS, the desired information can only be procured through a program of research for which appropriations may have to be made available;

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission recommends to the Governors and Legislatures of the signatory States that appropriate and adequate funds be made available by enactment of legislation, if necessary, for the purpose of facilitating the research program involving the above designated species and that such program be administered by the agency of the state charged with conservation of the fishery resources to which the compact pertains and through the research medium representing such agency on the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

* * * * *

The foregoing is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission January 12, 1951, at a regular Commission meeting held at the El Jardin Hotel in the City of Brownsville, Texas.


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission met in regular session at the El Jardin Hotel, January 11th and 12th, 1951, in the City of Brownsville, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the sojourn of the Commissioners and their wives at Brownsville was made extremely delightful due to the many courtesies extended; and

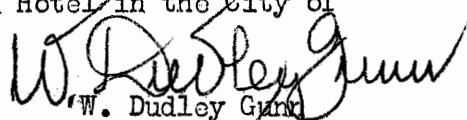
WHEREAS, the Commissioners wish that their deep gratitude for the very warm hospitality accorded be properly acknowledged;

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Commissioners express in the form of a resolution their most sincere appreciation to the entire membership of the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce, and particularly to Mr Oscar Longnecker, Secretary, to the Brownsville Shrimp Producers Association, Incorporated, and the entertainment program committee, composed of Messrs. W. L. Hardee, G. L. Palmer and Adam P. Smith.

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The foregoing is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, January 12, 1951, at a regular Commission meeting held at the El Jardin Hotel in the City of Brownsville, Texas.


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
As of December 31, 1950

BANK BALANCE, PER STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1950	\$7,880.16
PETTY CASH ON HAND, INCLUDING STAMPS	29.85
	<hr/>
	\$7,910.01
UNPAID CHECKS ISSUED	\$ 122.60
WITHHOLDING TAX UNPAID	279.60
UNPAID BILLS	-0-
	<hr/>
	402.20
TRUE BALANCE	<u>\$7,507.81</u>
DUE FROM MEMBER STATES	\$ 10,000.00