

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS - EL JARDIN HOTEL

OCTOBER 17-18, 1952 - MEETING M-14

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Brownsville, Texas
El Jardin Hotel
October 16-17, 1952

P R O G R A M

(Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Commission Chairman, Presiding.)

Thursday, October 16, 1952

9:00 AM Call to Order.
Roll Call and Introductions.
Welcome, Col. L. A. Kurtz.
Annual Report, Mr. W. D. Gunn.

(All Subjects to be Followed by Discussion)

RESUME OF FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ACTIVITIES AND PLANS:

9:30 AM Gulf Oyster Investigations, Dr. P. A. Butler.
9:50 AM Gulf Fishery Investigations, Mr. A. W. Collier.
10:15 AM Gulf Exploratory Fishing & Trash Fish Study, Mr. Stewart Springer.
10:40 AM Shrimp Catch Statistics and Report on Freezing Shrimp at Sea,
Mr. R. T. Whiteleather.

11:00 AM REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO CORRELATE RESEARCH & EXPLORATORY DATA:

Recommended Changes in Certain Fishery Laws or Regulations,
Panel: Messrs. J. L. Baughman, A. E. Hopkins, C. P. Idyll,
H. C. Loesch, Harry Schafer and L. L. Walters.

12:00 Noon ADJOURNMENT.

1:30 PM REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO CORRELATE FISHERY LAWS:

Laws and Regulations Needing Investigation.
Panel: Mr. A. J. Harris, Misses Erma Baker and Mary Schulman,
Messrs. R. O. Bickerstaff and C. J. Lange.

2:15 PM DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEXAS SHRIMP INDUSTRY, Mr. Manuel Sanchez.

2:30 PM ADJOURNMENT FOR TOUR OF BROWNSVILLE SHRIMP PROCESSING FACILITIES.
Cars leaving from northside El Jardin Hotel.

Friday, October 17, 1952

9:30 AM COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SESSION.

REVIEW OF FEDERAL EXPLORATORY AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES
DURING THE YEAR 1952-53 AND PLANS.

PANEL: MESSRS. _____ FWS, Pascagoula
_____ FWS, Galveston
_____ FWS, Pensacola

DISCUSSION.

ADJOURNMENT.

OCTOBER 16, FRIDAY

9:30 AM FINAL DRAFT OF SHRIMP PROGRAM PRESENTED: Dr. Walford.

DISCUSSION.

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON MARINE SCIENCES OF THE
SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD, Dr. Nelson Marshall,
Committee Executive Secretary.

DISCUSSION.

DEVELOPMENT OF UNUSED RESOURCES (COMMISSION WORK PLAN,
ITEM 2): Mr. A. W. Anderson, Fish & Wildlife Service

DISCUSSION.

REPORT, BOTTOM DEBRIS COMMITTEE: Mr. Donald G. Bollinger,
Committee Chairman.

DISCUSSION.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR YEAR 1953-54.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR YEAR 1953-54.

12:30 PM ADJOURNMENT.

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

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

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 16-17, 1952
EL JARDIN HOTEL, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE OF COMMISSIONERS:

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

COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

A. J. Harris, Jr., Mary Schulman, H. C. Loesch, Clarence P. Idyll, A. E. Hopkins,
J. L. Baughman.

REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES PRESENT

Wm. C. Herrington, Albert Collier, E. H. Dahlgren, D. L. Hoy, J. B. Seibernaler,
Stewart Springer, R. T. Whiteleather.

REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRY AND OTHERS PRESENT

Richard M. Adams, J. E. Barr, J. L. Cobolini, Bascom Cox, Cecil Haden, Koji Hidaka, M. K. Lawrenz, Ruel McDaniel, Manuel Sanchez, John Santos, W. T. Scarborough, Bert E. Thomas, Dick Vaughan, Virgil Versaggi, Mason Watts, Walter Wernett.

GENERAL SESSION, OCTOBER 16, 1952

The Commission Chairman, Mr. H. D. Dodgen, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and after expressing the appreciation of the group for the reception tendered by representatives of the Texas legislature, the evening of October 15, explained the organizational structure and purpose of the Commission for the benefit of the conferees.

Following the roll call of Commissioners the Chairman called upon Col. Kurtz, Texas Commissioner, who extended a cordial welcome to the Commissioners and their guests.

The Commission secretary-treasurer in being called upon for a brief resume of Commission activities reported as follows:

All of the Gulf States are working toward the maintenance of high level oyster production thru biological research and reef development.

Texas is compiling valuable data on the speckled trout, redfish, drum and flounder. In addition to its oyster program, Louisiana is expected to start investigations on a number of the fin fishes of commercial and sports interest. Mississippi has already undertaken a flounder program and work will soon start on the life history of the speckled trout. A survey of the water bottoms was undertaken last summer. Alabama is to start taxonomical work on the fin fishes in the near future and an oceanographic survey of Mobile Bay and Alabama's Mississippi Sound is in prospect. Florida has developed valuable data on the growth rates, spawning periods, sizes and other information concerning the mullet in the area from Apalachee Bay west to the Alabama line. Technological work involving refrigerated holding and transport of shrimp is another Florida project.

The Fish and Wildlife Laboratory at Pensacola is progressing its study of the genetics of the oyster and continuing inquiry into the enemies of the oyster.

In the Gulf proper, one section of the Fish and Wildlife Service is carrying forward programs in exploratory fishing, gear development, freezing shrimp at sea and a trash fish study. Another section of the Service is covering the Gulf in a program of fishery biology and this in all of its ramifications, even including the chemical constituency of the waters. An oceanographic survey is being made of the Gulf by the Texas A&M Department of Oceanography, the U. S. Navy being the program's sponsor.

Work on the life history and habits of shrimp is indicated for the coming year. It is understood that data compiled over a period of years will soon

be made available by the Fish and Wildlife Service and this information is expected to indicate what further investigations are necessary. Such work will undoubtedly be a joint state and federal project.

The current statistical program is a vast improvement over that of three years ago. It is yet inadequate. The Commission hopes in the coming year to see better state landing records, included in which would be a breakdown on shrimp production by areas of catch and by species. The shrimp industry can be of great assistance in the accumulating of such data.

A program designed to bring about better conservation of the marine fisheries thru educational procedure is an aim of the Commission. Due to the lack of sufficient information the program cannot become effective in the immediate future.

Attention was given last year to the making of an oceanographic survey of the inshore waters of the Gulf. Such a program, suggested to be a joint state and federal project, has been acted upon favorably by the Commission and the Fish and Wildlife Service, and doubtless will be undertaken when funds and personnel become available.

In the past year Louisiana passed a law which allows non-resident fishermen the same rights as resident fishermen, including of course the right to pay the same licenses and taxes. Texas already had such a statute in effect. At the 1952 session of the Mississippi legislature a similar bill got on the calendar but did not come up for vote. Mississippi has a fishing agreement with both Louisiana and Alabama, the latter agreement having been consummated during the year just ending. Florida and Alabama have a shrimp fishery agreement of several years standing.

Working from a digest of the fishery laws of the several states, the Commission's attorneys and biologists met at Pensacola in July of this year, and certain recommendations came out of the meeting which are being studied by the Commission.

Mr. Albert Collier reported that FWS Gulf investigations had found the greatest concentration of fish eggs and larvae in the 1951 Gulf survey to be off lower Texas and the adjoining upper Mexican coast. Secondary concentrations were said to have been located off the west Louisiana coast, in the Apalachee Bay area of Florida and in the Campeche.

Work continues on the analysis of sea water according to Mr. Collier. He said it is hoped the determination of the nitrates, phosphates and the indication of proteins in the form of amino acids and the carbohydrates will furnish essential background data for the study of all stages in the life history of the fishes. The speaker said much attention is being given to a study of the sub-surface movement of organisms known to be essential fish food. The general survey of the Gulf will require another year, according to Mr. Collier, because additional information is needed in connection with the several projects mentioned above and others of a less important nature.

For a resume of the activities during the past year and plans for the future in connection with Gulf exploratory fishing, the Chairman called upon Mr. Stewart Springer. The speaker stated that the primary objectives during the 1951-52 season were shrimp and tuna with each being prosecuted according to the periods of relative known abundance. He went on to say that the general shrimp survey is to be completed in this calendar year after which a complete report will be rendered. Mr. Springer did not go into detail as to results of shrimp explorations for the past year because the report was passed out to the conferees, (Fishery Leaflet 406). However, he did say that no new areas of good shrimp fishing had been discovered in 1952 although much data essential to complete the overall picture had been accumulated.

The speaker described attempts to capture bonita or little tuna off the Dry Tortugas as being unsuccessful with the purse seine but said successful fishing for this species was accomplished with shrimp trawl trash fish for chum when fishing with handlines and jackpoles. Mr. Springer said that present plans are to devote more time to tuna explorations in the coming year, that it is hoped concentrations of blackfin tuna and white skipjack will be found.

A record of the species of fishes taken incidental to shrimp trawling by the OREGON was passed out, this data having been compiled at the Commission's request and for the benefit of anyone who might be interested in the utilization of trash fish.

A very interesting discussion period followed Mr. Springer's talk regarding the locating of concentrations of shrimp by first making bottom temperature checks. The discussion developed that it is possible that a correlation does exist between temperatures and shrimp concentrations but it was pointed out that enough data has not been collected to the present time to determine if such a correlation does exist.

In addressing the meeting on the subject of the Gulf oceanographic survey, which is being conducted in connection with the FWS ALASKA's operation by the Department of Oceanography, Texas A&M College, Mr. Richard M. Adams of that department first spoke on the various projects of a hydrological character which are now being carried out in both Louisiana and Texas and which programs would develop considerable information of importance to the fishing industry.

Turning to the Gulf proper, Mr. Adams said that the currents which enter the Gulf of Mexico through the Yucatan divide, with one part looping and then proceeding through the Florida Straits and the other body seeming to proceed in the general direction of the mouth of the Mississippi river. He also said that the main transport of water to the middle and upper Gulf seemed to branch into an east and west current with little or no exchange between the two. The speaker mentioned several other observations of general interest and concluded by saying that a complete report of findings to date will be available in the immediate future.

In discussion Mr. Gunn asked Mr. Adams if oceanographic observations had progressed to the point that the migratory pattern of the long-range pelagic fishes, such as tuna, could be determined. Mr. Adams said that sufficient data had not been collected to make such predictions possible. It was also pointed out that factors such as food, temperatures and other controlling influences would have to be correlated with data on currents before such an overall migratory pattern could be determined.

Mr. Whiteleather was introduced to speak on the subject of landing records. A digest of the status of fishery statistics for the Gulf States was distributed. Chief consideration was given to the improving of the states' statistical data, particularly that of shrimp landings. It seemed to be the consensus of thinking that shrimp landings should be recorded by area of catch and by species, the same applying to menhaden.

In order to bring the landing records of the Gulf States to maximum utility, Mr. Whiteleather said the Service should have four statistical agents in the area instead of the one and one half agents now so employed. In discussion, shrimp people present promised full cooperation at Brownsville in reporting on shrimp.

Mr. Whiteleather remained at the speaker's desk and gave a resume of preliminary observations involving the brine freezing of shrimp at sea. A printed report on this subject was distributed. Pending further tests on brine-freezing shrimp, the speaker recommended for current commercial application that:

1. Only fresh firm whole or headed shrimp be brine frozen.
2. Shrimp be removed from the brine within 4 hours after freezing rinsed in fresh cold water (34-36 deg. F.) and stored at 0 deg. F.
3. The temperature of the brine be maintained at 10 deg. F. or below to minimize salt absorption.
4. Brine frozen whole shrimp be thawed ashore in fresh running water at 60 deg. F. for 15 minutes, headed immediately, washed in fresh water, packaged, either glazed or overwrapped with moisture vapor proof film and stored at 0 deg. F.

Mr. Baughman serving as discussion leader for a panel composed of members of the Commission's scientific committee, referred to the meeting of the attorneys and biologists at Pensacola in July at which time consideration was given to the improvement of state fishery laws. He said that because of the lack of conclusive scientific information on the life histories of the fin fishes, including menhaden, the scientific committee had no recommendations relative to either sizes or closed seasons. He stated that the committee saw no reason for restrictive laws governing the blue crab fishery since it appeared that that fishery was under-prosecuted at the present time. Mr. Baughman further stated that the scientists did not feel that the taking of the female crab in the spawning state would do injury to the future population.

In the discussion period the consensus was that blue crab production was below normal, not because of a diminished fishing effort brought about by restrictive measures now imposed, but because of a general lack of crabs.

Dr. Hopkins stated that the scientists recommended a uniform closed season on oysters beginning at midnight May 15 and ending at midnight September 30. He said the views of the biologists were based on increasing the annual poundage produced, that the recommendation was biological in character. In the discussion period which followed the economic picture of the closed season extending thru September was developed. The thinking appeared to be that, while it was believed a greater poundage could be realized if such a recommendation was put into effect by the states, the increased yield would not compensate for the dollar losses.

Dr. Idyll told of the 1951-52 mullet investigations in West Florida. He said it was possible some recommendations would be made to the Florida legislature in May but that such recommendations would first be considered in the light of the economic as well as the biological advantages.

Mr. Manuel Sanchez, shrimp producer, gave a very interesting account of the development of the Texas shrimp industry. He spoke of the very rapid development of the industry at various of the Texas ports and with reference to Brownsville he said that in the past year a total of approximately 25,000,000 pounds of shrimp was handled through the port. The speaker mentioned that about 300 shrimp trawlers were now making port at Brownsville. Mr. Sanchez described the shore handling facilities as having kept pace with the increased production. In concluding the speaker told of the advancements that are being made with regard to quality control and packaging.

Mr. Dodgen had previously announced that a report of the Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws would be heard at the executive session on Friday the 17th, and with no further business to come before the open session, the meeting stood adjourned at 3:15 PM. Following adjournment the Commissioners and their guests enjoyed a conducted tour of the shrimp handling facilities at the port of Brownsville.

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

M I N U T E S

EXECUTIVE SESSION, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS (OCTOBER 17, 1952)

Mr. Harris and Miss Schulman were the only members of the legal committee present and the former, being chairman of that committee, reviewed for the benefit of the Commissioners some of the fishery laws which were considered by the attorneys and the secretary-treasurer at the July Pensacola meeting. Mr. Harris stated that the committee did not have any specific recommendations to make but was desirous of getting the views of the Commissioners on some subjects that were discussed at Pensacola. Reading from a digest of some of the fishery laws of the Gulf States which was prepared by the New Orleans office, Mr. Harris cited a number which if made uniform might work to the economic advantage of industry. He mentioned the wide variation from state to state in the restrictions of bar mesh and overall length of nets used in the various fisheries; the difference in the cubical content of oyster barrels except in the case of Alabama and Mississippi in which states the barrel measurements are identical, and others. He pointed out that since the trend appeared to be toward non-resident fishermen being accorded the same privileges as resident fishermen uniformity in laws and regulations seems an economic necessity.

At the opening of the subject for discussion, Mr. Gunn stated that his office would issue a digest of state licenses and taxes as concern occupation, boats and gear in the near future. He said that reports had been received from four of the five states and as soon as the fifth reported consolidation could proceed. In discussion it developed that the states wished additional information added to the digest, including retail and wholesale dealer licenses, transport licenses and severance taxes. The consensus of opinion appeared to be that present tax laws are confusing and that individual items are taxed too many times.

It was decided that further study be made of all fishery laws with view of eventually developing statutes which would be easy to interpret by industry and thus eliminate the large volume of correspondence made necessary by the laws not being readily understandable.

Mr. Whiteleather was called upon by the Chairman to explain the Kennedy Bill, H. R. 6862, from the standpoint of how the Bill might have served to make additional funds available to FWS. He explained that the Bill would have provided \$3,000,000 annually to the Interior Department for certain fisheries work, such monies being supplied by the Department of Agriculture from funds derived from custom collections in the form of duties on imported fishery products.

According to Mr. Whiteleather the Bill provided for \$2,000,000 being made available for the purchase of surplus fishery products, \$1,000,000 for other work including \$750,000 for fishery educational service, technology and related research and \$250,000 to develop and increase markets for domestic fishery products.

In discussion it was brought out that while H. R. 6862 is dead, undoubtedly similar legislation would be introduced at some future time and it was deemed advisable that the Commission decide which parts of such a bill would be acceptable. After a lengthy discussion it was brought out that some portion of the revenue being derived from imported fishery products should be diverted directly to the Interior Department rather than coming to that department from the Department of Agriculture. The Commission, on motion by Col. Kurtz, seconded by Mr. Johnston, voted unanimously for the adoption of a resolution to be directed to the congressional delegations of the several states, stating its opposition to the allocation of federal funds for the purchase of surplus fishery products, or for the promotion of fishery products not produced by an American fishery. The resolution adopted approves legislation which would divert funds for educational work designed exclusively to gain a wider acceptance of products of the American fisheries and for the development of an adequate fisheries statistical program. Copy of resolution is attached to these minutes.

Since it appeared to be the thinking of Commissioners that the overall fisheries statistical program on the Gulf was inadequate, the discussion period continued with the consideration of ways and means of improving the system. It was recognized that if FWS was to undertake an improved program it would be necessary for the Federal Government to supply additional funds. The procurement of money that would be necessary for such a program (as estimated for 1st year, \$24,000 for 2½ additional statistical agents, making 4 in all) through diversion from an already established source such as outlined in the Kennedy Bill, seemed to be well in the future. It was brought out in discussion that the Commission felt that the Service could improve the system, including the separation of the shrimp catch by area and species, provided the marine fishery agencies of the several states and the headquarters office of the Commission assisted in the work.

It was pointed out by the secretary that a resolution was adopted at Tampa, Florida, January 20, 1950, which resolution petitioned the proper state agencies to cooperate with the Commission and FWS in the collection of statistical information. He stated that Texas was already reporting on a monthly basis when the resolution was adopted and is continuing to do so; that the Mississippi and Florida monthly reports were started as a result of the resolution and continue; that the Alabama report was started but had not been rendered for the current year, and that Louisiana had not undertaken to issue reports monthly.

Mr. Johnston proposed a resolution to be directed to state marine fishery authorities asking for their cooperation in improving catch records for the states and indicating that the Commission secretary was instructed to coordinate the work between the states and the FWS. Col. Kurtz seconded the motion and upon vote the resolution was adopted. Copy of resolution is attached.

Mr. William C. Herrington, Department of State, discussed matters of interest to the Commission, same being of a classified nature, and for that reason what he had to say is not incorporated in these minutes.

Minutes of the spring Commission meeting were accepted by the Commission without being read. Mr. Johnston made the motion with Mr. McConnell seconding same.

Motion was made by Mr. Grizzaffi to the effect that the annual Commission audit for the year 1951-52 be accepted as prepared by the New Orleans certified public accounting firm of Moses, Rittler and Company. Col. Kurtz seconded the motion and upon vote the audit was accepted as rendered.

The budget of Commission expenses, prepared by the officers of the Commission as specified in rules and regulations, was presented in mimeograph form to the Commissioners. A budget of \$14,444 was adopted by the Commission following motion by Col. Kurtz to that effect and a second by Mr. Grizzaffi. The budget included, over last year's actual operating expenses, an increase of approximately \$500 in travelling expenses for the secretary-treasurer and an increase in salary of \$25 per month, from November 1 forward, for the office secretary. Copy of the 1952-53 budget is attached.

Miss Mary Schulman spoke briefly on H. R. 676, a Yorty Bill which was passed by the House of Representatives on July 3, and resulting in a subcommittee of the House Interior Committee being set up to study the seaward boundaries of the United States during the remainder of this Congress. She said that Florida had requested the U. S. Geodetic Survey office in that state to prepare a map illustrating the application of such a bill to its coastline. The secretary-treasurer was requested to inform the three state directors who were not present at the meeting that such a service might also be procured in their states.

The recommendation of the biologists with regard to the relaxing of restrictions on the blue crab fishery, as a means of increasing production, came up for discussion. It was the consensus of opinion of the Commissioners that crab production was not down because of restrictions imposed on the fishery but because of a shortage of crabs. Mr. Grizzaffi offered a resolution to the effect that the proper authorities in each state be requested to conduct a crab investigation. The motion was adopted by the Commission following a second by Col. Kurtz. Copy of resolution is attached. It was decided that the recommendation made by the biologists concerning the abolishing of blue crab fishing restrictions be given further consideration.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of the Commission scientists' recommendation that the oyster open season be extended to May 15th of each year and that the summer closed season be extended to include all of the month of September each year. Col. Kurtz proposed a resolution to the effect that the proper authority in each of the compacted states be requested to

make a concentrated study of the oyster depletion problem. Motion was seconded by Mr. Grizzaffi and adopted by vote of the Commission. Copy of resolution is attached. It was decided that the recommendation made by the biologists concerning the oyster season be a subject for further study.

Col. Kurtz offered a resolution to the effect that all Commissioners who have previously served on the Commission be considered as honorary Commission members, without vote, and that they be advised of this action on the part of the Commissioners. The suggested resolution was adopted when put to vote following Mr. Vathis' second. Copy of resolution is attached.

*Cancelled
see
written*

Col. Kurtz offered a resolution to the effect that the valuable legal assistance which has been rendered by Miss Mary Schulman of Florida and Mr. A. J. Harris, Jr. of Alabama, be recognized by the Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vathis and upon vote adopted by the Commission. Copy of resolution is attached.

Mr. Johnston made motion to the effect that the next regular meeting of the Commission be held at Mobile, or in the vicinity of that city. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vathis and upon vote, passed. This meeting will occur on the third Friday in April, 1953.

Coming last on the agenda was the election of officers for the ensuing year. Mr. McConnell made a motion to the effect that Mr. Dodgen continue as Chairman and Mr. Gautier as Vice-Chairman of the Commission. Motion passed after having been seconded by Mr. Johnston.

The Commission Chairman requested the secretary-treasurer to furnish him the names of individuals eligible for membership on the Commission's legal and scientific committees after clearance with the fishery directors of the several states.

The Mississippi delegation was not present and therefore did not participate in the voting at this session.

With no further business to come before the executive session, the third annual meeting of the Commission came to an end at 12:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

(M-14 102452)

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS (OCTOBER 17, 1952)

CORRECTION TO THESE MINUTES

Cancel paragraphs 2 and 3, page 10 and referred to resolutions, and insert following:

"Col. Kurtz offered a resolution to the effect that all Commissioners who had previously served on the Commission, and Commission committee members, Miss Mary Schulman and Mr. A. J. Harris, Jr., be considered as honorary members of the Commission, without vote, and that they be advised of such action in recognition of their valued services. The suggested resolution was adopted when put to vote following Mr. Vathis' second. Copy of resolution is attached."

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is deeply appreciative of the splendid cooperation which has been received from certain individuals who have served either as a Commissioner or in a like capacity on the parent continuing conference committee or as a member of one of the Commission committees; and

WHEREAS the Commission feels that the success of this fisheries compact of the five Gulf States is attributable in good measure to the efforts of these individuals; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that Messrs. Bert E. Thomas, Phillip J. Hamm, James H. Faulkner and A. J. Harris, Jr. of Alabama, Mr. Bryant Patton and Miss Mary Schulman of Florida, Mr. Naif Jordan of Mississippi and Mr. James N. McConnell of Louisiana, be named honorary members of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED that this acknowledgement of gratitude be conveyed to the individuals herein cited.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, October 17, 1952, 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 concerned with the development and proper utilization of the fisheries of the Gulf Coast States; and

WHEREAS it appears likely that at some future time the Congress of the United States will give consideration to legislation relating to the diversion of funds for use in various categories of fisheries work, such as are presented in H. R. 6862-Kennedy (82nd Congress); now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is opposed to such legislation as would make federal funds available for the purpose of purchasing surplus fishery products; and be it further

RESOLVED that this Commission favors legislation which would result in a direct and recurring allocation to the Department of the Interior of a portion of the monies derived from duties collected on imported fishery products provided such funds are used in the conduct of an educational program designed exclusively to gain a wider acceptance of products of the American fisheries and thus assist in the development of such fisheries, and for providing such complete and current statistical records as are considered necessary to the proper management of the fisheries; and further, that the Congressional Delegations of the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas be advised of this action on the part of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, October 17, 1952, 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 by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission that the reporting of statistical data in regard to the salt water fisheries by its member states is of prime importance; and be it further

RESOLVED that the proper authorities of each of the compacted states be requested to furnish statistical information in regard to their marine fishery products on a minimum standard as prescribed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and that the state officials be advised that the secretary of the Commission is being instructed to coordinate this work between the states and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, October 17, 1952, 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

BUDGET

Fiscal Year 1952-53

Salaries	\$ 9,800.00
Rent - Office	1,080.00
Bond and Insurance Premiums	238.00
Accounting Fees	175.00
Telephone and Telegraph	380.00
Electric Lights	56.00
Travel - Personal and Auto	1,500.00
Postage	65.00
Stationery, Printing and Office Supplies	540.00
Furniture, Fixtures and Maintenance	100.00
Subscriptions	10.00
Reserve for Depreciation	<u>500.00</u>
	\$ 14,444.00

Approved by the Commission October 17, 1952.

A RESOLUTION


WHEREAS the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is concerned with the development and proper utilization of the fisheries of the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas; and

WHEREAS it has come to the attention of this Commission that the total blue crab production for the Gulf States is in a state of decline; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that each state director of marine fisheries on this Commission be requested to investigate the situation insofar as his state is concerned and advise the Commission of such measures as should be taken to return production to former levels, provided a state of decline is in evidence, and additionally, to suggest such procedure as might be followed to bring about an overall increased blue crab production.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, October 17, 1952, 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 concerned with the development and proper utilization of the fisheries of the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas; and

WHEREAS it has come to the attention of this Commission that the total oyster production for the Gulf States is in a state of decline; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that each state director of marine fisheries on this Commission be requested to investigate the situation insofar as his state is concerned and advise the Commission of such measures as should be taken to return production to former levels, provided a state of decline is in evidence, and additionally, to suggest such procedure as might be followed to bring about an overall increased oyster production.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, October 17, 1952, 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 deeply appreciative of the splendid cooperation which has been received from certain individuals who have served either as a Commissioner or in a like capacity on the parent continuing conference committee or as a member of one of the Commission committees; and

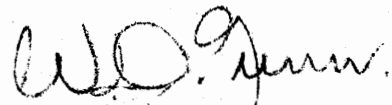
WHEREAS the Commission feels that the success of this fisheries compact of the five Gulf States is attributable in good measure to the efforts of these individuals; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that Messrs. Bert E. Thomas, Phillip J. Hamm, James H. Faulkner and A. J. Harris, Jr. of Alabama, Mr. Bryant Patton and Miss Mary Schulman of Florida, Mr. Maif Jordan of Mississippi and Mr. James N. McConnell of Louisiana, be named honorary members of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED that this acknowledgement of gratitude be conveyed to the individuals herein cited.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, October 17, 1952, 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
Brownsville, Texas
El Jardin Hotel

COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SESSION

Friday, October 17, 1952

(Mr. Howard Dodgen, Presiding)

9:30 AM Roll Call of Commissioners and Proxies.

Mr. Whiteleather reporting on availability of funds for additional shrimp statistical data.

Miss Schulman reporting on Yorty Bill.

Mr. Herrington discussing miscellaneous subjects.

* * * * *

Report of Secretary:

Minutes Last Meeting.
Audit 1951-52.
Budget of Expenses 1952-53.
Current Financial Status.

Commission Action, if any:

Shrimp Statistical Data Plan.
Kennedy Bill.
Yorty Bill.
Anything Mr. Herrington may have suggested.
Public Law 569-82nd Congress.
Recommendations of Biologists
Oysters, Blue Crabs, Other.
Recommendations of Attorneys
Sizes, Seasons, Nets, Other.
Other Subjects:

Regular Meeting, April 16-17, 1953.....Where?

Election of Officers and Appointment of Committees for
Year 1952-53.

Adjournment.

V
NEW ORLEANS - JUNG HOTEL

APRIL 18, 1952 - Meeting M-13

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

New Orleans, Louisiana
Jung Hotel--Map Room
April 18, 1952

AGENDA

9:00 AM CALL TO ORDER, Mr. Howard D. Dodgen, Commission Chairman, Presiding.
ROLL CALL and INTRODUCTIONS.
WELCOME, Mr. Ernest S. Clements, Louisiana Commissioner.

DISCUSSIONS

MARINE FISHERIES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.

SHRIMP ECONOMIC SURVEY.

INSHORE OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY.

GULF INVESTIGATIONS:

Fishery Biology
Oceanography

DEVELOPING THE GULF FISHERIES:

Exploratory Fishing and Gear Development Progress.
Development of the Deep Sea Fisheries:

Red Snapper	Flounders
Groupers	Tuna
Bluefish	Menhaden
Spanish Mackerel	Blue Runner
King Mackerel	Crevalle
Pompano	Scrap Fish

FISHERY TECHNOLOGY:

Freezing Shrimp at Sea.
Bio-chemical Reactions in Shrimp.

BETTER UTILIZATION OF THE SHORE FISHERIES.

Those Possibly Under-Fished in Some States.
Those Possibly Over-Fished in Some States.

OPEN for Discussion Other Subjects.

2:30 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION and COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

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

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

REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 18, 1952
JUNG HOTEL, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE OF COMMISSIONERS:

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

COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

A. J. Harris, Jr., 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, Philip Butler, Albert Collier, John A. Dassow,
S. C. Denham, Fred F. Johnson, C. H. Lyles, Stewart Springer, R. T. Whiteleather.

REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRY AND OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Lange, Everett T. Dawson, Harry Schafer, Dale F. Leipper, Thos. B. Holcombe, C. S. Yeomans, A. J. Wegmann, Eunice Vinet, L. Philip Caillouet, M. K. Lawrenz, Guy Lewis, Bert E. Thomas, G. Walters, S. E. McCormack, J. Elion, S. W. Corbino, Lola Anderson.

The Commission Chairman, Mr. H. D. Dodgen, called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and introduced Mr. J. N. McConnell, representing Commissioner Ernest Clements, who extended a cordial welcome to the Commissioners and their guests.

Mr. Dodgen announced that all subjects appearing on the program would be treated informally with full time being devoted to discussion periods. All conferees were invited to participate in the discussions.

Mr. Everett T. Dawson, who is in charge of conservation education for the Texas Game and Fish Commission, was called upon to lead a discussion dealing with the subject, "Marine Fisheries Education", a subject which the Commission decided to be deserving of study at its last Annual Meeting. Mr. Dawson distributed an outline he had prepared dealing with the approach to the inaugurating of such a program and other pertinent details including the arrangement of subject matter and the disseminating of the information thru various media. The discussion period which followed revolved principally around the media which would be best suited for presenting the subject matter. The Commission Secretary reported on the approximate cost for sound and colored film and booklets of various numbers of pages and quantities. Following a rather lengthy discussion participated in freely by the Commissioners the consensus of expressed thinking appeared to be that visual education in the form of motion pictures would probably be the most effective and in the long run a less expensive manner in which to present the story of the marine fisheries of the Gulf area to all ages.

The Chairman called upon Mr. Gunn for a status report on the suggested shrimp economic survey and the suggested inshore oceanographic survey, both of which were approved by the Commission at its October Biloxi meeting.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that he had followed-up the Commission's endorsement of a shrimp economic survey, which survey appeared by industry present at the last Commission meeting to be a possible means of consolidating industry's two schools of thought concerning the application of controls on importations of that commodity, by writing interested and representative organizations. He stated no response to letters written several months ago either approving or disapproving such a survey had been received by the Commission's headquarters office. It was pointed out that it would be necessary for industry to pay for such a survey if undertaken in the near future by the Fish and Wildlife Service because the Service was without funds for such a project, and also without the necessary staff because of the congressionally directed and financed tuna economic survey now in progress and not due for completion until early January 1953. Mr. Gunn stated

he was not in possession of sufficient information to state if industry as a whole favorably regarded such a survey even if the expense entailed could be assumed by other than industry. In concluding the report, the speaker referred to the current sales promotional activities of industry as a possible indication that industry's thinking might be that current shrimp supplies could be consumed by an expanded market and satisfactory price levels maintained. Mr. T. B. Holcombe, President, National Shrimp Cannery and Packers Association, stated his association was not opposed to a survey of the shrimp industry but they thought the expense should be taken care of out of government funds as in the case of the tuna industry. A brief discussion period followed during which Mr. A. W. Anderson of the Fish and Wildlife Service explained the plight of the tuna industry as presented to Congress and the progress made by that west coast industry in the direction of import limitations legislation.

In reporting on the follow-up of the Commission-approved oceanographic survey of the inshore waters, the Secretary stated that all interested parties seemed favorable in their reaction to the resolution recommending these scientific investigations, the states and Fish and Wildlife Service alike, but that it would require in the neighborhood of \$15,000.00 being expended for equipment and staff at a central laboratory, Galveston, for an initial year's work and that the Service had reported such monies were not available.

Mr. Dodgen called on Mr. W. W. Anderson, Fish and Wildlife Service, Galveston, for a report on the progress being made in the biological and oceanographic survey of the Gulf. Mr. Anderson stated that the program was now into its second phase, the initial survey of the Gulf having been completed. He said his laboratory had been able to keep pretty well up to-date in working up chemical data from the analysis of sea water taken on the several cruises but, because of the lack of background information available on the life histories of the Gulf fishes and the tedious nature of developing such data, that phase of the program was a bit behind the chemical determinations. In conclusion, the scientist reported that several publications concerning initial Gulf investigations would be available shortly which should be of considerable interest.

The Chairman introduced Dr. Dale F. Leipper of Texas A&M College who is directing an oceanographic survey of the Gulf in connection with the Galveston activity. Dr. Leipper stated the analysis of the first three cruises of the ALASKA, which covered the entire Gulf, developed some very interesting information concerning the currents of the Gulf, namely, that the currents of the Yucatan channel do not turn directly around the coast of Cuba and pass out thru the straits of Florida but move upward into the Gulf some 500 - 600 miles and swing around a loop and come back; that there appears to be little exchange between the eastern Gulf and the western Gulf. Dr. Leipper also stated there appears to be movement of water at all depths in the Gulf.

Mr. Stewart Springer reported, following introduction by Mr. Dodgen, that the OREGON was now on cruise off the Texas coast and was scheduled to return to Pascagoula via the Yucatan following a visit off the west Mexican coast. He reported the current cruise reports show white shrimp off Trinity Shoals and the mouth of the Mississippi River at greater distances than heretofore, with numerous boats working the fishery in depths of over 20 fathoms. Brown shrimp were said to have been found outside the range of the white shrimp but not in quantities large enough to warrant fishermen undertaking prosecution of the fishery. Mr. Springer said his section was still endeavoring to develop gear which could be satisfactorily employed by the fleet in the taking of red shrimp at 200 - 250 fathoms; that his observation is that shrimp fishing is gradually extending further seaward as boats are equipped with Loran and that more time is being spent on the fishing grounds due to the above and other navigational aids. A comprehensive printed report of the work of the OREGON will be available in about sixty days, according to the speaker.

Mr. Whiteleather told of a shrimp vessel which will be provided by the Gibbs Corporation, Jacksonville, Florida, shipbuilders, for cooperative work with the Service for a period of one year in the South Atlantic and the Gulf. He said they will work for a part of the year with the mid-water trawl. The speaker answering question by Mr. McConnell, stated he was very optimistic over prospect of using mid-water trawling to advantage in the Gulf.

Mr. Dodgen called upon the Secretary to lead a discussion of the various pelagic species of fin fishes which have been under exploration and others which may be integrated into the exploratory program.

Speaking of the red snapper fisheries, which have been given secondary consideration in the program, Mr. Springer said he believed the new electric reels will prove valuable to industry in increasing production because this new gear will permit fishing at depths greater than is now feasible with the conventional hand line. He said industry is generally of the opinion that the fishery can stand greater exploitation and that such exploitation would not hurt the market, since the snapper supply is considerably short of the demand. What is true of the red snapper is also true of the grouper because these fishes generally appear on the same fishing grounds, according to Mr. Springer.

Mr. Wegmann of industry pointed out that the demand for spanish mackerel, pompano and flounder in local and nearby markets greatly exceeded the supply. Recently, he said, he purchased 75,000 pounds of flounders produced off the Jersey coast. He added that king mackerel and bluefish, while in short demand in the local and nearby markets, could be promoted. Mr. Wegmann placed crevalle in the same category as the king mackerel and bluefish, as a fishery which should be developed, but referred to it as a species which would help to satisfy a call for less expensive fishery products. In conclusion he said it was his thinking fishermen would be more inclined to diversification if they knew when and where to prosecute species now in low production but in good demand.

Dr. Gowanloch told of the presence of considerable quantities of pompano off the Louisiana coast as evidenced by the numbers being landed in waters near the oil rigs. In this connection Mr. Baughman said the seine hauls on the outer Texas beaches in June, July and August produced great numbers of small pompano, sufficient to indicate the presence of a large offshore population. He also pointed out that the flounders taken by shrimp trawlers in depths of 120-130 feet were undoubtedly inshore flounders that spend about two months of the year on the spawning grounds in the stated depths. Mr. Springer stated that both butter and harvest fish were taken in the mid-water trawling venture last summer. He thought there to be a possibility of catching pompano with this gear when it is tried again this summer.

Mr. Yeomans told the conferees of the establishing of a plant in Pascagoula to can so-called scrap fish for cat and dog food. In connection with this enterprise, Mr. Yeomans asked if it would be possible to obtain a breakdown by species of the fish taken in the shrimp trawl, which Mr. Springer agreed to do at the Pascagoula office. Mr. Springer is going to furnish the Commission with similar data obtained from the shrimp trawling operations of the OREGON.

Turning to the subject of freezing shrimp at sea, Mr. Dodgen called upon Mr. John A. Dassow who has been detailed by the Service to set in motion such a program of research on the Gulf. Mr. Dassow stated the experiments started in mid-March were with brine solution at near zero degrees Fahrenheit; that shrimp subjected to the treatment would have to be examined in the laboratory at different durations from time of freezing, which made it impossible to report on the work at this early date. It is felt by the Service, according to Mr. Dassow, that the quick handling of shrimp from the time the trawl is dragged in to the time the shrimp are given the benefit of preserving refrigeration is of paramount importance in the retention of high quality in the product. He said the relatively high water and air temperatures encountered in the area, especially the south Gulf, made it desirable to reduce the temperature of the shrimp as quickly as possible and thereafter hold same at a consistently low figure. This technological program is expected to also take into consideration the economical adaptation of the shrimp boats to the use of the brine refrigerant, said the speaker.

Mr. Guy Lewis of industry told of some experiments in freezing shrimp at sea which were conducted several years ago. The FWS exploratory section will endeavor to secure this background data from LSU as suggested by Mr. Lewis.

The Chairman next called upon Mr. Fred F. Johnson of Defense Fisheries Administration, Washington. Mr. Johnston stated it appears now that the supply of materials most needed by the fishing industry is easing up and indications pointed to an adequate supply in the months ahead provided defense demands and production progressed as might be anticipated.

Commissioner Kurtz, recently returned from a trip outside the country, told of the progress being made in the development of foreign

fisheries and of promotional activities in the direction of building larger fleets, particularly shrimp trawler fleets. Messrs. Holcombe and Wegmann expressed a feeling that the shrimp industry of this country was due to suffer greatly in the future unless some regulatory controls were applied against shrimp imports from foreign countries.

Mr. Dodgen asked Dr. C. P. Idyll for a review of recent findings in the control of "black spot" in shrimp. Working with pink shrimp taken from the Key West fishery, Dr. Idyll said it had been found that the storage life of fresh shrimp was prolonged by holding them in refrigerated sea water at something less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. He said no difference was observed up to 10 days but that after 12 and up to 24 days the shrimp given only the benefit of water ice showed black spot.....those held in refrigerated sea water escaped black spot. According to Dr. Idyll, black spot is attributable to the oxidation of enzymes which is prevented when oxygen is cut off from the shrimp thru the freezing in sea water process. It was also found, said the speaker, that shrimp when transported to market under water ice after landing at port, holds up much better if the commodity had previously been frozen in sea water as against being held in the conventional manner.

Mr. Dodgen announced an afternoon meeting (2:30 PM) of the Commission attorneys and scientists to discuss size limits as related to the inshore fin fishes of the Gulf. He also announced that the Commissioners would meet in executive session at 3:00 PM.

With no further business to come before the open session, the Chairman called for adjournment at 1:15 PM.

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

M I N U T E S

EXECUTIVE SESSION, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA (APRIL 18, 1952)

Mr. Dodgen called the session to order at 3:00 PM and recognized Dr. J. N. Gowanloch, scientific committee chairman, for a report on the meeting of scientists. Dr. Gowanloch stated it to be the consensus of opinion among the scientists (Messrs. Gowanloch, Hopkins, Baughman and Idyll present---Bell absent) not to take action on the uniformity of sizes of the inshore fin fishes since no enforcement problems resulting from the lack of uniformity had come to their attention.

Dr. Gowanloch stated that the scientists also discussed closed seasons for the shrimp fishery and in this connection the consensus of opinion was that no evidence was available to cause a change in the opinion previously submitted to the Commission, which closed season recommendations appear in Commission Informational Bulletin No. 1.

The Chairman asked if a reading of the last regular meeting minutes was desired. Commissioner Vathis made a motion to the effect that the minutes of the October 18-19, 1951 Biloxi meeting stand approved as transcribed by the Secretary and previously furnished the Commissioners. Mr. McConnell seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion unanimously carried.

The Secretary was called upon to report on progress made since the last meeting in developing information relative to production and unit sale prices for dead oyster shells for the five states. It was reported that the overall production for 1951, exclusive of Louisiana, which state's figures were not available, was approximately 10,000,000 cubic yards and that the 1951 prices per cubic yard ran from about 6.5¢ to 10¢. At present, Mr. Gunn stated unit sales prices per cubic yard to be:

Alabama	10 cents
Florida	10 cents
Louisiana	7.5 cents
Mississippi	10 cents
Texas	7.5 cents

It was pointed out that the 1951 Texas production and revenue was the highest among the states, for which figures were available, being 8,461,659 cu. yards at \$592,316.00.

The Chairman urged the state directors on the Commission to keep the Secretary fully informed regarding all matters relating to dead shell

sales so that he would be in position to continue to keep other states advised on a current basis as to the handling of this resource.

A general discussion followed which brought out that the dead oyster shells were being sold at a comparatively low price by the states.

Mr. Johnston proposed a resolution to the effect that the proper authorities of the compacted states be advised of the Commission's study of the dead oyster shell fishery and their conclusion that unit sale prices were too low. Also, that it be recommended prices be increased and that monies derived from dead oyster shell sales be expended in furtherance of the oyster and marine fisheries work. And, additionally, that the taking of dead oyster shells be strictly regulated.

Commissioner Johnston put the resolution in motion for adoption. Colonel Kurtz seconded same, and upon vote the resolution was adopted by the Commission. Resolution is attached to these minutes.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported a Commission cash balance as of March 31 of \$12,872.66 and estimated a residue of \$8,000.00 to \$8,500.00 at the close of the current fiscal year, June 30.

State membership dues was the next topic for discussion. The Secretary-Treasurer was directed at the October, 1951 Biloxi meeting to study the matter of revising the schedule of state appropriations for the operating expenses of the Commission and present a prospectus at the April, 1952 meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer presented a prospectus which he thought to be an equitable division of the Commission's operating expenses among the states (copy attached these minutes), explaining that the basis of figures was that of the primary value of the fisheries to the states. Two exhibits appeared in prospectus which were explained to be; one, if no cooperative outside work was to be undertaken with other agencies, and another based upon such work being anticipated. Referring to the prospectus, Mr. Gunn called attention to the table showing the value of the fisheries by states for various years. He said the Alabama, Florida and Texas figures were furnished as final by FWS, but that Louisiana and Mississippi figures were preliminary.

In discussion, Mr. Johnston said he believed the Commission should not participate in matters involving expense which was not directly chargeable to the operating expenses of the Commission. Mr. Dodgen expressed himself similarly. The consensus of opinion appeared to be in line with comments by Messrs. Johnston and Dodgen.

Mr. Johnston expressed opinion that the current membership dues of Florida (\$3,500) and Louisiana (\$5,000) were enough and to this Mr. Dodgen agreed. Mr. Johnston then said he would think if Texas could raise their appropriation \$1,500 per year, Mississippi \$1,000 and Alabama \$500, making a total of \$3,000, the required additional amount of operating funds would thereby be provided. A discussion period followed in which coast lines, fishery values and production were all considered as a basis for preparing a revised schedule of annual appropriations.

Colonel Kurtz proposed that the states be requested to appropriate the following amounts annually for the operating expenses of the Commission:

Alabama	\$2,000.00
Florida	3,500.00
Louisiana	5,000.00
Mississippi	2,000.00
Texas	<u>4,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 16,500.00

Dr. Holmes made motion to effect Colonel Kurtz's proposal be accepted. Motion was seconded by Mr. Vathis. The motion carried when put to vote of the Commission. Resolution is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Dodgen called upon Mr. A. J. Harris, chairman of the legal committee. Mr. Harris stated the legal committee had met and he wished to submit report of their session:

Mr. Harris stated it was the committee's recommendation that, since Mr. Sidney Cain was no longer connected with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, his successor be appointed by the Commission Chairman as a member of the legal committee. Mr. Dodgen appointed Mr. Charles Lange to the committee subject to the approval of Mr. Ernest S. Clements.

Mr. Harris also said that the Committee to Correlate Fishery Laws was anxious to make progress in the direction of unification and to that end the Committee expected to complete a schedule of all state fishery laws to indicate differences, then submit same to the Committee to Correlate Research and Exploratory Data for its recommendations. This the attorneys hoped to accomplish prior to the annual 1952 meeting so that final recommendations could be submitted to the Commissioners in advance of the meeting date.

According to Mr. Harris, the legal committee felt it to be its duty to recommend to the Commission that it make no further recommendations to Congress concerning the passing of legislation which would impose a quota on shrimp importations from foreign countries, and that the Commission not ask that a tariff be placed on importations of that fishery product. He said the attorneys felt that the law under which the Commission functions does not cover participation in economic matters of such character. Mr. Dodgen stated that the Commissioners at the Biloxi meeting seemed to be of the opinion that the Commission should confine its efforts strictly to matters of conservation as they pertain to the better utilization of the fisheries. He asked if there had been any change in their thinking in this respect. The consensus of opinion, brought out in a discussion which followed, was that the Commissioners had not changed their thinking in regard to participation in such matters.

Mr. Gautier offered a resolution which would be directed to Congress recommending that the United States not lend money to a foreign country for the construction of fishing vessels whose catch would enter into competition with products of American fisheries. Discussing the subject resolution, the consensus of opinion was that the Commission should not adopt such a recommendation. Mr. Gautier withdrew the resolution.

Mr. Gautier announced that the 1952 Mississippi Legislature had established a fisheries law which permits non-resident fishermen the privileges of resident fishermen upon the payment of licenses assessed the latter, the law being similar to that now in effect in Texas.

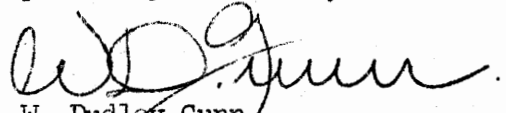
After discussion, the Commission decided to take no steps at this time to encourage a survey of the shrimp industry.

It was decided that the third annual Commission meeting will be held in Brownsville, Texas, October 16-17, 1952.

Because the hour was growing late, consideration of amendments to the Rules and Regulations was postponed.

With no further business to be presented, the Chairman adjourned the session at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission has found the total annual contribution of member states of thirteen thousand (\$13,000.00) dollars to be an inadequate sum to defray the operating expenses of the commission, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XII of the Compact, the proration and total cost per annum of thirteen thousand (\$13,000.00) dollars, above mentioned, was estimated only for initial operations and subject to change when found necessary by the commission and approved by the legislatures of the respective states,

Now therefore,

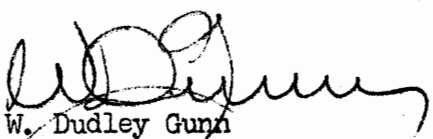
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission requests that the governors and legislatures of the states of Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas give favorable consideration to the approving of appropriations, as set forth below, to be made available yearly to the commission,

Florida	\$ 3,500.00
Alabama	2,000.00
Louisiana	5,000.00
Mississippi	2,000.00
Texas	4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 16,500.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the recommended schedule of appropriations, totalling sixteen thousand five hundred (\$16,500.00) dollars, replace the current schedule of appropriations as of July 1, 1953.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission held at New Orleans, Louisiana, April 18, 1952.


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

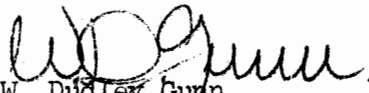
A RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission that its conclusion from the correlation of information made by it relating to the prosecution of the dead oyster shell fishery, which information consisted of pertinent statistical data from the compacted states, is that the prices for which dead oyster shells are now being sold by the five member states are too low and the Commission recommends to the authorities handling the sale of dead oyster shells in the member states that the price per cubic yard charged for the sale of dead oyster shells be substantially increased and that the monies thereby derived be expended in furtherance of oyster and marine fisheries work, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is recommended that the taking of dead oyster shells be strictly regulated by the member states.

* * * * *

The foregoing resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission held at New Orleans, Louisiana, April 18, 1952.


W. Dudley Gunn
Secretary-Treasurer

ANNUAL STATE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE EXPENSES
OF THE GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Public Law 66 - 81st Congress, Chapter 128-1st Session.
Alabama Act No. 51, House Bill 89, 1947,
Florida House Bill 427 - Chapter 24353 - 1947,
Louisiana Act No. 329 - House Bill No. 843-1948,
Mississippi Senate Bill No. 61 - Laws of Mississippi of 1950 - 1950,
Texas Senate Bill 164 - 51st Legislature - 1949, read as follows:

ARTICLE XII

"The operating expenses of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission shall be borne by the states party hereto. Such initial appropriations as are set forth below shall be made available yearly until modified as herein-after provided:

Florida	\$3,500.00
Alabama	1,000.00
Mississippi	1,000.00
Louisiana	5,000.00
Texas	<u>2,500.00</u>
	\$13,000.00

"The proration and total cost per annum of thirteen thousand (\$13,000.00) dollars, above mentioned, is estimative only, for initial operations, and may be changed when found necessary by the commission and approved by the legislatures of the respective states. Each state party hereto agrees to provide in the manner most acceptable to it, the travel costs and necessary expenses of its commissioners and other representatives to and from meetings of the commission or its duly constituted sections or committees."

PROSPECTUS:

Annual contribution from each state to be based on total primary market value (price paid fishermen) of the state's marine fishery products as recorded in the latest annual official fisheries report of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service available at the beginning of the Commission fiscal year, July 1.

Effective date of revised contribution schedule July 1, 1953.

U.S. FWS official report for 1950 to be used for fiscal year 1953-54.

EXHIBIT A

<u>Annual Contribution</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
\$ 50.00	\$ 100,000	\$ 1.	\$ 5,000,000
40.00	100,000	5,000,000	10,000,000
30.00	100,000	10,000,000	15,000,000
15.00	100,000	15,000,000	20,000,000
10.00	100,000	20,000,000	Not limited

- - -

EXHIBIT B

\$ 40.00	\$ 100,000	1.	\$ 5,000,000
35.00	100,000	5,000,000	10,000,000
30.00	100,000	10,000,000	15,000,000
15.00	100,000	15,000,000	20,000,000
10.00	100,000	20,000,000	Not limited

SCALE APPLICATION

	FWS-1950 VALUE OF FISHERIES	ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY COMPACTED STATES FROM:	
		<u>EXHIBIT A</u>	<u>EXHIBIT B</u>
Alabama	\$ 2,122,356	\$ 1,100.00	\$1,000.00
Florida	10,063,790	4,530.00	3,780.00
Louisiana	21,652,526	6,920.00	6,170.00
Mississippi	3,146,171	1,600.00	1,400.00
Texas	11,265,207	4,890.00	4,140.00
TOTAL	\$48,250,050	\$19,040.00	\$16,490.00

VALUE OF GULF FISHERIES FOR VARIOUS YEARS

	<u>1945</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Alabama	\$ 2,443,319	\$ 2,157,271	\$ 1,973,751	\$ 2,122,356
Florida	11,447,997	None	9,663,717	10,063,790
Louisiana	20,485,772	24,381,968	27,403,637	21,652,526
Mississippi	1,711,414	2,588,636	1,625,272	3,146,171
Texas	3,109,181	6,144,998	9,124,500	11,265,207
TOTAL	\$39,197,683	\$35,272,873	\$49,790,877	\$48,250,050

CONTRIBUTIONS AND OPERATING EXPENSES OF COMMISSIONS

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1951

	<u>Gulf</u>	<u>Atlantic</u>	<u>Pacific</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
Contributions from Member States	\$13,000.00	\$19,100.00	\$25,000.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Salaries	8,136.25	11,659.98	9,424.00
Rents	1,080.00	389.00	690.00
Traveling	2,041.02	1,589.87	2,912.21
Bonds and Insurance Premiums	117.27	249.15	126.22
Accounting Fees	125.00	125.00	200.00
Telephone and Telegraph	391.36	547.13	235.16
Electricity	44.65	14.29	-
Postage	104.21	348.11	150.89
Printing, Stationery, Office Supplies	641.67	1,068.69	716.02
Subscriptions	6.00	58.65	-
Social Security	-	75.60	-
Retirement Contributions	-	-	112.50
Miscellaneous Expenses	16.34	284.01	-
Contributions	100.00	-	-
Cooperative Research With Other Agencies	-	-	17,889.11
Depreciation: Auto & Furniture-Fixtures	244.89	-	-
Court Reporting-Meeting Expense	287.85	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,336.51	\$16,409.48	\$32,456.11
Excess of Receipts		\$ 2,690.52	
Excess of Expense	\$ 336.51		\$7,456.11