

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Law Enforcement Committee

New Orleans, Louisiana

March 14, 1979

A G E N D A

Introductions

Old Business

Minutes of GSMFC/ASMFC meeting of October 18, 1978

Discussion of updating of same topics

Discussion of same criteria from other agencies

New Business

NMFS, USCG & CDFG Agreement

Artificial Fishing Reefs

Sport versus Commercial Fishing

Licenses

Other Matters

Adjourn

LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION

ASMFC/GSMFC Meeting
October 18, 1978

The meeting was called to order by Colonel Clifford A. Willis, Director of the Division of Law Enforcement in the Florida Department of Natural Resources. Representatives from each of the visiting states presented a brief description of their respective divisions. Members of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service attended and spoke on the need for cooperation between state and federal agencies to enforce the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

One of the major concerns of the states is funding to enforce this added responsibility. Also, it was brought out that the various state law enforcement authorities should have input into the creation of the remaining fisheries plans. It was brought out that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission could be a viable lobby to make known to Congress the monetary requirements to enforce the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act.

Attached is a chart of information as furnished by each state. Unfortunately, part of the tape was unclear, and it would be appreciated if those states showing inadequate information would send me correct information along the same order as the other states shown. Also, to clarify the chart, I would appreciate the exact name of the division or department to which the information relates. When I receive the updated material, I will compile it into one report and send you the amended report.

A report was given for the Northeast Region of the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Foreign Observer Program was explained. This program consists of 19 personnel placed aboard foreign vessels permitted by law to fish off the northeast Atlantic. The observers are familiar with scientific, biological sampling and collect data. Although the observer does not have law enforcement authority per se, he is trained to obtain evidence and testify in court. The program is less than two years old and has already proven very effective.

There are some problems with the enforcement efforts in the domestic areas. Last year National Marine Fisheries agents in conjunction with the U. S. Coast Guard agents cited 338 domestic vessels for violations. Approximately 8,000 vessels are currently licensed. Over 90,000 citations are programmed into computers, and a sophisticated agency system for monitoring foreign catches has been established.

Presently, on a scheduled basis, 19 Coast Guard cutters are assigned to the NMFS to function on the East Coast. Aircraft are leased and approximately five flights per week are flown, weather

permitting.

In addition, the National Marine Fisheries Service has a marine mammal program on the East Coast.

A report on the Southeast Region of the NMFS was also given. Much the same activity is carried on in both regions with the exception of domestic enforcement.

To cope with the additional responsibilities of domestic enforcement, a training program for state officers is being developed to give them expertise in the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, Lacey Act, Black Bass Act, and federal court procedures. Two pilot training programs have been conducted under this cooperative state/federal enforcement effort for the upcoming domestic enforcement. The states will be contacted sometime in February or March of 1979 to determine convenient time for two or three more training seminars.

States are advised to be aware of the problem of contraband fisheries products leaving the state and avoiding the state's jurisdiction. The NMFS has jurisdiction over such violations under the Lacey Act. The NMFS has been pursuing violations of the Lacey Act for the last year and a half, and is inviting states to contact Mr. Charles Fuss regarding information of these violations. Feel free to contact him at AC 813 - 893-3145.

The NMFS is also working on a maritime communications committee program that would encompass U. S. Customs, NMFS and state enforcement agencies throughout the southeast. The group is studying the feasibility of a shared network and attempting to identify all the user requirements. The first meeting of this group was held September 27, 1978.

A report on U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service activity was given. Funding permitting, the Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to pay the salary of a coordinator who will work on the staff of the state law enforcement agency. This person will be a direct liaison between the federal and state government. At this point, it is not known how much money is available for cooperative enforcement.

Basically, it is proposed that the states would be the tools for enforcing federal regulations, since the federal government does not have the manpower to enforce the several fisheries management plans. The states would provide the service for the federal government in return for the position, money and equipment.

By way of explanation, the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act of 1976, referred to as the 200 mile limit or extended

jurisdiction, was adopted by the Secretary of Commerce and became the federal statutes that are enforced today in the northeast region, northwest Atlantic. At this point, there is enforcement authority over three fisheries - haddock, cod, and yellow tail. The law itself states that the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Transportation and the U. S. Coast Guard shall jointly enforce the 200 mile limit. If it is determined that Commerce and Transportation do not have the capabilities to enforce the law, then they may contract with other federal agencies or with state agencies. By 1985 there will be 13 new fisheries plans which will require enforcement.

With the present workload plus increased responsibilities by 1985 anticipated, a letter was drafted to every state game department in the northeast region. It outlined the purpose of a joint federal enforcement program and asked for feedback from the states. Subsequently, a meeting was held to request information from the state law enforcement agencies such as - present capabilities, need for additional manpower, deputization by federal government to enforce federal statutory law.

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
Wednesday, March 14, 1979
Fountain Bay Club Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

The Chairman, Mr. William H. Stevenson, called the meeting to order at 3:20 pm. Mr. Stevenson stated that any two members of the Commission from a state can sit to represent that state on the Board. Proxies are accepted and the vote will be by a single vote per state.

Mr. Stevenson then recognized proxies: Tom Moore for Charles Travis; J. Y. Christmas for Rep. Ted Millette; Dennis Chew for Richard Leard; Walter Tatum for John Hodnett; and Ed Swindell for Rep. Conway LeBleu. Copies of the letters of proxy are on file with the Executive Director of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. The four Gulf States represented were recognized with the State of Florida not being represented.

A motion was made by Lyle St. Amant and seconded by Tom Moore to adopt the agenda. The motion was passed unanimously.

At this point the Chairman called on Mr. Richard Schaefer to give a report on the current status and outlook of State-Federal Fisheries Management Programs. Mr. Schaefer gave the history of the program and emphasized the need then and now for a legislative base for the State-Federal Program. Due to the new administrations policy of zero base budget they must label items according to priority. Since there is no legislative base for the State-Federal Program it must be placed under those which do. This led to a loss of \$231,000 for FY 1980 State-Federal Programs nationwide and a \$50,000 reduction in the Southeast Region.

Initially the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act was to address the territorial seas of the various states but was dropped out before passage of the Act. Because of the gear up time for the FCMA the State-Federal Program has been somewhat left to drift since 1976. The needs of the states to have a management scheme for their fisheries still exists. This led to a Denver workshop meeting which was held to discuss State-Federal Management Board needs.

Since that meeting, Terry Leitzell has requested a substantial increase for FY 1981.

There was a good deal of discussion about use of funds from Coastal Zone Management for fisheries work. The problems of what role the CZM

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD

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would play in fisheries work and the continued funding for fisheries was of concern to the state representatives.

The Chairman then called for a status report on the various State-Federal Fisheries Studies and Analysis contracts.

Mr. Harry Schafer reported on the "Menhaden Tagging Mortality Study". He had, at the last meeting, asked for and was granted an extension of the contract in time only because of loss of the specimens held for study and the change over of the project head biologist.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas reported to the Board on the "Pilot Study for Menhaden Catch/Effort Log". He mentioned that he had trouble in getting the logs into his office. This collection should be complete by the end of March however. The computer programs have been tried and they have been in contact with the Beaufort Laboratory people. Approximately 75% of the logs cover every day fished. Improvements in the log form has been adopted by the Menhaden Management and Advisory Committees.

Mr. William "Corky" Perret reported on the "Development of a Management Planning Profile for Spotted Seatrout and Red Drum in the Gulf of Mexico, U.S.". Mr. Perret stated that he had been appointed Chairman of that subcommittee after Dr. James Weaver entered the Virginia University system. Also Dr. P. J. Johansen replaced Dr. Weaver on the subcommittee from Texas. Mr. Perret stated the committee had sent the rough draft profile to the members of the Technical Coordinating Committee and the State-Federal Fisheries Management Board prior to this meeting to allow time to review the draft. The committee needs the comments from the members of these committees back by mid April. He stressed the fact that this is a profile not a management plan for that fishery. Mr. Perret's committee suggested the profile be published and the use of a professional editor for editorial changes be used.

A motion was made by Walter Tatum and seconded by Lyle St. Amant to supply publication and editorial costs for the spotted seatrout/red drum profile. The money to be used would come from the full utilization of the administrative allocation and then the use of the surplus money from the recreational shrimp fishing survey contract. Further if any finances are left, these be applied to the blue crab subcommittee for travel.

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD

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The motion was passed unanimously. There was some question as to the approval of the profile after comments by the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Board for publication.

A motion was made by J. Y. Christmas and seconded by Lyle St. Amant to allow Mr. Perret and Mr. Lyles to examine the profile, after comments are incorporated, to determine if the changes are substantive enough to warrant a special meeting of the Board to approve the document. If they are not then the members can approve the document by mail.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Ted B. Ford reported on the "Formalization of a Menhaden Information Data Bank" and "Simulated Implementation of the Menhaden Management System". He stated that they met with the Menhaden Advisory Committee to examine and discuss the many options and get feedback from the industry. These meetings are to continue so they can develop some viable suggestions. On the Data Bank portion he has been in contact with the Miami office of statistics of NMFS. They plan to continue working with this group.

Mr. Charles H. Lyles reported on the "Shrimp Recreational Fisheries Statistics Data Collection and Analysis". He stated the contract has been signed and the allocations as to area and times have been made. Dr. Klima asked for and obtained a meeting with Human Sciences Research, Inc. to tighten up the wording on their interview form. Since there is very little recreational shrimping now there is very little action, however, in October there should be more to report. The Board directed the Executive Director to call on Dr. Ed Klima as Contract Officer/Technical Representative.

Mr. Bill Turner was called on to discuss disposition of funds available in FY 1980 Budget.

Mr. Turner noted the \$50,000 reduction for the Southeast Region that Mr. Schaefer mentioned earlier. He also stated that there is a pledge for increased funding in FY1981. The reduction means there will be \$50,000 available to the Gulf in FY 1980. He made three suggestions: (1) None of these funds be placed in an emergency fund as had been discussed with the

South Atlantic S/F Fisheries Management Board in October 1978; (3) That Committees and the Board set priorities for the needs for funding in 1980; and (3) List funding needs over the ones in No. 2 in case funds become available at the end of the FY. Funds will be awarded as cooperative agreements rather than contracts.

The Chairman suggested that an agenda item for October 1979 meeting be the consideration of how to recover the lost \$50,000 from the Atlantic State if the increases in FY 1981 become a reality. Also the Gulf and Atlantic might want to evenly split the money available to have an on-going source of funding.

The Chairman called on the Menhaden Management Committee for a report at which time Lyle St. Amant, Vice Chairman of the committee called on Mr. Borden Wallace, Chairman of the Menhaden Advisory Committee to report. Mr. Wallace recommended for the Menhaden Advisory Committee the following projects be given attention and funding in FY 1980 (in priority):

- (1) Expand the Simulated Implementation Project to evaluate the socio-logic, economic, and biologic impacts of the various management options;
- (2) Examine the legal ramifications of the discussions of various management options and their implementations;
- (3) Examine the present method of estimating fishing effort and determine, if possible, a better unit of effective fishing effort using information for the years 1974-1978;
- (4) Examine the effects of environmental factors and their influence on populations of Gulf Menhaden and the purse seine fishery;
- (5) Determine if more than one distinct population of menhaden (B. patronus) exists in the Gulf of Mexico. The Menhaden Advisory Committee also recommends that the Menhaden Management Committee alert the Technical Coordinating Committee to our concern over the proposed brine disposal project by the Department of Energy Strategic Petroleum Reserve at West Hackberry, LA.

A motion was made by J. Y. Christmas and seconded by Dennis Chew for the Menhaden Management Committee and the S/F Board to accept the Advisory Committees recommendations.

Mr. Walter Tatum reported for Mr. Gerald Adkins on the Blue Crab Subcommittee. He stated that the October 1979 meeting of the GSMFC will consider as the main topic a Colloquium on Blue Crabs. The co-chairman will be Harriet Perry and Dr. Van Engel. In addition, Harriet Perry was

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selected as chairman of that committee, replacing Gerald Adkins.

Mr. Harry Schafer reported that he attended the National Blue Crab Industry Associations Annual Meeting to explain to that group the blue crab cholera situation in Louisiana.

There being no further business to discuss the chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Lyles, Secretary

Gulf S/F Fisheries Management Board

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
Wednesday, March 14, 1979

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ted B. Ford	LSU- Center for Wetland Resources
Harry Schafer	LA. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Lyles S. St. Amant	LA. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Walter M. Tatum	AL. Marine Resources Division
Thomas D. McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab.
Tom D. Moore	TX. Parks & Wildlife
Claude J. Boudreaux	LA. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
James A. Prunty	Mobile Oil
I. B. Byrd	NOAA/NMFS
David L. Pritchard	NOAA/NMFS
Mac Rawson	Sea Grant Advisory Service, AL.
Dick Shaefer	NMFS/NOAA
Bob Chapoton	NMFS/NOAA
Ed Burgen	NMFS/NOAA
Bill Turner	NMFS/NOAA
Tom Clark	GSMFC-AL
Barney Barrett	LA. Wildlife and Fisheries
Karen A. Steidinger	FL. Dept. of Natural Resources
Corky Perret	LA. Wildlife and Fisheries
Roy O. Williams	FL. Dept. of Natural Resources
Terrance R. Leary	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Mgmt Council
Ed Klima	NMFS
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC
Dennis Chew	Miss. Marine Conservation Commission
Fred Deegen	Miss. Marine Conservation Commission
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.
William Stevenson	NMFS

others were in attendance but failed to sign in.

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 14, 1979
Fountain Bay Club Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

The Chairman, Dr. Ted B. Ford, called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. Hearing no objections the committee followed the prepared agenda.

The Chairman called on D. C. Williams to give a status update on the feasibility study of freshwater introduction into the Eastern marshes of Louisiana. Mr. Williams stated the New Orleans District of the Corps of Engineers is the agency doing the study. The Corps last year had funds in the amount of \$35,000 and this year their funds are \$135,000. This years work is termed stage one in which they will do a description of the area including the industry present. They also do a general feasibility study on the project as well as the alternatives. This work should be available in draft form around May or June. Stage two of the project is a more detailed economic study of the area and the alternatives. This stage will take approximately 2 years at a cost of \$1.5 million. Stage three is called the final design. Cost of the alternatives and the actual project are considered. The time frame for this stage is about 1984 if full funding is available. After a year in which the states review the project and Congress authorizes funds the project will begin.

Mr. William "Corky" Perret, Chairman of the Spotted Seatrout and Red Drum Subcommittee gave the review of the profile for that fishery. Mr. Perret was appointed to take over Chairmanship after James Weaver entered the Virginia University System. Also Texas named Dr. P. J. Johansen to replace James Weaver on the subcommittee. Mr. Perret stated this work is a profile not a management plan. Mr. Perret's committee suggested the comments from the Technical Coordinating Committee and the State-Federal Management Board be in by mid April

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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at which time the committee will review them and finalize the draft. At this point the committee suggested the publication of the profile and the use of a professional editor to handle the needed editorial work.

A motion was made by Tom Moore and seconded by J. Y. Christmas for the Technical Coordinating Committee to recommend to the State-Federal Board and the Executive Board that publication and editing costs be supplied for the Spotted Seatrout/Red Drum Profile. The money to be used would come from the full utilization of the existing administrative allocation and then use the surplus money from the recreational shrimp fishing survey contract. Further if any finances are left, these be applied to the Blue Crab subcommittee for travel. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Ed Klima gave a report on the Mexus-Gulf III Meeting in Cancun, Mexico. These meetings are joint investigations in working groups such as shrimp, coastal pelagics, turtles and demersal species (reef fish).

Mr. Dale Beaumariage gave a brief report on the king mackerel gill net study. This effort on the East Coast of Florida is funded by the State of Florida (\$50,000) and the South Atlantic and Gulf Councils (\$25,000 each). Among other things "fallout" will be monitored by underwater scuba divers. A report will be available in April.

Mr. I. B. "Buck" Byrd reported on the Grant-in-Aid workshop held Monday and Tuesday prior to the meeting. He indicated the meetings were very useful and beneficial.

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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Mr. Walter Tatum gave a brief blue crab subcommittee report. Ms. Harriet Perry, Gulf Coast Research Lab, Ocean Springs, Mississippi, and Dr. W. A. Van Engel, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, Virginia are to chair the blue crab colloquium at the October 1979 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting in Biloxi.

Also Ms. Perry was selected by the subcommittee to replace Gerald Adkins as chairman of that group.

There being no further business to discuss at this time the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted B. Ford, Chairman
Technical Coordinating Committee
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 14, 1979

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Dr. Ted B. Ford*	LSU-Center for Wetland Resources
Harry Schaefer*	LA. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Lyle S. St. Amant	LA. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Walter M. Tatum*	AL. Marine Resources Division
Thomas D. McIlwain*	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Tom D. Moore*	Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Claude J. Boudreaux	La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
James A. Prunty	Mobile Oil, E & P Southeast, Inc.
I. B. Byrd	NOAA-NMFS, St. Petersburg, Fl.
David L. Pritchard	NOAA-NMFS, St. Petersburg, Fl.
Mac Rawson	Sea Grant Advisory Service, Mobile, Al.
Dick Schaefer	NMFS/NOAA, Washington, D.C.
Bob Chapoton	NMFS/NOAA, Beaufort, N.C.
Ed Burgen	NMFS/NOAA
Bill Turner	NMFS - St. Petersburg, Fl.
Tom Clark	GSMFC - Alabama
Barney Barrett	La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Karen A. Steidinger	FL. Dept. of Natural Resources
Corky Perret	LA. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Roy O. Williams*	FL. Dept. of Natural Resources
Terrance R. Leary	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Mgmt Council
Ed Klima	NMFS/Galveston, Tx.
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC
Dennis L. Chew	Miss. Marine Conservation Commission
Fred Deegen	Miss. Marine Resources Council
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC
J. Y. Christmas*	Gulf Coast Research Lab.
Dale Beaumariage*	FL. Dept. of Natural Resources
D. C. Williams	University of Southern Mississippi

Others were in attendance but failed to sign in.

*Committee members

EXECUTIVE SESSION
GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
Friday, March 16, 1979
Fountain Bay Club Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

The Chairman, Rep. Leroy J. Wieting, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Mr. Wieting called for the adoption of the agenda with the report of the Technical Coordinating Committee and the interaction of the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council Committee with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission being considered first due to Dr. Ted B. Ford's speaking engagement and John Green's travel constraints. With these changes, Dr. Lyle St. Amant so motioned, it was seconded by Dr. Richard Leard and the motion was carried.

Mr. Wieting then recognized proxies: Bob Mauermann for John Mehos; Robert Kemp for Charles Travis; Walter Tatum for John W. Hodnett; Ed Swindell for Rep. Conway LeBleu; and J. Y. Christmas for Rep. Ted Millette. A motion was made by Tom Clark and seconded by Richard Leard to seat the proxies. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Ford reported that the Technical Coordinating Committee met in session on Wednesday, March 14, 1979. At that meeting the committee heard a status report by D. C. Williams on the Corps of Engineers feasibility study to allow freshwater into the Eastern marshes of Louisiana.

Dr. Ford stated that the profile on spotted seatrout and red drum was completed in a rough draft stage by that subcommittee. This draft was mailed to the Technical Coordinating Committee and the State-Federal Management Board with a request for comments. This could be the basis for a future management plan. With this in mind the Technical Coordinating Committee recommended to the State-Federal Board and the Executive Board who then approved, that publication and editing costs be supplied to the full extent of the administrative allocation and then to use the surplus money from the recreational shrimp fishing contract. Further if any finances are left, these be applied to the blue crab subcommittee for travel.

A brief report was given to the Technical Coordinating Committee by Dr. Ed Klima on the past Mexus-Gulf meeting at Cancun, Mexico. This group is a scientist to scientist discussion on such things as trans-boundary shrimp stocks, snapper-grouper, turtle research as well as mackerel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Dale Beaumariage gave a brief update on the gill net study in Florida which was funded by the State of Florida and the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

Also Harriet Perry was elected by the Blue Crab group as chairman and will replace Gerald Adkins in that capacity. Funding for groups travel may be augmented by the funds not used in the spotted seatrout and red drum profile publication.

Lastly the Grant-in-Aid workshop held by Buck Byrd was briefly reviewed.

Dr. Ford gave background of the new Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's Environmental and Management Policy Committee which was created to comment and act on environmental issues. To this end it was recommended that the Council committee work with the Commission's committee with Dr. Ford as the contact for the interaction.

There was a great deal of discussion about the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission role in the past on habitat and management in the 5 Gulf States territorial waters. A motion by Richard Leard and seconded by Robert Kemp was made to establish a subcommittee of the Technical Coordinating Committee to be named by Dr. Ford to coordinate with the Council's committee and meet with them as needed. The motion was passed unanimously.

After these reports and discussions were completed the Council members left the meeting to make their travel appointments.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Dr. St. Amant and was seconded by Walter Tatum. The motion was passed unanimously.

Rep. Wieting then called for adoption of the amendment to the By-laws. Specifically the addition to Article IV, Officers and Committee, Sect. 7, "...The elected Chairman of the Technical Coordinating Committee shall be empowered to appoint a Vice Chairman from a state other than his own. The Vice Chairman's position will be on an annual basis to run concurrent with the Technical Coordinating Committee Chairman as well as the Commission Chairman." A motion was made by Walter Tatum and seconded by Bob Mauermann to accept this amendment. The motion was passed unanimously.

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The Executive Director reported on his testimony in Washington on Title IV of the Outer Continental Shelf amendments. At this point a motion was made by Leroy Kiffe and seconded by Bob Mauermann to prepare and send a resolution to the appropriate people to call for the establishment of the office to administer the program in New Orleans. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Executive Director gave a status report on the request for increased funding for 88-309. The states, including the inland states, which make up the Southeast Region of National Marine Fisheries Service were polled to provide information on the programs the funds are used for, as well as their ability to use present and future increases in funding. These have been received and the plan is to request the help of these states and push for a increase in funding for 88-309 to \$10 million for FY 1980.

A motion was made by Bob Mauermann and seconded by Leroy Kiffe to accept the auditors report. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director reported on the status of the spotted sea-trout and red drum subcommittee. The profile should be available at the fall meeting with funds available for publication and editing.

The Annual Report of the Commission is in the final stages and will be sent to the Commissioners by mail when completed.

The State-Federal Studies and Analysis Program is functioning with no serious problems. The menhaden tagging study has requested an extension of the contract in time only because of problems with death of the specimens held for study.

The Executive Director discussed the need for a legislative basis for the State-Federal Programs in the future. At the present time, however, we need to bring the State-Federal Program up to a line item immediately. This will not change the programs but will increase the status of the existing program.

The Fall meeting of the Commission will be held at the Hilton in Biloxi, Mississippi. The main topic for discussion will be blue crabs.

Under other business the staff of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission was charged with the establishment of a formal channel from each state to receive bills which pertain to multistate fisheries. These then would be available to all the states for review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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A motion was made by Ed Swindell and seconded by Robert Kemp to allow the Commission to purchase a new filing cabinet. The motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Director was allowed to check on the purchasing of a duplicating machine. The report of costs and cost/benefit will be presented in October meeting for action.

Also the Executive Director was allowed to employ part time clerical help on an as needed basis until October. At the October meeting the decision will be made by the Executive Committee to continue on a as needed basis, part time or full time clerical help.

The Executive Director requested and was allowed to prepare a new travel form along with an administrative manual which includes rules and regulations on State-Federal travel that the commission reimburses.

Lastly, Mr. Lyles requested an additional 15 days of annual leave per year. This request is a special consideration for Mr. Lyles as Executive Director only and not to be applied to future Executive Directors. A motion was made by Walter Tatum and seconded by Robert Kemp to do this and was passed unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

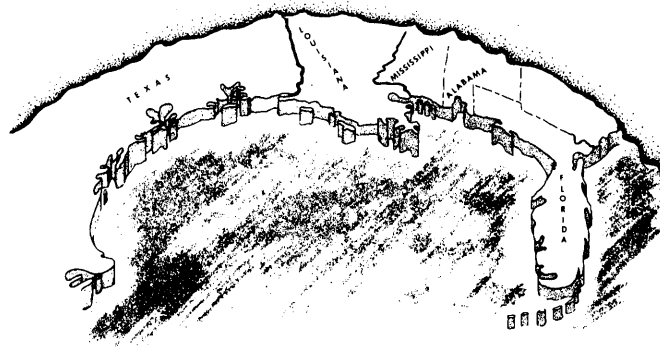
Charles H. Lyles, Executive Director
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Friday, March 16, 1979
LIST OF ATTENDEES

Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC
John M. Green	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Mgmt Council
Bethlyn McCloskey	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Mgmt Council
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC - LA.
Ted B. Ford	LSU - Center for Wetland Resources
Richard Leard	Miss. Marine Conservation Commission
Lyle S. St. Amant	La. Wildlife and Fisheries
William H. Stevenson	NMFS/NOAA
Walter Tatum	Al. Marine Resources Division
Tom Clark	GSMFC - AL.
Bob Mauermann	GSMFC - TX.
Bob Kemp	Texas Parks and Wildlife
B. J. Putnam	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Mgmt Council
C. W. Kraver	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Mgmt Council
C. H. Lyles	GSMFC
Leroy Wieting	GSMFC - TX.
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.
Conway LeBleu	GSMFC - LA.
Ed Swindell	GSMFC - LA.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



P.O. BOX 726
OCEAN SPRINGS, MS.
39564
(601)875-5912

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the shrimp and petroleum industries have been an important segment of the economy of the Upper Gulf Coast for more than a quarter of a century, and

WHEREAS, the Gulf States produces approximately 38 percent of U.S. fish and shellfish landings, and

WHEREAS, conflicts arising from the exploitation of these resources have been dealt with at a local level, and

WHEREAS, no other section of the nation has been forced to deal with the problems of trawling and oil exploration, and

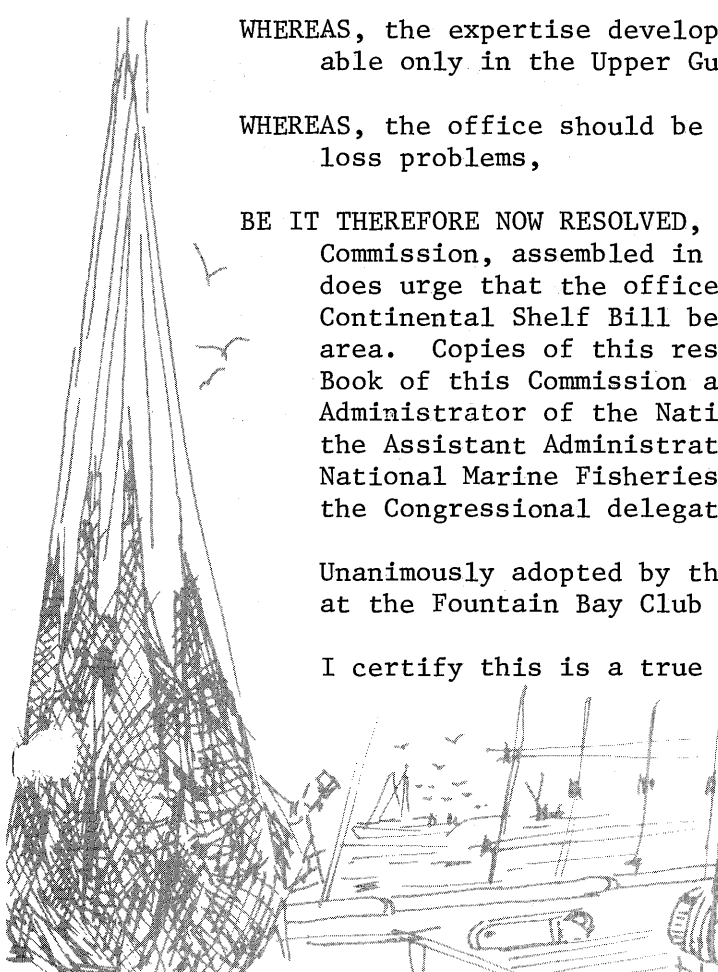
WHEREAS, the expertise developed in mitigating these disputes is available only in the Upper Gulf Coast, and

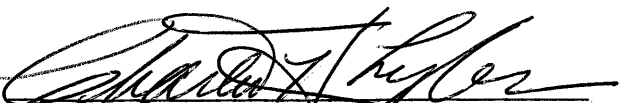
WHEREAS, the office should be easily accessible to fishermen with gear loss problems,

BE IT THEREFORE NOW RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in New Orleans, Louisiana on March 16, 1979, does urge that the office to administer Title IV of the Outer Continental Shelf Bill be established in the New Orleans, Louisiana area. Copies of this resolution are to be spread upon the Minute Book of this Commission and copies are to be directed to the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries and the Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, St. Petersburg, Florida and to the Congressional delegations of the several states.

Unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at the Fountain Bay Club Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 16, 1979.

I certify this is a true and correct copy.




Charles H. Lyles, Executive Director
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

DRAFT
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the shrimp and petroleum industries have been an important segment of the economy of the Upper Gulf Coast for more than a quarter of a century, and

WHEREAS, the Gulf States produces approximately 38 percent of U.S. fish and shellfish landings, and

WHEREAS, conflicts arising from the exploitation of these resources have been dealt with at a local level, and

WHEREAS, no other section of the nation has been forced to deal with the problems of trawling and oil exploration, and

WHEREAS, the expertise developed in mitigating these disputes is available only in the Upper Gulf Coast, and

WHEREAS, the office should be easily accesible to fishermen with gear loss problems,

BE IT THEREFORE NOW RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in New Orleans, Louisiana on March 16, 1979, does urge that the office to administer Title IV of the Outer Continental Shelf Bill be established in the New Orleans, Louisiana area. Copies of this resolution are to be spread upon the Minute Book of this Commission and copies are to be directed to the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries and the Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, St. Petersburg, Florida and to the Congressional delegations of the several states. Unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at the Fountain Bay Club Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 17, 1979.

I certify this is a true and correct copy.

Charles H. Lyles, Executive Director
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
Wednesday, October 17, 1979
Biloxi Hilton Hotel
Biloxi, Mississippi
Minutes

The Chairman, Mr. William H. Stevenson, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. He then recognized proxies: Harry Schafer for J. Burton Angelle; Bob Kemp for Charles Travis; George Brumfield for Ted Millette; Dr. Richard Leard for Richard Yancey; Don Duden for Elton Gissendaner; and Hugh Swingle for Richard Forster. Copies of the letters of proxy are on file with the Executive Director of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. The Chairman noted that all five Gulf States were represented.

The agenda was adopted with one change. The report (Item 6 [c]), of the Blue Crab Subcommittee was moved up to the beginning because Ms. Perry needed to continue to prepare for the Blue Crab Colloquium to follow on Thursday and Friday.

Mr. Kemp made the motion and Mr. Wieting seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of the March 1979 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

With that, Ms. Perry, chairperson of the Blue Crab Subcommittee, gave a brief outline of the history and function of the subcommittee. She invited all the board members to come and participate in the two day colloquium to follow. Recommendations of the Blue Crab Subcommittee for FY80, were for authorization for travel of the committee to four meetings this year, an additional two meetings besides the two Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission meetings. The subcommittee did not request any of the \$50K studies and analysis money. A motion to approve the request was made by Hugh Swingle and seconded by Bob Kemp. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bob Williams from the Washington office of NMFS gave an updated report on the status of the State-Federal Fisheries Management programs. He reviewed the current FY80 status, which included a \$50K cut in Gulf and \$231K/1 position cut nation wide. The reasons for the reductions are due partly to the Zero Base Budget (ZBB) exercise which requires the establishment of priorities and identification of lower priority programs for possible reduced funding. Since the State-Federal Fisheries Management Program (S-FFMP) has no specific Congressional legislative mandate it must compete in this budgeting exercise with other NMFS programs, the majority of which do have a legislative basis (e.g. FCMA, MMPA, Endangered Species, etc.).

National Marine Fisheries Service in its Program Emphasis Document (PED) for FY81, suggested an increase of \$1 million. The recommendation of NMFS went forward to NOAA and the Department of Commerce (DOC) where the increase was dropped. At present it does not appear there will be any change for FY81 or FY82.

With the S-F mission in mind, which is to assist the states in developing and implementing Fishery Management Plans (FMP's) for interjurisdictional stocks harvested predominantly in the territorial sea, the NMFS has undertaken a review of the program. There are two main areas of analysis:

- I. Identification of interjurisdictional fisheries which:
 - A. clearly are in need of management;
 - B. are of considerable value/importance to both the states and nation;
 - C. Regional Councils do not intend, soon or ever, to prepare FMP's; and
 - D. There is reasonable assurance of achieving implementation.
- II. Assessment of State needs and areas for expansion of programs.
 - A. FCMA
 1. S-F cooperation for implementation, monitoring, evaluation and revision of management plans.
 2. What is role of NOAA/NMFS in assisting the States more effectively in management of interjurisdictional fisheries?
 - B. Habitat Protection
 1. Coordinate to make programs such as CZM and OCS development more effective.
 - C. Coastal Zone Management
 1. As they affect habitat protection and on-shore fisheries support facilities.
 - D. Fisheries Research
 1. S-F program may be used to help augment for better more timely dates for all of above.

In summary, the outlook in Washington is tight for people and dollars. We need to make joint decisions for emphasis in S-F programs. Mr. Leitzell

cannot support expansion or perhaps even present levels unless we make decisions regarding priorities and emphasis. With this action NMFS is prepared to do all it can. There are many meetings which could provide an opportunity for these discussions such as the Commission meetings, Council, State and others. Perhaps the best opportunity for an "eye ball" meeting with Mr. Leitzell might be the State Fish and Wildlife Directors meeting in late January.

A discussion of the status of the program centered on just how much actual support the S-F program and 88-309 program is getting from NMFS. A question of just how the tentative legislation from the ASMFC Mason-Lawrence Bill (territorial sea legislation) will affect the S-F program was surfaced. This gives the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission regulatory authority for management of territorial sea with overriding power if a state or states cannot agree. If this was passed it would supplant this board. If the Atlantic States went the Amendment I direction, it would have no effect on this board.

The various contracts which were let under the S-F studies and analysis program were reported on.

The Menhaden Tagging Mortality Study is complete and the final report will be sent to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission office within thirty (30) days. The project compared the mortality of tagged specimens handled by different people as well as the amount of shedding of tags by the fish.

The Menhaden Catch/Effort Log is completed. The tapes are in the vault at the Gulf Coast Research Lab and will be forwarded to the NMFS Lab at Beaufort, N.C. in compliance with the confidentiality of statistics. The project was supplied approximately 70% of the total logbooks from all vessels and the complete report will be given to the Commission office in about thirty (30) days.

The Red Drum and Spotted Seatrout profile had the corrections and comments incorporated from the last meeting and a subsequent mailout. The draft was recirculated to subcommittee members for their final comments to be given in a task force working session on Tuesday. This meeting worked through the profile page by page and Corky Perret will provide a clean copy of these changes to the Commission in about four weeks. The final editing and the subsequent publication will be handled in the GSMFC office.

The Menhaden Data Bank is in rough draft "paste up" form. The information will be transferred to tapes or cards which ever is best for the user. The final report and tapes/cards will be sent to GSMFC office when all comments on the draft bibliography are in.

The Simulated Implementation contract required an extension in time only to allow for a more indepth discussion of the methods for simulated implementation with industry.

The Recreational Shrimping contract which is an add on to the national recreational fishing contract called for 4,000 extra interviews of recreational shrimpers to increase the reliability of those data. The questions include count/lb. by species, total weight by species, hours trawled, catch per hour, recreational sales (pounds and dollars), location of effort, dollars expended, miles traveled to and from the site, as well as others. Of the 4,000 interviews, they have collected 3,900, and the data collection ends October 31. The analysis of the data will be in November, and the draft final report will be given to the GSMFC on January 15, with the final report given by February 28.

The Menhaden Advisory Committee with concurrence of the menhaden management committee and the S-F Board presented their recommendations directly to the full S-F Board. Mr. Wallace commended the people involved with the menhaden studies and analysis contracts in behalf of the industry for their fine work. Further the State of Louisiana called on the Menhaden Advisory Committee for advice on projects which they will undertake with 88-309 funds of interest to the menhaden industry. This shows a spirit of cooperation and interest to do a good job involving input from industry. The Advisory Committee recommends a project to examine the legal ramifications of the discussions and implementation of various management options, such as, but not limited to: quotas (vessel, plant, area); effort (vessel and aircraft); advisory meetings to discuss plans; seasons; limiting fishing days per week; allocations; sanctuaries; gear restrictions; states acting in concert rather than unilaterally; and implementation of management options in the face of an announced new entry into the fishery. This project has application to other fisheries as well as menhaden. The committee recommends funding at \$40K. They also recommend that the chairmanship of the Menhaden Advisory Committee rotate yearly between industry and a state

or federal representative. They suggest J. Y. Christmas as chairman for the next term.

The Menhaden Management Committee Chairman, Mr. Wieting, made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Brumfield, that the Board accept the recommendations of the Advisory Committee as those of the Management Committee. This motion is for acceptance of recommendations not for funding priority. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Shrimp Management Committee brought to the Board three recommendations. These were a project for improved coordination, communication, and standardization for monitoring and assessment programs Gulf-wide for \$5K. Continuation of the recreational shrimp statistic project in conjunction with the national recreational survey for \$40K. Also they recommend the continuation of tagging/recapture of shrimp and the expansion of planned efforts east of the Mississippi Delta for \$40K. At this point the full Board considered the funding priorities for all of the recommendations.

Keeping in mind the limitation of funding of \$50K for FY80 and the possibility of funding some of the recommendations from other sources such as the Gulf Council, State budgets, and 88-309 projects among others, the Board made its decisions. Mr. Wieting made the motion and was seconded by Dr. Leard, for the Board to support the legal ramifications of certain management options in the menhaden fishery and to extend the recreational shrimp statistics contract with the total of the two projects not to exceed \$50K and neither contract to exceed \$30K. The Executive Director of the GSMFC will negotiate the contracts. The motion was passed unanimously.

Under other business, Mr. Schafer made the motion and was seconded by Dr. Leard, for the chairmanship of the Menhaden Advisory Committee to alternate yearly between a industry and a state resource or federal representative on the committee. The motion passed unanimously.

In the final item of business, Mr. Brumfield made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Wieting to have Mr. William H. Stevenson serve as chairman for another year. The motion was passed unanimously. In his closing remarks the chairman suggested the Commission consider a symposium next October on interjurisdictional management as it applies to the Gulf.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Lyles, Secretary
GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
Wednesday, October 17, 1979
Biloxi, Mississippi

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Bill Stevenson, Chairman	National Marine Fisheries Service
Don Duden	Fl. Department of Natural Resources
Ed Joyce	Fl. Department of Natural Resources
Hugh Swingle	Al. Department of Marine Resources
Harry Schafer	La. Wildlife and Fisheries
Larry Simpson	GSMFC
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC-Executive Director
George Brumfield	Zapata-Haynie
Dr. Richard Leard	Ms. Bureau of Marine Resources
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC-Commissioner, La.
Rep. Leroy Wieting	GSMFC-Commissioner, Tx.
Bob Kemp	Texas Parks and Wildlife

Others in attendance in audience.

Technical Coordinating Committee
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 17, 1979
Biloxi, Mississippi

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The tentative agenda was adopted without change and followed in order.

1. Dr. Ed Klima, NMFS, Galveston Lab, presented a status report on shrimp mark-recapture experiments in the northern Gulf. Return of the ribbon tag used in the project is rewarded by a chance to win cash prizes in various amounts. About 6% of the 107,457 brown and white shrimp tagged and released in U.S. and Mexican Gulf inshore and offshore waters in 1978 had been recovered. Data collected with recovered tags provides a basis for determining seasonal growth, migration patterns, contribution of nursery areas to offshore populations, density of recapture by 6-square mile areas and other parameters needed for management.

Preliminary data analysis provided documented evidence of trans-boundary migration from both countries with an apparent net loss from U.S. waters.

2. Dr. Richard Berry, NMFS, Southeastern Fisheries Center, presented a status report on a three pronged review of the shrimp statistics collection system. The review is principally concerned with three areas: (1) validity of data; (2) uses and needs for stock assessment; and (3) state requirements. The need for timely reporting; requirements of the Gulf Council's shrimp FMP; problems identified in the GSMFC's contract for recreational fishery statistics and shifting of responsibility for collection, analysis and publication of shrimp fishery statistics to the Miami Center were some of the factors leading to review of the system. When the review is completed, needed changes in the system will be identified and proposed. The T.C.C. can expect a report on proposed changes at the March 1980 meeting. Implementation of the revised system is expected in October 1980.

In subsequent discussion, committee members stressed the importance of timely publication of adequate shrimp data which includes who, when, where and how shrimp are taken; funding of the revised system without

reducing shrimp research programs; and the need for similar review and/or revision of statistical collection systems for other Gulf fisheries to provide a sound basis for the hard decisions resource managers must make.

3. Gary Brown, Human Sciences Research, Inc. (HSRI) gave a status report on the GSMFC's contract for expanded recreational shrimp fishery data. After some review of the national recreational statistics program and problems encountered, he reported that about 3,900 of the 4,000 additional interviews with recreational shrimpers were completed. Final data collection would be done by the end of October. A preliminary review with Gulf resource managers was planned for January. The final report should be available in February.

4. Dr. David Etzold, University of Southern Mississippi, discussed reported progress in the feasibility study of controlled freshwater introduction into the eastern marshes of Louisiana and western Mississippi Sound. Engineering feasibility, environmental acceptability and economic justification studies were in progress. A baseline condition report is scheduled for submission in May 1980. If these Stage I reports are favorable, Stage II, with a mathematical model developed to predict relationship of introduction to productivity, will be initiated. Stage II completion is scheduled for January 1983. In Stage III, the best option will be selected and recommended by September 1984.

5. "Corky" Perret, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, reported activities of the red drum - spotted seatrout subcommittee. Extensive review of the profile prepared by the committee were complete and were reviewed by the subcommittee for inclusion in a final draft to be given to the GSMFC for editing and publication.

6. Harriet Perry, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, reported that the blue crab subcommittee had prepared a 2-day colloquium for presentation during the last two days of the current GSMFC meeting.

7. The committee, after appropriate discussion, approved the following recommendations to the Commission:

(a) That a letter of commendation to those people who helped in obtaining disaster funds for renovating oyster reefs destroyed by 1979 spring floods, be drafted and given appropriate distribution.

(b) That the Commission express strong support for increasing P.L. 88-309 funds to \$10 million in FY 1981, to \$12 million in FY 1982, and to \$15 million in FY 1983.

(c) That the Commission review NMFS attitude toward the State-Federal Fishery Management Program and express support for continuation and expansion of said program.

(d) That there be continuing study and input to revision of the shrimp statistics collection and analysis system and support for an on-going shrimp research program with support of about \$1.5 million by NMFS.

8. Tom Moore, Chairman of the nominations subcommittee nominated Dr. Ted Ford for T.C.C. Chairman. There being no nominations from the floor, Dr. Ford was elected by acclamation. He asked J.Y. Christmas to serve as Vice Chairman.

9. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Technical Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, October 17, 1979

Ted Ford
J. Y. Christmas
T. D. McIlwain
William Demoran
Hugh A. Swingle
Tom D. Moore
C. E. Bryan
Wayne Swingle
Dick Berry
Ed Klima
Harry Schafer
Larry B. Simpson
W. Borden Wallace
Dalton Berry
Gary L. Brown
Thomas O'Brian
Thomas D. Leming
Richard E. Condrey
David Etzold
Patricia L. Johansen
Maury Osborn
Kim Newlin
Bob Williams
I. B. Byrd
L. Brandt Savoie
Larry De la Bretonne
Gerald Adkins
Corky Perret
Fred Deegen
Philip Bowman
Barney Barrett
Robert McKenney
Albert C. Jones
Harriet Perry
Russ Miget
Lyle St. Amant
Jack T. Styron

LSU - Center for Wetland Resources
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Alabama Dept. of Natural Resources
Texas Parks and Wildlife
Texas Parks and Wildlife
Gulf Regional Mgmt. Council
SEFC/National Marine Fisheries Ser.
NMFS/Galveston Laboratory
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Gulf States Marine Fish. Comm.
Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc.
Petrou Fisheries, Inc.
Human Sciences Research, Inc.
Seacoast Products, Inc.
Nat'l Fisheries Engineering Lab
LSU - Center for Wetland Resources
University of Southern Mississippi
Texas Parks and Wildlife
Texas Parks and Wildlife
NMFS/Southeastern Fisheries Ctr.
NMFS/Washington, D.C.
NMFS/St. Petersburg, FL.
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
LSU - Coop Extension Service
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Miss. Bureau of Marine Resources
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
NMFS/Southeast Fisheries Center
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Texas A & M - Sea Grant
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Empire Menhaden

EXECUTIVE SESSION
GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
Friday, October 19, 1979
Biloxi Hilton
Biloxi, Mississippi

The Chairman, Rep. Leroy J. Wieting, called the meeting to order at 8:15 am. Mr. Wieting recognized and seated the proxies: Bob Kemp for Charles Travis; Harry Schafer for J. Burton Angelle; George Brumfield for Rep. Ted Millette; and Hugh Swingle for Richard Forster.

Mr. Wieting called for the adoption of the agenda. The agenda was adopted by concensus.

Mr. Wieting called for the adoption of the minutes of the March 1979 meeting at New Orleans, Louisiana. The minutes were adopted as printed.

A motion was made by John Mehos and seconded by George Brumfield to have a letter of outstanding service placed in Charles H. Lyles' personnel file for outstanding service. Further he was commended for the distribution of information and organization of Commission business. The motion was passed unanimously.

Bill Stevenson, Chairman of the State-Federal Fisheries Management Board, reported on the meeting of that board which met on Wednesday, October 17th. The actions taken by that board were first to authorize the Blue Crab Subcommittee to attend four meetings this year. This is an additional two meetings other than the two Commission meetings. The State-Federal Board established priorities for funding in FY 80 with the \$50K available. The board took action to allow the Executive Director to negotiate two contracts-the total not to exceed \$50K and with either not to exceed \$30K. The two contracts will be the legal

aspects of management as it applies to menhaden and the continuation of the "add on" to the national recreational survey for additional recreational shrimping creel type interviews.

The board adopted a procedure whereby the chairmanship of the menhaden industry advisory committee would rotate yearly from a representative of the industry to a representative of a state agency or federal participant. The Advisory Committee suggested J. Y. Christmas as Chairman, contingent on working out details with Mississippi. Lastly, the Chairman for the GS-FFMB will again be Bill Stevenson.

Mr. Charles H. Lyles reported on the State-Federal program. The recreational shrimping contract had encountered some problems in the first half of the contract period. These problems, however, were discussed and solutions proposed at a July 25th meeting with Human Sciences Research and the State resource people, as well as Dr. Klima of National Marine Fisheries Service Lab at Galveston. The second half functioned much better after these suggestions were incorporated. The contract will be on time with delivery of the final product about February 28th.

The Menhaden Tagging Mortality Study done by Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries is completed. The final report will be forthcoming in about thirty days. They found no significant difference in the tagging ability of their people and the NMFS people. In addition, the shedding work in the tanks and open pond has led the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department to a project they will follow up on themselves.

The Menhaden Catch/Effort Data contract is completed. The tapes are in the vault at the Gulf Coast Research Lab and will be forwarded to the NMFS Lab at Beaufort in compliance with the confidentiality of statistics. The project received approximately 70% of the total logbooks from all vessels and the complete report will be available in about thirty days.

The Menhaden Data Bank is in rough draft stage. The information will be transferred to tapes or cards which ever is best for the user. The final report and tape will be sent to GSMFC office when this transfer operation is complete.

The Simulated Implementation contract required an extension in time only to allow for a more indepth discussion of the methods for Simulated Implementation with industry.

The Red Drum and Spotted Sea Trout profile had the components incorporated from the last meeting and were distributed to the subcommittee for their corrections. These were made in a task force working session on Tuesday, and the clean copy of the draft profile will be sent to Mr. Lyles from Mr. Perret in about thirty days. The responsibility for securing a final editor and the subsequent publication will be by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission office.

At this point Mr. Lyles described what he thought was a dark future for the State-Federal program in the light of Mr. Leitzell's speech at the recent MAFAC meeting and the address which was given at the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting the previous Wednesday. He believes there will be a phase out of the S/F program including Grant-In-Aid to states (88-309 and 89-304).

This will ultimately lead to Federal preemption to the beaches. If this is the case we will go to Congress to stop it.

Mr. Stevenson stated his interpretation of Mr. Leitzell's remarks were that he did not say there will be no support for the program, but that there should be no expansion until there is some statement of the priorities and direction of the program from the States.

This led to a discussion by the commissioners about the S/F program and its function. Mr. Lyles suggested the March meeting of the Commission be centered around the status of information available on the States' fisheries including types of research necessary, etc. and the transboundary aspects of the fishes found in territorial and inland waters of the states. This would serve as a basis for some future defense of the S/F program with the Washington level people of NOAA/NMFS.

Mr. Mehos commented in the meantime the Commission should inform NMFS that their review of their programs is admirable; however, each state can and should manage the fish in its boundaries. Further, since the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act does not include State waters, there still needs to be a mechanism for regional management of the stocks in territorial and inland waters, such as the S/F program. In addition to this there needs to be a meeting with the States/Commission and NMFS to identify our and their thoughts on the program.

At this point Mr. Stevenson pointed out that Mr. Leitzell will be in the Gulf during January. This would be a perfect time to surface the comments and have a sit-down eyeball meeting to accomplish

this. The Commission will request by letter to the Southeast Regional Director this desire and be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Dick Yancey also noted the effect this might have in the light of international migratory discussions and the Federal policies which could be necessary if we enter into these discussions.

At this point Mr. Lyles gave a report on the status of the Title IV section of the Outer Continental Shelf Bill. This is the Fishermen's Contingency Fund which reimburses the fisherman for losses due to oil and gas exploration. The program is heavily laden with problems. No final regulations have been issued and the program is 18 months old.

Mr. Stevenson stated the problem is legal in nature. That is, the final regulations must be sound so that claims are not brought against NMFS from the oil companies.

Mr. Leroy Kiffe described the problems he and others in the industry are having, not only with the tremendous red tape but the personnel and location in charge of the administration of the program.

Mr. Mehos made a motion which was seconded by Hugh Swingle to send a letter or position paper to Mr. Leitzell concerning this problem with all documentation to drive home the point about having the office which administers or processes the claims located in the New Orleans area. Further the members of the States delegation in Congress should be supplied a copy. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Lyles continued with the agenda item on the formal channel from each state regarding legislation of a multi-state nature. He noted this channel which we are developing should help with the S/F program relations effort.

Mr. Lyles reported on the status of 88-309 program authorizations. He feels we should push for an increase to \$10 million in FY 81, \$12 million in FY 82, and \$15 million in FY 83. He presented a Resolution to the commission and asked for their direction. Mr. Mehos made a motion which was seconded by Harry Schafer to adopt the Resolution. Motion was passed unanimously. The Executive Director was authorized to do whatever he feels is necessary and needed to obtain the augmented funding.

Mr. Lyles reported on legislation which was passed in Louisiana this year which imposed a \$1,000 out-of-state license for commercial fishing. Several groups around the Gulf got together to bring suit against the legislation. This was done and the State courts have issued an order to prevent its enforcement. We feel this will be declared unconstitutional and hopefully should cause future legislative acts of this nature from being passed.

Mr. Lyles reported on the Everglades National Park proposed regulations to ban all commercial fishing in the future. After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mehos and seconded by Dick Yancey to prepare a letter or position paper to show disapproval of methods used or being used to single out only one segment of the fishing community as a solution to their problems. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that money to the states for their oyster replanting after the disasterous floods this past year was obtained. This money came from another Federal agency to NMFS for distribution to the states. With all of our problems we are glad for this cooperative effort. Only Louisiana and Mississippi have planted. Texas and Alabama have not but will in time for spring spat set. The Executive Director will prepare and send out a letter of commendation to all those who helped get this project done so quickly.

Mr. Lyles reported he will continue to try to keep the fishing industry in the same category as agriculture for fuel allocation purposes. We are now without Special Rule #9 so little can be done currently to help relieve the fuel shortage problems.

Mr. Lyles reported on problems around the Gulf which result from the interaction of Vietnamese with the fishing community. The Commission is not in a position to tell the government how to run the immigration programs. However, the Commission should go on record with the appropriate people as supporting funding to train the Vietnamese fishermen in rules of the road, customs, fishing seasons, limits, methods, etc. Mr. Mehos so moved and was seconded by Mr. Brumfield. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Mexican oil spill was discussed with Mr. Stevenson providing an update on the current progress. The well should be capped soon, and there seems to be no damage to the shrimp crop or estuaries or other marine fishes.

After a discussion on the cost/benefit of purchasing a copying machine, Mr. Schafer made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Swingle to allow the Executive Director to make the decision whether to buy the equipment or not. The motion was passed unanimously. Presently the Commission has access to the Gulf Coast Research Lab Xerox machines and is billed periodically for the use.

A discussion on the purchase of a new typewriter for the Commission led to a motion which authorized the Executive Director to make the final decision whether to obtain a new typewriter or not. He is to check further on other types which were discussed. The motion to do this was made by Mr. Schafer and seconded by Mr. Swingle. The motion was passed unanimously.

The following meeting locations and date were discussed:

March 1980 - Mobile Hilton - Mobile, Alabama

October 1980 - Orlando Hyatt - Orlando, Florida

March 1981 - Sheraton - Austin, Texas

October 1981 - Fairmont Hotel - New Orleans, Louisiana

Mr. Kemp made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Brumfield to accept these locations and dates. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Lyles and Mr. Swingle led a discussion on their disapproval over the NMFS decision to stop publishing the State monthly landings reports. Even though the NMFS has said they will continue to collect the data, which would be available in raw form upon request of resource agencies, there have been problems in the past about obtaining the needed data. Mr. Swingle has requested information in this fashion before without ever receiving it.

Mr. Swingle made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Kemp to have the Executive Director prepare a letter expressing the Commission's disappointment over this discontinuation of service. The motion was passed unanimously.

The proposed budget was reviewed and accepted. Mr. Lyles, the Executive Director, proposed salary increases in the amount of \$1,737.50 for Larry B. Simpson, the Assistant to the Director, and \$1,000 for Virginia K. Herring, the Administrative Assistant. There was a motion by Mr. Brumfield and seconded by Mr. Swingle to grant the salary increases. The motion was passed unanimously.

At this point Mr. Simpson gave a brief report to the Commissioners on his and the Commission's relationship and duties with the Gulf of Mexico Regional Council. He summarized the administrative committees and management committees which we serve on the voting status and brought up some points about future relations and issues which will effect both agencies.

Mr. Lyles suggested that in all future Executive Sessions of the Commission that an automatic invitation be extended to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Southeastern Regional Director of the NMFS or his designee. A motion to do so was made by Mr. Swingle and seconded by Mr. Schafer. Further Mr. Swingle stated the Chairman of the various Commission committees as well as the representative from NMFS be asked to give a report at the Executive Session. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Ted B. Ford, Chairman of the T.C.C. gave a report on the meeting of that body which met on Wednesday. The T.C.C. recommends the continuation of the State-Federal program as well as a reinforcement of its funding. The Committee was strongly in favor of continued and augmented funding at and over the \$1 1/2 million level for shrimp research. Recently the program funds have dropped to about \$600K for shrimp research of which most is done at the Galveston Lab. They agree with the need for groundfish tasks which have been assigned to Galveston; however, they feel the funds for this project should not be at the expense of the shrimp research program funds. They suggested a letter of appreciation be sent to Rep. Breaux and general NMFS personnel for their help with the money for the oyster disaster replanting. This was already discussed and will be done. The committee suggests that the Commission might seek help for funding the "add on" to the recreation survey for added shrimp statistics from the Gulf Council. Dr. Ford mentioned the statistical reporting system used by the NMFS for shrimp and other species is being reviewed and the T.C.C. would like to report further on changes and developments in the system at the March meeting.

After a discussion and statement of their commendation about how well the Executive Director, Mr. Charles H. Lyles, has served in that position, Mr. Brumfield made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Swingle to increase the salary of the Executive Director \$5,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Richard K. Yancey from Mississippi was nominated by Mr. Brumfield and seconded by Mr. Swingle as the new Chairman of the Commission for the next year. The nomination was approved unanimously. The position for Vice-Chairman which is supposed to go to Florida this year will be held open until the March meeting so as to allow the Executive Director a chance to contact and brief the new head of the Florida Department of Natural Resources, Mr. Elton Gissendaner, about the purpose, duties, etc. of the Commission.

At this point Mr. Yancey came forth and presented the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Leroy Wieting, a gift from the Commission, thanking him for his fine job.

Taking the chair of the Commission, Mr. Yancey commented on how he will need the cooperation of all the Commissioners, and help from his newly organized Bureau of Marine Resources people headed by Dr. Richard Leard.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Lyles, Executive Director

LBS/ca

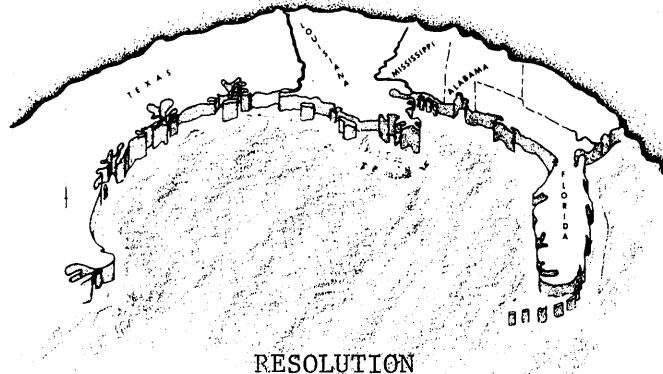
EXECUTIVE SESSION
Friday, October 19, 1979
Biloxi, Mississippi

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Hugh Swingle proxy for Richard Forster	Alabama Marine Resources Division
Harry Schafer proxy for J. Burton Angelle	Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries
Leroy Kiffe	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissioner
Richard Yancey	Mississippi Dept. of Wildlife Conservation
George Brumfield proxy for Rep. Ted Millette	Zapata-Haynie Corporation
Dr. Richard Leard	Mississippi Bureau of Marine Resources
Rep. Leroy Wieting	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissioner
Bob Kemp proxy for Charles Travis	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
John Mehos	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissioner
Bill Stevenson	NOAA/NMFS
Paul Fulham	NOAA/NMFS
Dr. Ted B. Ford	Sea Grant Advisory
Larry B. Simpson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Comm. Staff
Charles H. Lyles	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Exec. Director
V. K. Herring	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Comm. Staff

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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WHEREAS, the fishery resources of the 50 States are important to the economy and recreation of all people by providing food, jobs, income and recreation, and

WHEREAS, the general public participates in the harvest and utilization of these resources, and

WHEREAS, research and accumulation of data are necessary in the management of these resources, and

WHEREAS, P.L. 94-265, requires that the states manage fishery resources in territorial waters in accordance with standards prescribed in the statute, and

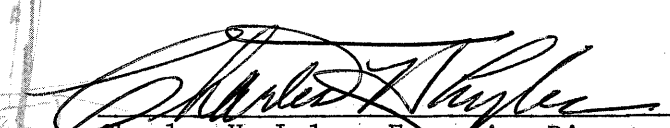
WHEREAS, P.L. 88-309, has been an important force in upgrading the states research staffs and the accumulation of required data, and

WHEREAS, funding provided through P.L. 88-309, has been efficiently and effectively used to provide much of the required data used in preparation of fishery management plans and has been a major factor in upgrading states research staffs and facilities,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in Biloxi, Mississippi on October 19, 1979, does urge that the funding for P.L. 88-309, be increased to \$10 million for FY 1981; \$12 million for FY 1982; and \$15 million for FY 1983. Copies of this resolution are to be spread upon the Minute Book of this Commission and copies are to be directed to the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries and the Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, St. Petersburg, Florida and to the Congressional delegations of the several states.

Unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at the Biloxi Hilton Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi, October 19, 1979.

I certify this is a true and correct copy.



Charles H. Lyles, Executive Director
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

