

SUBCOMMITTEE OF TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Thursday, January 7, 1982  
Kenner, Louisiana

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee of the Technical Coordinating Committee, called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m. to initiate organization of the subcommittee and to address charges to the subcommittee by the T.C.C. The agenda was accepted with no objections.

Dr. Tom McIlwain opened the meeting with a general discussion of the role of the SEAMAP subcommittee and its relationship with the T.C.C.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated that budget needs of T.C.C. in regard to SEAMAP need to be identified. The Federal government has a three-year budget cycle. Input of FY84 budget needs should be submitted by the summer of 1982.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas replied to a question concerning the roles of T.C.C. and the subcommittee by saying the subcommittee's job is to focus on SEAMAP while T.C.C.'s responsibility is broader (example: sea trout, red drum, etc.). The SEAMAP Subcommittee is a working group which will organize assessment activities and report to T.C.C. for budget purposes.

Mr. Corky Perret asked if any thought had been given to put council members on the subcommittee.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated that the T.C.C. has representatives on all councils. Dr. Ford previously had felt at this time that it was not necessary. SEAMAP's overall broad scope is to serve the states and council members represented by members from those states.

Mr. Gary Matlock asked if the subcommittee will interact with other groups.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated that the subcommittee will interact with a

whole host of other groups, but be responsible to T.C.C. SEAMAP itself will coordinate all working groups in the Gulf, the councils, universities and states.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer, upon the request of Dr. Tom McIlwain, reviewed the SEAMAP document and concluded by saying that the SEAMAP document is a background or start-up document. If there were any objections to the document, then we, as a subcommittee, should make changes.

Mr. Gary Matlock asked the question whether SEAMAP was designed to get away from life history-type studies and be more involved with assessment of stocks.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer replied by saying yes and no to the question. SEAMAP is designed so that with assessment, the life history information could be taken from assessment. Broad scale assessment will provide for detailed studies of life history of species.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated that he was worried laying out objectives that cannot be met; example, ichthyoplankton. What would be the outcome if SEAMAP focused on ichthyoplankton?

Dr. Andy Kemmerer indicated that other individuals such as BLM, oil companies and universities do a lot of collecting of information. We need to coordinate all individuals to take data the same way and to share the data.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated we have to produce some type of product to show the oil companies, universities or other groups that we as five states along with the federal government are doing cooperative work.

Dr. Tom McIlwain suggested that we need to summarize all activities going on in the Gulf. If an oil company wants to work in an area, then we can show them what has been done.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated that we need to set up sampling criteria so oil companies, universities, etc., can use a common sampling tool in order that everybody will sample the same way. A Standard Sampling Procedure Manual should be set up. Also, there is a need to document types of surveys and the gear used in those surveys.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer indicated that there are some problems with standardized gear because of budgets and use of historical sampling gear. Also, problems with people using standardized data forms. He suggested that perhaps a symposium should be held to present the Gulf-wide survey and focus on shrimp, something similar to the Gulf of Mexico Estuarine Inventory (GMEI) document.

Mr. Alan Huff suggested that we develop the sampling document, then use the sampling document to develop a symposium a year or two after the sampling document has been released. This would give interested groups the chance to use the document and present their findings in a symposium. Whatever happens, we need a document that is visible, useful, and timely.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer suggested that we need to discuss selections of activities of SEAMAP.

Mr. Corky Perrett stated that we can draw from activities already being done, for example, red drum, shrimp and crab.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated that in the goals and objectives of the SEAMAP document, page 15, that both the state and federal agencies cover a broad range of assessment activities and many of those activities are overlapping.

Mr. Larry Simpson indicated that this committee will have to take an overall look at activities and come to some conclusion on which activities will benefit the Gulf.

Mr. Claude Boudreaux stated that the T.C.C. has already settled on the May/June survey.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated that the subcommittee's job is to plan and coordinate activities and recommend to the T.C.C.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

The subcommittee reconvened at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the T.C.C. charge (May/June Gulf-wide Survey) to the subcommittee.

Dr. Tom McIlwain asked Perry Thompson to review the two cruises that occurred in May/June of 1981 by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Mr. Perry Thompson reviewed the NMFS Ichthyoplankton Cruise 117 (4/30 - 5/27/81). This survey was a cooperative effort between the United States and Mexican governments under the MEXUS-GOLFO agreement. The 1982 Ichthyoplankton Cruise will be scheduled for April 14 to May 18, 1982.

The Shrimp Survey Cruise 118 (6/2 - 7/6/81) was designed to determine shrimp size distribution in an area closed to the shrimp fishery off Texas. The 1982 Shrimp Survey will be scheduled for June 1 to July 21, 1982.

Mr. Gary Matlock asked how long it would take to sort ichthyoplankton samples and who would do it. He expressed concern about collecting ichthyoplankton samples and letting the samples sit on the shelves. Too many samples have been collected, where the commercially important species have been picked out and the rest forgotten. If SEAMAP is to be successful, then we have to produce results (report) in a short period of time.

After much discussion, it was concluded that an Ichthyoplankton cruise would be supported if it was known who would work up the samples, all samples worked up, time frame established for working up samples and cost involved.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer recommended that a working group be identified to look into the who, what, how and cost of ichthyoplankton survey.

It was the concensus of the subcommittee that a working group on ichthyoplankton be set up to include Bill Richards (NMFS) Group Leader, Sally Richardson (GCRL) and Ed Hood (University of Miami). Dr. Andy Kemmerer was charged with contacting the ichthyoplankton work group. The work group leader would report back to the subcommittee on February 25 and 26 in New Orleans. The objectives of the ichthyoplankton work group would be to look at distribution and abundance of special species (bluefin) and coastal pelagics (round and threadfin herring, red drum, tarpon, eel, sciaenids, lobsters, blue crab and shrimp). The working groups would be responsible for:

- o setting up the proposed ichthyoplankton cruise and coordinate with the states;
- o setting up an experimental design;
- o methodology for putting the data out;
- o cost of ichthyoplankton cruise (platforms, people, and gear);
- o time frame involved in working up samples and who would do the work;

Mr. Gary Matlock suggested that emphasis be placed on the working group to have the whole sample worked up.

Dr. Tom McIlwain requested input on the Shrimp Trawl Survey.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated that he would like to see the scope of coverage expand to the east.

After discussion between members of the subcommittee, a concensus was reached on forming a working group to set up a shrimp and bottomfish trawl Gulf-wide survey. Mr. Gary Matlock was charged with contacting the

following: C. E. Bryan (Texas) group leader, Charlie White (Louisiana), Ed Klima (NMFS) Galveston, and Walter Tatum (ADCNR) Alabama. The working group would be charged with:

- o justification of area to be surveyed (Gulf-wide or just Texas);
- o suggested methodology;
- o cost of survey;
- o addressing specified sampling design and calibration of gear;
- o incidental catch;
- o addressing sexual maturity of animals;
- o end product (report).

The group leader would report back to the subcommittee on February 25 and 26 in New Orleans.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer asked who would handle the data and information output; maybe working groups should be established to handle the data.

Dr. Tom McIlwain suggested that we wait until after the working groups meet with the subcommittee.

After some discussion, it was the concensus of the subcommittee to establish a hydrographic survey working group. The following people will be contacted by Dr. Andy Kemmerer to serve on the working group: Warren Stuntz (NMFS) group leader, Tom Leming (NMFS), and Ken Haddad, Florida FDR. The Florida group will be responsible for:

- o interphasing with the other two working groups;
- o typing of hydrographic work that could be done in coordination with the ichthyoplankton and trawl survey;
- o identify equipment which is available and cost.

The working group leader would report back to the subcommittee on February 25 and 26 in New Orleans.

The subcommittee adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The SEAMAP Subcommittee reconvened on the morning of January 8 at 8:00 a.m. with a general discussion of short-term activities of SEAMAP.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated that we have already discussed the need for a list or description of past and present activities in the Gulf. The Corp of Engineers has put together such a list for Alabama and Mississippi. Also, another short-term activity discussed would be the Standard Sampling Procedure Manual in order to come up with standard calibration of trawls.

- o type of trawls used by working groups;
- o work done on trawl calibration;
- o literature search of trawl calibration.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated that a list or description of activities should be done annually. We do not need to concentrate on life history, but present a list of platforms and types of surveys as an annual report.

Mr. Larry Simpson indicated that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission could put the activities in its annual report.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated that after a year or two of an annual activity description report and the standard sampling manual, then a symposium should be organized to present their findings.

Dr. Tom McIlwain requested that we expand standardized trawl calibrations to other gear.

Mr. Larry Simpson suggested that emphasis be placed on TIMS, through the T.C.C., to achieve its goal on a standardized fishery data base.

Dr. Tom McIlwain requested that funding requirements of the subcommittee be discussed. The cost of travel and office expenses for five subcommittee meetings, along with their working groups, to be included.

Mr. Larry Simpson stated that the total cost of the future meetings of SEAMAP should be around \$1,000.00 each.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer recommended the following meetings, along with cost, be presented to T.C.C.

January, subcommittee	\$1,000.00
Working groups independent meetings	2,000.00
February, subcommittee/working groups	2,000.00
March, T.C.C.	1,000.00
June, Subcommittee after surveys	2,000.00
September, review 1982 SEAMAP activities plan and 1983 SEAMAP activities	1,000.00
Coordination of SEAMAP (Perry Thompson)	3,000.00
staff assistance	2,000.00
Printing supplies	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total cost of activities	<u>\$15,000.00</u>

Dr. Tom McIlwain asked the subcommittee whether they wanted to develop a tactical operation plan.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated in order to have an impact on legislation, the subcommittee needs to develop a tactical operation plan now. The overall plan could be fragmented with working groups being responsible for certain segments. "What I see is an operational plan that would address the nuts and bolts of SEAMAP. Total cost of the plan could be approximately \$50 K. I recommend to T.C.C. that we move ahead with the plan and let the subcommittee contract out the plan and act as the COTR."

Mr. Alan Huff recommended that we table the tactical operation plan until next month.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated that the work plan of the subcommittee and the contact of subcommittee members will be the responsibility of Perry Thompson.



Dr. Kemmerer indicated that Perry Thompson will be on an IPA loan to Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) for one year starting in February.

Dr. Tom McIlwain recapped the two-day meeting and announced the second SEAMAP Subcommittee meeting will be held in New Orleans on February 25 and 26 with the working group leaders.

A. Three working groups were developed to look into the who, what, how and cost of May/June surveys.

- o Ichthyoplankton
- o Shrimp and bottomfish
- o Environmental

B. On March 17, the subcommittee will meet with the T.C.C. and report on:

- o 1982 May/June Survey, based on results of the working group;
- o A proposed symposium on trawl calibration activities to be held in conjunction with GSMFC meeting in March of 1983.

Recommend to T.C.C. that a program chairman be appointed to set up the symposium if symposium is:

(1) Short-term

a. Trawl calibration with the development of standard sampling manual;

b. list or description of survey activities of seaman participants to be published annually in the GSMFC annual report to include:

- o list of activities of all SEAMAP participants
- o summary of planned activities of 1982
- o list of vessel schedules
- o area of vessel operation

(2) Long-term

- a. calibration of additional gear types
- b. establishment of a centralized data bank utilizing the TIMS facilities.
- o The budget of the subcommittee and working groups will be approximately \$15 K.

The meeting of the subcommittee was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 7 - 8, 1982

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
*Dr. Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, MS
*Claude Boudreaux	Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
**Dr. Andrew J. Kemmerer	National Marine Fisheries Service/ Mississippi Laboratories
Perry A. Thompson	National Marine Fisheries Service/ Mississippi Laboratories
Larry B. Simpson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Ocean Springs, MS
***J. Y Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, MS
*J. Alan Huff	Florida Department of Natural Resources
*Gary Matlock	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Corky Perret	Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, New Orleans

\* Members of the subcommittee

\*\* Alternate member of subcommittee

\*\*\* Ex officio member

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
Minutes  
Thursday, February 25, 1982  
Kenner, Louisiana

Mr. Walter Tatum, Vice Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee of the T.C.C., presiding. The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. to continue with the organization of the May/June Gulf-wide assessment. The agenda was accepted with no objections.

Dr. Bill Richards, Leader of the Ichthyoplankton Work Group, presented the ichthyoplankton survey design. He stated that the survey design is a systematic grid type of survey with offshore stations (outside 100 fathoms) of one degree intervals and inshore stations of half degree intervals. The systematic grid type of survey design has a better advantage to a random grid survey design because of the size of the survey area.

NMFS will provide equipment, some personnel, and will pick up the samples for processing. The Work Groups or Subcommittees need to identify which species the states are interested in. NMFS is interested in tuna and billfish.

In the past sorting was done by the Polish Sorting Center. Due to internal politics in Poland, we are not sure whether the Poles will sort the samples. If the Polish Sorting Center will not sort the samples, then the Ichthyoplankton Work Group will do the sorting. The samples will first undergo a rough sort, which includes everything to the family level, then the key major species as far as we can go.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked if Dr. Richards saw any value of sampling inside the barrier islands.

Dr. Bill Richards stated that there is great value in those samples taken inside the barrier islands. NMFS will supply the equipment, work up the samples, and supply the data to the states. Outside the barrier islands a double bongo and a surface neuston net will be used. Inshore 20 cm bongo nets could be handled by small boats. One bongo sample and the neuston sample will be sorted for fish larvae, and the remaining sample will be available to the states. The time frame for the oceanic ichthyoplankton survey will be from April 14 to May 18, and ichthyoplankton will piggyback with Texas closure from June 1 to

July 21. The length of tows for the Texas closure would be 25 minutes for deep water and 20 minutes for shallow water.

Mr. Gary Matlock asked the number of samples to be taken and questioned the use of a systematic grid versus a random grid type of sampling.

Dr. Bill Richards stated that the number of samples would run between 500 to 1000.

Mr. Mike McGowan stated that the reason for the systematic grid approach was that the random grid design was an impractical design because of the large survey area. A systematic grid approach produces equal or better estimates of abundance for a large survey area such as the Gulf of Mexico. It allows for better use of vessel time. The only time a random grid survey would be better is when we know the species patterns in a small survey area.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated that he was still concerned about the species to be sorted. Why billfish and tuna? It's not commercially important to the states.

Dr. Bill Richards replied that we (NMFS) will work up all the fish down to species.

Mr. Walter Tatum stated he has the feeling that the state's inside waters have been left out; that it's very important that ichthyoplankton work be done inside state waters. I would like to propose to each state that work with ichthyoplankton be done. What are the feelings of the states?

Mr. Gary Matlock stated that in Texas C.E. Bryan is in charge of the R/V Western Gulf. We could possibly do something, but I would have to check on our vessel schedule.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas stated that Mississippi would be able to do ichthyoplankton sampling.

Mr. Alan Huff stated that Florida could do some inshore ichthyoplankton work, possibly with the R/V Bellows if NMFS would supply a person. I need time frames and cost would be a problem. Also could NMFS take some samples for Florida around the LOOP.

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that some extra time is possible.

Mr. Claude Boudreaux stated that Louisiana is doing some ichthyoplankton work now.

Mr. Perry Thompson asked Dr. Bill Richards the time frame to work up 1,000 samples and a report.

Dr. Bill Richards estimated that the samples could be worked up in 10 months and a report out 2 months after the samples completed. All depends on the number of samples.

Mr. Walter Tatum stated that the Subcommittee should charge Dr. Bill Richards to continue with the ichthyoplankton group and work with Perry Thompson to develop a ichthyoplankton work plan by the next week.

By general concensus, the Subcommittee agreed.

Mr. C. E. Bryan presented the shrimp and bottomfish work plan to the Subcommittee.

Mr. C. E. Bryan stated the major objective of the Work Group was to determine relative abundance of penaeidaes and bottomfish in coastal zones of the Northern Gulf of Mexico from the Mississippi River to Brownsville, Texas.

Vessels included are NMFS Oregon II (June 1 to July 18), and the charter vessel Tona Joe from 5 to 50 fathoms off Louisiana/Texas.

The stations will be sampled at night using a 40 foot shrimp trawl. Stations are randomly selected in one fathom increments along the coast.

All species of shrimp will be taken. Shrimp will be subsampled, sexed and 200 of each sex will be measured. On bottomfish and other crustacean the entire sample will be worked up (identified and weighed).

Total cost of the shrimp and bottomfish survey is around \$300K.

On environmental data the Work Group requested bottom and surface temperature and salinity, and bottom oxygen be recorded.

Louisiana can go out to 5 fathoms on a weekly basis but can only sample during the day. Louisiana will do experimental design on day/night tows.

Texas will use the R/V Western Gulf in shrimp statistical zone 20 and sample similar to the Oregon II. Dr. Ed Klima will provide a person to help sample finfish. Texas will use a 20 foot trawl in the estuaries.

During the end of the shrimp and bottomfish survey there will be one day set aside to perform gear comparability studies.

The data sheets from Texas will be given to NMFS for transcribing and recording on their computer and then returned to Texas.

The final report will be to the Gulf Council on Texas closure.

Dr. Ed Klima stated that NMFS will provide computer data from the survey to all users. The Council report must be out before December 1982. We are possibly looking at 350 stations (Mississippi River to Brownsville) and we must have all data in the computer as soon as possible.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked whether the Work Group considered extending the survey East of the Mississippi River.

Mr. C. E. Bryan stated that the primary shrimp fishery for brown shrimp is West of the River. If vessel time is available then we could continue with coverage off Mississippi and Alabama.

Dr. Walter Nelson indicated that the Oregon II has some flexibility in its schedule (possible 4 days) to do trawling comparability studies off Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

Mr. Walter Tatum stated that the primary purpose of SEAMAP is to bring together the states in a partnership with the federal government in order to share research data collected by the presiding parties. Presently all is focused on the NMFS and the states have been excluded. If SEAMAP is to work then we need to work together.

As with ichthyoplankton, the Subcommittee should charge the shrimp and bottomfish with developing a plan by the next week and work with Perry Thompson.

By general concensus, the Subcommittee agreed.

2:45 p.m. - Break for Lunch -

The SEAMAP Subcommittee continued at 1:45 pm with Dr. Warren Stuntz presentation on the Environmental Work Group survey design.

The Environmental Work Group discussed what the needs of the other Work Groups and agreed on following data to be collected: wind speed and direction; wave height; cloud cover; water clarity; water color; water depth; water temperature at surface, midwater and bottom; salinity at surface, midwater and bottom; chlorophyll at surface, midwater and bottom; oxygen at surface, midwater and bottom; turbidity at surface,

midwater and bottom; and thermocline depth. Other parameters such as position of vessel and time of day will be recorded.

The working group spent considerable time on chlorophyll because we can use a satellite to compare with ground truth data taken from the vessels. The satellite will pass over the Gulf 3 to 4 days of the week. We considered measuring nitrites and nitrates but it is too difficult to do.

The R/V Hernando Cortez is the only vessel equipped for measuring environmental parameters.

The R/V Western Gulf has niskon bottles.

The R/V Oregon II has secchi disk, XBT and a fluorometer.

One of the Florida Universities will loan niskon bottles and reversing thermometers.

The measurement of chlorophyll requires a fluorometer. Only the Hernando Cortez and the Oregon II have that capability. For areas these vessels don't sample, a water sample could be taken, filtered and then freeze the filter. The cost will be incurred when we analyze the sample.

The environmental work group is concerned over accuracy of the data. It was concluded that some comparability should be achieved between vessels taking environmental data.

The Mississippi Laboratories has the capability of providing all the data to user groups in computer readouts by station number. An environmental data sheet could be designed by the work group.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas asked if the taking of oxygen samples was ruled out.

Dr. Warren Stuntz stated that it would be worth doing from Alabama West if 2 or 3 oxygen meters could be located.

Mr. Larry Simpson asked if the environmental parameters such as weather and sea conditions could be collected from weather service, oil rigs and other platforms.

Dr. Warren Stuntz replied this was a possibility that needs looking into.

Mr. Alan Huff stated that with limitations the working groups were asked to develop survey designs for the May/June Gulf-wide assessment. He thought that they did a good job.



Mr. Walter Tatum stated that after hearing the work groups presentations we are at a point of reorganizing or proceeding with the working groups' design. The question here, is it a SEAMAP Program or is it oceanic ichthyoplankton and Texas closure? NMFS area of responsibility is dominating the program. I recall the initial charge of the TCC was to organize a May/June Gulf-wide assessment survey which included shrimp and bottomfish. If the Subcommittee does not support the surveys, then we need to report back to the TCC that it won't work.

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that NMFS has certain responsibilities; i.e., bluefin, Texas closure. Presently what we have is useful and valuable; with some modifications we can iron out the problems.

Mr. Walter Tatum suggested the Subcommittee look at Ichthyoplankton and make comments on how each state could intermesh with the survey. The oceanic ichthyoplankton survey time frame is from April 14 to May 18 and the second phase of ichthyoplankton would be piggyback with shrimp and bottomfish from June 1 to July 21.

After some discussion it was concluded that only Florida would work offshore during the oceanic phase with NMFS. All states except Texas will take inshore ichthyoplankton samples during the oceanic phase.

Dr. Ted Ford recommended that the Subcommittee extend an invitation to the Gulf Sea Grant programs to sit in on the next SEAMAP meeting. The purpose would be to identify funds and to assist in coordination with other agencies in the southeast.

The Subcommittee agreed with Dr. Ted Ford by general consensus.

5:20 p.m. - Adjourned for the day -

The SEAMAP Subcommittee reconvened on February 26 at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Walter Tatum continued with the discussion on how much time the Oregon II will have available east of the Mississippi river.

Mr. Perry Thompson stated that the question we need to ask is how far east of the river.

Mr. Walter Tatum stated that the primary shrimp and bottomfish grounds would lie off Mobile bay.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked each member to respond to what their states could do in regard to shrimp and bottomfish.

Mr. Claude Boudreaux stated that Louisiana will be running transect lines in the bay and passes from March to October. All are daytime tows, but will try to do some night tows. Plankton samples will be taken in the passes.

Mr. Walter Tatum stated that Alabama will make every effort to run transect lines out of the bays and passes. We will be using 16-foot trawls.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas stated that Mississippi will also sample the bays and passes. We will use 16 and 40-foot trawls.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked NMFS what time period would the Oregon II be available in the eastern Gulf and could we count on those days.

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that the Oregon II will be in the eastern Gulf the last of May to the first of June. You can count on four days if Florida helps out with the offshore Ichthyoplankton stations.

I would like to recommend that the shrimp and bottomfish work group work up a sampling plan for east of the Mississippi river to Perdido Bay, Florida -- the same type of sampling plan presented off Texas.

The recommendation was seconded by Alan Huff and was carried.

The Subcommittee began discussion of a SEAMAP operational plan.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked if the Subcommittee wanted to carry the SEAMAP program further and recommended its continuance to the T.C.C.

Subcommittee members unanimously agreed to continue with SEAMAP.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas stated that the development of an operational plan will be a big job and will take some contract money. The Subcommittee needs to look at what's in the SEAMAP document and make some changes.

Dr. Walter Nelson indicated that the document needs to be modified. Maybe before the next T.C.C. meeting we need to determine a cost and how the plan will be presented.

Mr. Norris Jefferys stated that presently you have agreed with the three work groups for 1982, but now you need a more formalized document.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated that we are already on the way with an operational plan. A report to the T.C.C. would be a basis for developing the operational plan. We are headed in the right direction.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked why the plan couldn't be developed by the Committee and have Perry Thompson write it up.

Mr. Larry Simpson stated that we would still have to seek funding, and it would be almost impossible with our current staff level.

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that I think Perry Thompson could put together a document on what an operational plan should contain. Then we could contract out to someone who would write the plan.

Mr. Walter Tatum requested each of the Subcommittee members to formulate in their own minds what an operational plan should consist of and then report back to the Subcommittee in the next meeting.

The Subcommittee agreed by general consensus.

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that he is scheduled to go to Mexico next week. He would like the Subcommittee to give him direction regarding SEAMAP.

Mr. Larry Simpson asked whether Dr. Walter Nelson was going down to Mexico for MEXUS or SEAMAP.

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that he was going down under MEXUS and to see if Mexico is compatible with SEAMAP.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked if the Subcommittee charged him to act on SEAMAP.

Dr. Walter Nelson replied that it was put on the agenda to give him this type of direction.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked what were the wishes of the Committee?

The general consensus was to let Dr. Walter Nelson represent SEAMAP Subcommittee in Mexico.

There being no further business, the Subcommittee adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
February 25 and 26, 1982  
Airport Ramada Inn  
Kenner, Louisiana

Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-5912
Walter M. Tatum	Gulf Shores, AL	205/968-7575
Claude Boudreaux	New Orleans, LA	504/568-6956
Ted B. Ford	New Orleans, LA	504/568-5671
Larry B. Simpson	Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-5912
William J. Richards	NMFS - Miami, FL	305/361-4225
Mike McGowan	NMFS - Miami, FL	305/361-4244
J. Alan Huff	FDNR - St. Petersburg, FL	813/896-8626
Norris B. Jeffrey	NMFS - Washington, D.C.	202/634-7466
Ed J. Klima	NMFS - Galveston, TX	713/766-3500
C. E. Bryan	TPWD - Austin, TX	512/479-4861
J. Y. Christmas	Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-2244
Gary Matlock	TPWD - Austin, TX	512/479-4862
Walter Nelson	NMFS - Pascagoula, MS	601/762-4591
Warren Stuntz	NMFS - Pascagoula, MS	601/762-4591

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Monday, March 15, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee of the TCC, presiding. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. to continue discussion of the May/June Gulf-wide assessment and development of an operational plan.

The agenda was approved by consensus. February 25 and 26 SEAMAP meeting minutes were approved, with editorial changes, by consensus.

Dr. Walter Nelson, for Dr. Bill Richards, reviewed the ichthyoplankton survey by introducing the cruise track for the oceanic ichthyoplankton survey (Chart A) and the piggyback ichthyoplankton survey with the shrimp and bottomfish survey (Chart B). He stated that Florida will do some of the oceanic survey stations (5 to 16) to allow the OREGON II to devote more trawling time east of the Mississippi River delta on the shrimp and bottomfish survey.

Mr. Walter Tatum noted a need for more coordination between the surveys. He made a motion that the Subcommittee should form a fourth work group consisting of each of the work group leaders and the chairman of the Subcommittee. Their purpose be to organize and coordinate the first three work groups and concentrate their efforts on the shrimp and bottomfish trawl survey. The members of this coordinating work group are:

Dr. Tom McIlwain  
Dr. Bill Richards (alternate, Sally Richardson)  
Dr. Warren Stuntz  
Mr. C. E. Bryan

The coordinating work group will meet on March 16 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss coordination of the shrimp and bottomfish survey and compatibility of data sheets. The motion passed by consensus.

Mr. C. E. Bryan reviewed the shrimp and bottomfish survey. He stated that Dr. Ed Klima will present the stations at the coordinating work group meeting on March 16.

Mr. Alan Huff said that Florida will coordinate with NMFS to do a 5 to 6 day oceanic ichthyoplankton survey offshore and a 10 day ichthyoplankton survey inshore. They need one person and a bongo net.

Mr. Walter Tatum stated that Dr. Robert Shaw with Louisiana State University's Coastal Ecology Laboratory is doing ichthyoplankton transport work off Louisiana. He recommended that the Subcommittee involve Dr. Shaw in SEAMAP activities.

Dr. Tom McIlwain asked for the consensus of the Subcommittee on involving Dr. Shaw with SEAMAP activities. There were no objections.

The discussion centered around other groups who are doing research in the Gulf such as the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Dr. Tom McIlwain asked Perry Thompson to contact the BLM to see if they are doing any trawling off Florida and to look into future coordination with the Bureau of Land Management.

Dr. Warren Stuntz reviewed the environmental survey. He requested that the states identify gear needs for each survey. Also, upon request of Subcommittee members, he will list objectives of the environmental work group and will produce an atlas report by March 1983.

Dr. Tom McIlwain presented the TCC report on SEAMAP to the Subcommittee. The report was accepted by consensus with minor editorial comments. (Copy attached.)

The discussion turned to the development of an operational plan. Mr. Walter Tatum presented a typed report on what he thought the objective and goals of SEAMAP should be. The Subcommittee agreed with the objective and goals but suggested they need tightening up. The Subcommittee agreed that the objective and goals of SEAMAP should be presented to the TCC for future funding of SEAMAP.

It was agreed by the Subcommittee to take Walter Tatum's objective and goals and meet Tuesday, March 16, at 7:30 a.m. to continue discussion of an operational plan.

Motion for adjournment at 5:00 p.m. was accepted by consensus.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 15, 1982

Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
J. Alan Huff	Florida DNR	813/896-8626
Warren E. Stuntz	NMFS	601/762-0055
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS	601/762-4591
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-6956
Walter M. Tatum	Alabama MRD - DCNR	205/968-7575
C. E. Bryan	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.	512/479-4861
Steve Heath	Alabama MRD - DCNR	205/861-2882
Tom Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4863
Harry Schaefer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-5676
Hugh Swingle	Alabama MRD	205/861-2882
Rick Shaw	Louisiana State University	504/388-6734
Pete Eldridge	NMFS	803/724-4769
Larry Simpson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.	512/479-4862
Jim Jones	MS/AL Seagrass Consortium	601/875-9341
Sally Richardson	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/432-1612
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/8785-2244

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 16, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

The SEAMAP Subcommittee met for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. to discuss the objective and goals of a SEAMAP operational plan. The determined objective and goals will be incorporated into the SEAMAP report to the TCC. All Subcommittee members were present. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Tom McIlwain.

Dr. Tom McIlwain suggested that we review the objective and goals as put forth by Alabama to see if we can determine a common objective and goals. He suggested we should forget the mechanics and concentrate on the objective and goals of SEAMAP to be presented to the TCC in the SEAMAP report.

The SEAMAP Subcommittee reviewed the objective and goals as presented by Walter Tatum and derived the following:

- Objective: Plan and coordinate the assessment and monitoring of Gulf of Mexico marine resources of commercial, recreational, and social or aesthetic importance.
- Goal 1: Identify existing data banks and ongoing local, state, federal, university and public research activities accessible for entry into a single multi-use data bank of value to assessment and monitoring of living marine resources in the Southeast area.
- Goal 2: Develop integrated assessment and monitoring programs for commercial and recreational fisheries and species possessing aesthetic and social qualities throughout their range in estuarine areas, state territorial waters, fishery conservation zones, and the high seas.
- Goal 3: Annually examine fishery stock assessment and monitoring activities in the Gulf of Mexico to insure coordination of assessment and monitoring activities of high priority fishery stocks within the various management areas.
- Goal 4: Provide mechanism for sampling and specialized surveys to collect data on the general condition of selected fisheries stocks.
- Goal 5: Plan and coordinate the maintenance of fishery-independent data on marine resources in the Southeast and disseminate to SEAMAP participants.



There was some discussion on the use of compatible computer systems and availability of a computer person to keep track of the SEAMAP data. Florida, Alabama and Mississippi are scheduled to use Apple computer terminals. If each of the states will use the same type of computer system, then the SEAMAP data will be assessible to all.

Mr. Walter Tatum asked if Louisiana and Texas wanted Apple computer terminals.

Mr. Gary Matlock replied by saying that they have been approached about the terminals but presently they felt that there were too many constraints on the use of the terminals.

Dr. Tom McIlwain suggested that he could approach the TCC in the SEAMAP report to encourage NMFS to work out problem constraints with Texas and Louisiana on the use of Apple computer terminals. In addition, he would request the TCC to consider a computer person to assist with SEAMAP data.

A motion for adjournment at 9:00 a.m. was accepted by consensus.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
Coordination Work Group  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 16, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

The coordinating work group met at 1:30 p.m. to develop and coordinate the three survey designs and focus their efforts on the shrimp and bottomfish time span. In addition the work group will discuss standardizing data sheets. The following members were present: Dr. Tom McIlwain, Dr. Warren Stuntz, Dr. Sally Richardson and, Mr. C. E. Bryan. Dr. Ed Klima, Mr. Alan Huff and Mr. Perry Thompson were also present.

Dr. Ed Klima presented the sampling stations for the shrimp and bottomfish survey. The survey area will be from the Mississippi River east to 87° 30' W (Perdido Bay, Florida) between 5 and 45 fathoms. East of the Mississippi River twenty-six (26) trawling stations were randomly selected. Dr. Ed Klima stated that there were gaps in the random station selection, but he would supply additional stations to fill in the gaps or request another random computer selection of stations. The time frame for east of the river will be June 1 - 10. Ichthyoplankton samples will be taken in half degree intervals or the nearest grid to the trawl station. Environmental samples will be taken at each trawling station. If time is available, the R/V OREGON II could spend one day east of 87° 30' W to do additional ichthyoplankton stations. One day will be devoted to a trawl comparability study with the R/V TOMMY MUNRO.

West of the Mississippi River, one hundred thirty (130) random stations were selected off Louisiana between 5 and 45 fathoms starting June 15. The charter vessel TONYA & JOE will pick up approximately 60 stations inshore and the R/V OREGON II will pick up 70 stations offshore. The R/V OREGON II will spend one night to do trawl comparability studies with the TONYA & JOE. Ichthyoplankton samples will be taken every half degree (30 miles) or nearest to the trawl station. If time is available the R/V OREGON II would like to do a couple of days of bottom longline and fishing around platforms for large benthic fish who prey on shrimp.

After Louisiana stations are completed the R/V OREGON II will continue off Texas until July 15 with one hundred four (104) random trawling stations. The Texas R/V WESTERN GULF will sample approximately 40 out of 104 stations in shrimp statistical zones 19 and 20. One night will be set aside to do trawl comparability studies with the R/V WESTERN GULF. Ichthyoplankton samples will be taken every half degree (30 miles) or nearest to the trawl station.

There will be two watches on the OREGON II; eight-hour watches with five (5) people to the watch.

The other topic of discussion centered around establishing a standardized data sheet for each type of survey. It was agreed that for the first SEAMAP survey each agency will transcribe data onto their own data sheets. The only exception will be the environmental survey. The environmental work group will develop the only standardized data sheet.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, March 17, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

The SEAMAP Subcommittee met, upon the request of the TCC, at 4:30 pm. Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee presiding. All members of the Subcommittee were present except Mr. Alan Huff who had to return to Florida. Dr. Bill Fox, Mr. Larry Simpson, Mr. C. E. Bryan and Mr. Perry Thompson were also present. In the SEAMAP report to the TCC the Subcommittee asked the TCC for assistance in identifying future SEAMAP funding. The TCC requested the Subcommittee to meet with Dr. Bill Fox, Director, Southeast Fisheries Center, NMFS, to identify budget needs for FY84 and discuss cost associated with the development of an operational plan.

Mr. Larry Simpson stated that SEAMAP is covered up to September 30, 1982 with \$15K. Ability to fund the SEAMAP activities depends upon the number of meetings held by the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee discussed the need for an operational plan.

Mr. C. E. Bryan stated that the Subcommittee already has an ichthyoplankton, shrimp and bottomfish, and environmental survey plan. He queried, why not build upon the plans of these surveys and the SEAMAP document?

Dr. Walter Nelson stated that the SEAMAP document is a strategic plan. What is needed is a comprehensive document, an operational plan to address the nuts and bolts of SEAMAP, a plan that the states can take to the legislature and the NMFS to Congress to substantiate funding. Without an operational plan, we don't have a mechanism to address the needs of special studies that you might want to accomplish.

Dr. Bill Fox stated that by going through this summer Gulf-wide assessment and then building from this assessment, we could develop an operational plan. He thinks it is a little premature to do an operational plan until after the summer assessment.

He further stated that NMFS has been requested by the TCC to supply a computer person to assist with SEAMAP data. That person will be Mr. Ken Savastano who is employed with NMFS Bay St. Louis facility.

He continued by saying for FY83 you still have an administrative cost to bear in order to keep the program operating. NMFS will commit additional money and would like the states to look to their budgets to come up with some additional funds. Beyond FY83 NMFS is already looking at FY84 budget. By the next week he needs to put his marker in for funding for NMFS FY84 budget. For FY84 he would like to build on what it will cost to operate SEAMAP in FY82. He stated that in putting together the pieces it would be better if SEAMAP showed that the participants need additional sampling gear, personnel or perhaps one of the states, such as Louisiana, needs assistance in buying a larger vessel. He further stated that if he can sell on the basis of a cooperative mode, such as what was done for the Texas closure and what SEAMAP is planning to do this year, and then ask for the funds to do the SEAMAP project in FY84, this would initiate a phase one budget request. Downstream the development of an operational plan would initiate a phase two budget request for FY85 and FY86. He requested a target figure of what SEAMAP needs from the state system and from the federal system.

Dr. Fox suggested keeping the operations plan in mind as the number one priority and downstream, after this year, see how it works. He said we may want to change objectives and look at specialized studies.

Mr. Gary Matlock stated with the goals in the SEAMAP report to the TCC the Subcommittee now has the beginning of an operational plan. He thinks with these goals listed we are on the way to accomplishing SEAMAP objectives. Big expenditures or outside help are not needed to write an operational plan. The objective for 1982 is to accomplish what we have started this spring. In 1983 the objective is to evaluate what was done in 1982 and repeat the sampling. The objective here is to establish long-term sampling. He stated his opposition to cancelling long term sampling in favor of specialized studies.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated that maybe next year the Subcommittee will evaluate sampling; if worthwhile, they could continue. Possibly, if needed, the Subcommittee can add specialized studies to the current SEAMAP assessment.

Dr. Bill Fox stated that in regard to FY84 budget cost he would like to have by March 25 the resource cost from each state and NMFS on the Gulf-wide May/June assessment survey. The cost should be broken down by gear, vessel needs, personnel, travel, etc. For FY83 NMFS will commit \$15K so SEAMAP will continue.

Dr. Tom McIlwain stated he will charge each Subcommittee to go back to their own states and NMFS to account for resource needs for FY84 in dollars. Perry Thompson will poll each Subcommittee member by phone on March 24. Mr. Thompson and Dr. McIlwain will get together on March 25, to put together a table on cost, and contact Dr. Bill Fox on March 25.

The motion for adjournment at 5:45 p.m. was accepted by consensus.

Minutes  
Blue Crab Subcommittee

Members of the Blue Crab Subcommittee met with the Blue Crab Management Planning Profile Committee on Tuesday, March 16, 1982 to review sections of the profile document under development. In attendance were:

Steve Heath, Walter Tatum, Charles Moss,  
Phil Steele, Richard Condrey, Garey Perkins,  
Ken Roberts, Gerald Adkins, Harriet Perry,  
Paul Hammerschmidt, Ron Herring.

The morning session was devoted to a discussion of the MSY considerations presented by Dr. Richard Condrey and to a review of the following sections:

Rules and Regulations - Ron Herring  
Area Description - Harriet Perry  
Life History - Harriet Perry  
History of the Fishery - Paul Hammerschmidt, Charles  
Moss  
Recreational Fishing - Gerald Adkins  
Current Research - Gerald Adkins  
Factors Affecting Juvenile Abundance - Phil Steele

The afternoon session was concerned with the progress made to date on the development of the socio-economic section. Dr. Garey Perkins presented a preliminary draft of the section and asked for committee recommendations and additional information that needed to be addressed in that section.

New work assignments were made.

Harriet M. Perry  
Chairman

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 16, 1982

The meeting of the Industry Advisory Committee of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairman Walter Zimmerman of Port Isabel, Texas.

On a motion made and seconded, the minutes of the last committee meeting were adopted as written.

The presented agenda for the meeting was approved.

Consideration was given to various proposed user fees.

Based on a recommendation by Charles Lyles a motion was made and seconded to recommend to the Commission that they oppose user fees and insist that adequate funding for operations of the U.S. Coast Guard be restored. The motion was approved.

Discussion moved to the proposed budget for the National Marine Fisheries Service. Mr. Lyles indicated that there were a number of cuts which would affect the Gulf of Mexico fishing industry including some key facilities. He emphasized that as statutes and regulations are made, they must be supported by adequate knowledge of the resources and therefore the committee should ask the Commission to take a hard stand against the closing of the Galveston and Bay St. Louis Laboratories of the National Marine Fisheries Service. Concerns were also expressed over loss of the environmental review of proposed projects on effective marine habitats.

Harold Allen briefly reviewed the NMFS efforts in opposition to the Nueces Bay spoil disposal site on the coast of Texas. Considerable discussion ensued on different ocean oriented projects which would be zero funded or receive significant reduction in funds. At the termination of discussion, a motion was made that the Industry Advisory Committee recommend that the Commission take a strong stand against cuts in the National Marine Fisheries Service budget to include special attention toward maintenance of the Galveston and Bay St. Louis Laboratory. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion turned to consideration of Title IV of the Outer Continental Shelf Act, known as the Fishermen's Contingency Fund.



Mr. Lyles reviewed the efforts of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission in establishment of this program and the disappointment with its implementation. Mr. Lyles suggested that the program might be better administered through a contract to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission which would allow for the establishment of an office in New Orleans. Discussion ensued on this proposal as well as the status of the proposed amendments to Title IV which are currently awaiting action by the Senate Commerce Committee. It was expressed that a letter from the Commission might be helpful in drawing attention to the bill.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was approved to recommend that the Commission forward a letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service that it actively support the proposed amendments to Title IV.

Shrimp legislation was the next item discussed by the committee. Ralph Rayburn reviewed some of the activities of the Texas Shrimp Association in relation to shrimp legislation at the federal level. Discussion ensued on various considerations of a marketing program in conjunction with import controls. Senate Bill 2173, recently submitted by Senator Chiles and Senator Hollings, was also discussed. After expressing concerns for getting something done, the Chairman appointed a subcommittee composed of Bill Chauvin, Bob Jones, Charles Lyles, Tim Smith, Wilma Anderson, Dick Ellis and Ralph Rayburn to develop an acceptable quota system. This subcommittee was directed to meet immediately after completion of the agenda.

Tuna issues were next considered by the Committee. The Chairman called on Ed Wolfe of the U.S. Tuna Foundation, who explained the results of the ICCAT meeting last year and the resulting quotas for scientific research developed through negotiations between the U.S., Canada, and Japan. It was explained that the U.S. tuna industry continues to feel that international conventions are the best procedure for resource management. Interest was expressed by representatives of the Gulf Fishing Industry to bring the management of tuna under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, (PL 94-265). It was felt that the recommendation for coastal state preference for access to tuna stocks were imposed at ICCAT.

A motion was made that the committee request the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission to go on record in favor of bringing tuna under PL 94-265. The motion was seconded and passed.

A request was made by Jim Prunty that discussion be reopened on Title IV of the Outer Continental Shelf Act of 1978. The Chairman approved this request. Mr. Prunty then expressed his concern for making any changes to the currently proposed amendments without coordination with the oil industry. After discussion, it was concluded that sufficient guidance is in the motion passed with the associated discussion for an appropriate letter to be written.

Chairman Zimmerman then recessed the committee until 1:30 p.m. in order to receive the report on the subcommittee considering shrimp import quotas.

At 1:30 p.m. the Industry Advisory Committee reconvened. The subcommittee report given by Ralph Rayburn included a recommendation that a quota be incorporated into a marketing council, enabling legislation with provisions to include the following:

- a. An initial quota of 250 million pounds, developed by consideration of average imports from the last six years, as reported in the NMFS publication on the status of the fishery.
- b. A quota allocated to each country of origin based on its average of the past three years.
- c. A seasonal flow of imports at the rate of 2/3 of allowable imports in January - June and 1/3 during the remainder of the year.
- d. The marketing council would initiate recommendations for quota adjustments to the President based on the following considerations:
  1. Cold storage holdings
  2. Apparent consumptions
  3. Anticipated/experienced domestic landings
  4. Changes in availability from country of origin
  5. Such other factors as may be available

INDUSTRY ADVISORY  
MINUTES  
Page 4

On a motion made, seconded and unanimously approved, the provisions of the quota system were adopted.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was approved at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Zimmerman, Chairman  
Industry Advisory Committee

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 16, 1982

Walter Zimmerman	Texas Shrimp Association	Port Isabel, TX
Charles Lyles	GSMFC	Ocean Springs, MS
Thomas Schultz, Jr.	Commercial Fish	Biloxi, MS
Julius Collins	Texas Shrimp Association	Brownsville, TX
Linda Lerway	Texas Shrimp Association	Austin, TX
Willis H. Clark	Texas A & M	College Station, TX
Roger D. Anderson	G&SA Fisheries Dev.Fndtn.	Tampa, Florida
John Mehos	Liberty Fish & Oyster Co.	Galveston, TX
Bill Chauvin	Am.Shrimp Can.&Proc.Assn.	New Orleans, LA
Dick Ellis	Texas Gulf Shrimp Co.	Aransas Pass, TX
Wilma Anderson	Ocean Breeze	Aransas Pass, TX
Harold B. Allen	NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
Clyde Richbourg	American Seafood Company	Pensacola, FL
Jim Harris	Cap'n Jim's Seafood	Pensacola, FL
Bill Guarino	S.E. LA Comm. Fshmn. Assn.	St. Bernard, LA
John Burgbacher	Shell Offshore, Inc.	New Orleans, LA
Tim Smith	House Mchnt.Mrne.&Fsh.Subc.	Washington, DC
Ed Wolfe	U.S. Tuna Foundation	Washington, DC
Jook Patrenos	Southeastern Fisheries	Florida
Bob Jones	Southeastern Fisheries	Florida
John Miloy	TX Coastal & Marine Council	Austin, TX
J. A. Prunty	Consultant	New Orleans, LA
Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association	Austin, TX

MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 16, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Mr. Robert Chapoton, Chairman, presiding. Mr. Chapoton called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The agenda was adopted on a motion by Mr. James Nelson, seconded by Mr. Ray Richardson. The Chairman noted the committee members as follows:

Earl J. Conrad, Jr. (replacing George Brumfield)	-	present
Jake Dermer	-	absent
Dalton Berry	-	present
Borden Wallace	-	present
James Nelson	-	present
Ray Richardson	-	present
Gary Matlock	-	present
Harry Schafer	-	present
J. Y. Christmas	-	present
Hugh Swingle	-	present
Bob Chapoton	-	present
Charles Futch	-	present

An addition to the minutes concerned the discussion to establish a framework in the states' laws to allow for a flexible season length if needed in the future. A motion was made by Mr. Christmas, seconded by Mr. Schafer, to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried.

The National Fish Meal and Oil report was handed out and indicated, among other things:

The 1981 season showed 21 percent decline in landings from the previous year. 552,000 metric tons were landed in 1981; 16 percent from Mississippi and 84 percent from Louisiana. This is a 25 percent and 20 percent reduction, respectively. Effort was down 1 percent and one new vessel was added to the fishing fleet for a total of 80 vessels.

The captains' daily reports for 1979-80 season are now in the hands of Beaufort Laboratory on Magnetic Tape from Contractor, Get Corporation out of Miami. 1981 season data status is that all sheets have been picked up. Final screening by Beaufort Laboratory has been done to help the contractor. 60 percent of data is on tape by the contractor according to the latest report. In 1981 we have 84 percent coverage on

actual fishing days of season documented in the captains' daily reports. Expected publishing date for 1981 is May 1982.

Plans for 1982 call for the same collection techniques with companies to pay for printing. Mr. Chapoton will mail prior to the season so they will be on hand at the start.

There are some problems with block 16 (pump out) on the sheet. Mr. Chapoton urged industry to emphasize to their staffs the importance of filling in this information.

Funds for 1982 data collection seems firm at this date. Plans are to use Get Corporation again. Industry questioned how to get a faster turn around in data. It was noted that the first year, when Mr. Christmas had the contract the data was completed in two months. Efforts will be directed to streamline the process as much as possible in areas outside the contractor's shop.

Question arose about data pickup, whether mail-in or personal pickup at the plant. Mr. Chapoton indicated he would reply to industry on which way it will be handled in the near future. A point also needing clarification is the exact definition of an airplane assisted catch. Some fishermen indicate airplane assistance as directing the boat to the area where fish were sighted, while others require the plane to help set the purse boats. Mr. Chapoton will talk these problems over with his data people and get an answer for the industry in a few weeks.

The outlook for 1982 appears to be good juvenile abundance in tributaries east of Galveston Bay to West Florida and weak abundance in the Florida panhandle. Central fishing grounds were described as good. The service expects the same fishing effort (80 vessels), normal weather with a predicted catch of 602,000 metric tons in a range of 480,000 - 725,000 metric tons, with 80 percent confidence.

Concerning the flexible fishing season framework within state laws, Mr. Chapoton handed out discussion papers for the committee to review. He indicated with fishing, 20 percent of the total stock live and 80 percent die from natural causes and fishing mortality. There is some small loss of menhaden from fishing other than purse seines. A question arose about the lack of intermingling or interdependence between East and West of river populations. This seems to be the case with minor

exceptions. The states reviewed procedures, time limits required to have a flexible season and which agencies are involved.

Mr. Conrad indicated the reasons for using the original season dates. Since the major management of this industry is through seasons, we need a complete effective manner to adjust the season dates to manage properly when conditions change. Other members of the industry basically agreed indicating biological monitoring and evaluation would be a major factor in the change in season dates. One suggested means to accomplish this action would require legislative action to allow the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission to regulate the menhaden fishing season based on the recommendation of this Advisory Board. It was also indicated that a report by National Marine Fisheries Service biologists, for the Board to base these decisions on, could be available by late August or early September of the current year.

Mr. Conrad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wallace, to update the Menhaden Management Plan to include but not be limited to a flexible mechanism for season dates. The motion carried. The chairman appointed a small subcommittee to determine rough cost (later determined to be approximately \$7K) and other areas which need to be addressed in the update. The Advisory Committee will recommend this action to the State-Federal Fisheries Management Board for their action.

The proposed project concerning in-depth data on oil yields from individual year classes was discussed. National Marine Fisheries Service will continue to work up this project to determine if it is feasible.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Chapoton, Chairman  
Menhaden Advisory Committee

MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 16, 1982

Larry Simpson	Gulf States MFC	Ocean Springs, MS
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	Ocean Springs, MS
Larry King	Atlantic States MFC	Washington, D.C.
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS	Beaufort, N.C.
Pete Eldridge	NMFS	Charleston, S.C.
Bill Guarino	S.E. LA Comm.Fshmn.Assn.	St. Bernard, LA
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife/Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Ed Swindell	Zapata-Haynie Corp.	Houston, TX
Melissa W. Smith	SPRO	New Orleans, LA
Henry H. Hildebrand	Fisheries Consultant	Corpus Christi, TX
Ben R. Humphreys	Standard Prod. Cod.	Moss Point, MS
T. G. Christopher	Standard Products Co.	Moss Point, MS
J. J. Nelson	Standard Products Co.	Kilmarnock, VA
George Brumfield	Zapata-Haynie Corp.	Moss Point, MS
David J. Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS	Hattiesburg, MS
J. Scott Gordon	Mississippi BMR	Long Beach, MS
Hugh Swingle	Alabama DCNR	Dauphin Island, AL
Vince Guillory	LA Dept. Wildlife/Fish.	Grand Isle, LA
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Prod.	Metairie, LA
Earl J. Conrad, Jr.	Zapata-Haynie Corp.	Houston, TX
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
Dalton Berry	Petrou Fisheries	Empire, LA
Ray Stevens	Zapata-Haynie Corp.	Metairie, LA
Jim Prunty	Consultant	New Orleans, LA
Harold Allen	NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
Corky Perret	LA Dept. Wildlife/Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Jack Styron	Wallace Menhaden Prod.	Metairie, LA
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products	Port Monmouth, N.J.



RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 16, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Dr. Michael Carron, Chairman, presiding. Dr. Carron opened the meeting with comments on how the committee had been reactivated, introduced himself and the others at the meeting. The agenda was adopted by consensus. Mr. Simpson discussed the work of the committee in the past and described the relationship of the committee to the Commission.

Hugh Swingle made a motion and was seconded by Dr. Carron to establish the membership of the committee as follows:

1 member per the five Gulf States named by the marine fisheries agency;

1 member from National Marine Fisheries Service named by the Regional Director;

Chairman of the Technical Coordinating Committee;

1 member from Fish and Wildlife Service.

A short term goal/activity was identified as the development of a General Session Program for the October 1982 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting. Tentative theme is "Recreational Fishing in the Gulf of Mexico." The meeting will be in Mobile, Alabama at the Quality Inn, Airport Blvd. on Thursday, October 21, 1982.

The meeting will be limited in scope to finfish. After much discussion the committee adopted the following tentative program on a motion by Ed Joyce and seconded by Fred Deegan; the motion was carried.

PANEL I  
1st Morning Session  
Topic  
DATA

HARVEST INFORMATION/FISHERMEN (license, number)

Introduction	Charles H. Lyles - Executive Director, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Moderator	David Duel - National Marine Fisheries Service 5 State representatives - 1 per Gulf State Villerie Reggio - Bureau of Land Management

PANEL II  
2nd Morning Session

Topic  
COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCE  
ALLOCATION/ACCESS (legal sense)

Moderator	Gary Knight	-	Louisiana State University
	Ann McDuffie	or	Red Lobster Representative - Consumer
	Dr. Frank Carlton	-	Recreational
	Bob Jones	-	Commercial
	Rep. Tom McPherson	-	Legislative

\*\*\*\*\* LUNCH \*\*\*\*\*  
Possibly Rep. John Breaux (D. LA)  
Luncheon Speaker  
\*\*\*\*\*

PANEL III  
1st Afternoon Session

Topic  
DATA  
EDUCATION/COMMUNICATION

Moderator	Bill Clark	-	Sea Grant
	Hal Lyman	-	Writer, <u>Saltwater Sportsman</u>
	Gil Radonski	-	Recreational, NFI
	Vic Dunaway	-	Writer, <u>Florida Sportsman</u>
	B. J. Putnam	-	Recreational, Gulf Council

What role can the Commission, state, Sea Grant, Recreational Association, etc., play in bringing information needed to the public.

PANEL IV  
2nd Afternoon Session

Topic  
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?  
NEEDS AND WANTS, ARTIFICIAL REEFS, HABITAT RESTORATION  
COMMUNICATIONS FRAMEWORK, ETC.

Moderator	Dr. Mike Carron	-	GSMFC
	Dave Duel	-	NMFS
	Gary Knight	-	LSU
	Bill Clark	-	Sea Grant

It was the general feeling of the committee that after the October meeting we would be better able to address specific goals for this committee, both long and short term. This will enable the group to recommend policy direction to the Executive Session for Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission actions concerning recreational fishing.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page 3

Dr. Carron noted several of the members will be in attendance at the upcoming Marine Recreational Fishing Symposium in Ft. Lauderdale May 9 - 11, 1982. These members will serve by bringing back a report to the committee and also serve as GSMFC input into the meeting.

Under other business, Ron Schmied, NMFS Regional Office indicated a need for input from this committee in their actions concerning the development of a 5-year program plan. He pledged to work closely with this group.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Michael Carron, Chairman  
Recreational Fisheries Committee

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 16, 1982

Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC Staff
Edwin A. Joyce	Florida DNR, Tallahassee
Tom D. Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife, Austin
Harry Schafer	Louisiana Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.
Fred Deegan	MS Bureau of Marine Research
Hugh Swingle	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Ron Schmied	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Jim Murray	North Carolina Sea Grant
Mike Carron	GSMFC
Scott Gordon	MS Bureau of Marine Research
Perry Thompson	GSMFC Staff
Harold Allen	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

GS-FFMB SHRIMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 16, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Rep. Leroy Wieting, Chairman, presiding. Rep. Wieting indicated the following general session of this Commission should be of interest to all since the topic is shrimp.

The Committee has convened today to review State/Federal contracts on shrimp research. Dr. Richard Condrey from Louisiana State University has that contract and made his report. He is looking at shrimp population dynamics models and ways to examine catch/effort data to determine better estimates of yield per recruit. He attended the Key West workshop sponsored by the Commission and was appreciative of that consideration by the Commission. He indicated additional papers are being generated because of this project concerning initial population size with no over estimates. He expects his final report to be on time (October) and his first part of the contract to be completed by midsummer.

The general audience asked some questions concerning the scope of the research and what was being done in other areas. Tortugas Area Sanctuary was questioned and Dr. Klima responded that National Marine Fisheries Service is monitoring that area and will have a report on that later.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Leroy Wieting, Chairman  
Shrimp Management Committee

SHRIMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 16, 1982

Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
David J. Etzold	University of Southern Mississippi
Richard Condrey	Louisiana State University
Steve Heath	Alabama Marine Resources Department
Ed Klima	NMFS, Galveston, TX
J. Scott Gordon	Mississippi BMR
John Null, Jr.	Corpus Christi, TX
Corky Perret	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Henry Hildebrand	Corpus Christi, TX
Tom D. Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
John Miloy	Texas Coastal & Marine Council
Peter Eldridge	Charleston Lab., NMFS
Melissa W. Smith	SPRO, New Orleans, LA
Harry Schafer	Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries
Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.	Florida DNR, Tallahassee, FL
Joe Ross	Biloxi, MS
Rep. Leroy J. Wieting	GSMFC Commissioner, TEXAS

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, March 17, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Mr. Harold Allen, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. with a call for adoption of the agenda.

Dr. Richard Leard made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Ted Ford, motion carried.

Mr. Allen asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the October 14, 1981 minutes. There being none, Mr. Hugh Swingle made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Dr. Leard, motion carried.

Mr. Larry Simpson presented a status report on administrative support of the State-Federal Fisheries Management Programs, Project #SF-5-1. The Gulf alternates from year to year with the South Atlantic Board for \$50K; this is the Gulf's year. During the past several meetings the Board has identified research priorities, one shrimp and two blue crab projects. These projects' contracts have been executed and reports will be given later on in the agenda. The one additional project, in the form of an amendment to the State-Federal contract, is SEAMAP.

Dr. Richard Condrey reported on shrimp population dynamics models, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission subcontract #000-009. The project is divided into three sections. The first part evaluates the ability of three nonlinear techniques to provide estimates of catchability coefficient, natural mortality and population size for brown shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico. Also this subcontract arrangement enabled him to attend the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations Shrimp Workshop in Key West, Florida to discuss project ideas with people involved with the workshop. The second and third parts of the project are proceeding at a reasonable rate with the help of a Louisiana State University graduate student. Overall, the project is on schedule.

Mrs. Harriet Perry reported on Gulf States Blue Crab Fishery Management Planning Profile, GSMFC Subcontract #000-010. The committee met in December to give out job assignments. The two assignments on

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Page 2

Rules and Regulations and Description of Habitat are completed. The Life History, History of the Fishery and Catch Statistics are about 75 percent complete. The Recreational Fishery and Current Research assignments are complete. The committee spent most of the previous day on socioeconomics and with Dr. Richard Condrey on Catch Effort Data. A tentative deadline for a profile rough draft is set for June 1.

Mrs. Perry also reported on Morphological Characteristics of Blue Crab Larvae Callinectes sapidus from the northern Gulf of Mexico, GSMFC Subcontract #000-011. On the larvae rearing project she anticipates rearing to begin by next week with their first batch of spring larvae. Presently both projects are on schedule.

Dr. Tom McIlwain reported on the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) Subcommittee. A full report from this subcommittee was presented before the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC). He stated that the amendment submitted to the #SF-5-1 for funding of SEAMAP activity has been approved.

Mr. Robert Chapoton reported for the Menhaden Advisory Committee. The committee had full attendance and discussed the following topics: Summary of the 1981 fishery season which is down by 21 percent from last year; discussion on captains' reports which are on a set by set basis. All companies are cooperating with data summaries, but final data is a year behind. Plans were discussed for 1982 data forms and placing this information into the computer system. The menhaden forecast for 1982 is around 600,000 metric tons with 80 vessels fishing. There was some discussion on recruitment to the fishery and a flexible season in the Gulf. The committee's major concern is an update of the Menhaden Plan, the green book which came out in 1977. The present plan is outdated and not useful for cooperative management purposes. A subcommittee was formed to seek funds to publish an update. Cost would be around \$7K to cover the 12 month project update. The Menhaden Plan is a useful document and the committee hopes the Board will assist in an update.

Mr. Leroy Wieting stated that he would like the Board to support the committee on the update of the menhaden green book even though he recognizes that no funds are presently available.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas stated that even though funds are not available, the Board should endorse support for the update of the menhaden green book.



GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Page 3

Mr. Wieting moved that we go on record to support efforts of the committee and work toward improvements and revision of the Menhaden Plan green book. Mr. Bob Kemp seconded the motion following much discussion. Dr. Ted Ford called the question. Mr. Allen asked for objections to the motion, there being no objections the motion went on record unanimously supported.

Mr. Wieting reported for the Shrimp Management Committee. The committee opened the floor to questions. He stated that Dr. Richard Condrey is doing a good job and is on schedule. A report will be published in October.

Mrs. Perry reported for the Blue Crab Subcommittee early in the agenda and had nothing further to report at this time.

Mr. Allen reported on the State-Federal Fisheries Management Program. He stated that most of the discussion today centers around old State-Federal Fisheries Management Board (GSFFMB) programs in which the states, Board and Commission have made good progress in development of the fishery plans. New State-Federal programs were implemented in 1980 but due to budget constraints were put on hold. There will be a meeting of State Directors April 27 to 29 in Washington, D.C. He further stated that under the new leadership of Mr. John C. Byrne, Mr. Bill Gordon and Mr. Jack Brawner, GS-FFMB is hopeful to carve out State-Federal Fisheries Management plans for the Southeast Region. Mr. I. B. Byrd pointed out that in FY82 \$50K in grant funds were made available to the Commission, \$16.5 in program administration and \$15K for SEAMAP, a grant total of \$81K.

On other business, Mr. Harold Allen introduced Mr. Jack Brawner as the new Southeast Regional Director.

Dr. Ford made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hugh Swingle. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold E. Allen, Chairman  
Gulf State-Federal Fisheries  
Management Board

GULF STATE--FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 17, 1982

Ted B. Ford	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-5670
Sam Theriot	LA State Representative	318/893-5035
Clyde Richbourg	American Seafood Co. FL	904/432-4133
Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.	Florida DNR	904/488-6058
Harry Schafer	Louisiana DNR	904/568-5676
Tom A. Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4800x2312
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
Richard Leard	MS Wildlife & Cons. BMR	601/864-4602
Leroy Wieting	TX State Representative	512/643-2906
Hugh A. Swingle	Alabama DCNR	205/861-2882
Harold B. Allen	Florida NMFS	813/893-3141
Larry Simpson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Ginny Herring	GSMFC	601/875-5912
John Mehos	Liberty Fish & Oyster TX	713/762-8661
John Miloy	TX Coastal & Marine Council	512/475-5849
John Null, Jr.	TX PISCES	512/853-0884
Henry Hildebrand	Corpus Christi, TX	512/937-4008
I. B. Byrd	NMFS St. Petersburg, FL	813/893-3161
Thomas D. McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
Warren E. Stuntz	NMFS Pascagoula, MS	601/762-4595
Mary Brown	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS Beaufort, S.C.	919/728-4595
Jack Brawner	NMFS St. Petersburg, FL	813/893-3141
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries AL	205/949-7411
Bill Fox	NMFS SEFC Miami, FL	305/361-4284
Andy Kemmerer	NMFS NSTL Station, MS	601/688-3650
Ed Klima	NMFS Galveston, TX	713/766-3500
Bob Kemp	TX Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4857
Perry Thompson	GSMFC	601/875-5912

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT  
to the  
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, March 17, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

The Gulf of Mexico covers approximately 625,000 square miles of area and includes some of the most productive fishing grounds in the world. Along the Gulf of Mexico the five gulf states, federal government (National Marine Fisheries Service, NMFS), universities and other marine agencies play a major role in the protection and management of living marine resources and their environment. Problems have existed in the past in which individual states, universities and federal agencies involved with marine management have continued to collect scientific data independent from each other. In order to reduce the redundancy and to maximize the effectiveness of research by collection and dissemination of the best scientific information for the least cost, the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) was developed.

In January 1981 the NMFS in the southeast region put together the first phase SEAMAP document which developed a strategy for the program consisting of statements of goals, procedures, and resource requirements. This document was presented to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) in October 1981. From this document the TCC met in December 1981 and organized the SEAMAP Subcommittee to act on the first assessment activity for the gulf. A chairman and vice chairman were elected for a one-year term. The representatives on the Subcommittee are as follows:

Dr. Thomas McIlwain	-	Chairman	Mississippi
Mr. Walter Tatum	-	Vice Chairman	Alabama
Mr. Gary Matlock			Texas
Mr. Claude Boudreaux			Louisiana
Mr. Alan Huff			Florida
Dr. Walter Nelson			NMFS

The TCC charged that all actions taken by SEAMAP Subcommittee would be taken by concensus rather than individual vote. In addition, it was unanimously agreed that the Subcommittee would work toward the May/June

gulf-wide assessment activity which includes Ichthyoplankton, bottom trawls and environmental samples as an initial cooperative activity to test the viability of the SEAMAP concept.

Under the Intergovernment Personnel Act, Mr. Perry Thompson from NMFS was assigned to work in the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission office to act as SEAMAP Coordinator and to be accountable to the Subcommittee.

The SEAMAP Subcommittee met in New Orleans on January 7 and 8 to set up working groups to recommend activities for the May/June gulf-wide survey. The budget of the Subcommittee and working groups will be approximately \$15K and is categorized as follows:

January, Subcommittee	\$ 1,000.00
Working groups independent meetings	2,000.00
February, Subcommittee/working groups	2,000.00
March TCC	1,000.00
June, Subcommittee/after surveys	2,000.00
September, review 1982 SEAMAP activities plan and 1983 SEAMAP Activities	1,000.00
Coordination of SEAMAP (Perry Thompson)	3,000.00
Staff assistance	2,000.00
Printing supplies	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total cost of activities	<u>\$15,000.00</u>

The working groups' main function is to present a total survey design, identify resource support and data management requirements by the February 25th meeting. The following motions were adopted:

- ° Set up Ichthyoplankton Work Group which would consist of Dr. Bill Richards, Leader, NMFS; Dr. Sally Richardson, Mississippi; and Mr. Mark Leiby, Florida.
- ° Set up Shrimp and Bottomfish Work Group which would consist of C. E. Bryan, Leader; Dr. Ed Klima, NMFS; Steve Heath, Alabama; and Charles White, Louisiana.
- ° Set up Environmental Work Group which would consist of Dr. Warren Stuntz, Leader, NMFS; Mr. Tom Leming, NMFS; and Mr. Ken Haddad, Florida.
- ° Recommend to the TCC a proposed workshop on trawl calibration activities to be held in conjunction with Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting in March of 1983.

- Recommend to the TCC that a program chairman be appointed to set up the workshop, if workshop is accepted:
  - 1) Short term
    - a) trawl calibration with the development of standard sampling manual;
    - b) list or description of survey activities of SEAMAP participants to be published annually in the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Annual Report to include:
      - list of activities of all SEAMAP participants
      - summary of planned activities
      - list of vessel schedules
      - area of vessel operations
  - 2) Long-term
    - a) calibration of additional gear types
    - b) establishment of a central data bank utilizing the TIMS facilities of the Southeast Fisheries Center.

The SEAMAP Subcommittee met again in New Orleans on February 25/26. The Work Groups made the following presentations:

- Ichthyoplankton - The ichthyoplankton survey would be an oceanic survey (outside 100 fathoms) using the Oregon II from April 14 to May 25. The systematic grid type of survey design will be used with stations in one degree increments. Ichthyoplankton will be taken with bongo and neuston nets provided by NMFS. The state of Florida would assist NMFS by collecting some samples outside 100 fathoms off Florida. The other gulf states will collect coastal ichthyoplankton samples based on the interests of the respective states. An inshore (inside 50 fathoms) ichthyoplankton survey would piggyback with shrimp and bottomfish from June 1 to July 15. Samples will be shipped to Miami to be sorted and identified down to family within 10 months of receipt and a report published within two months after the samples have been processed. Data will be processed and made available to the states.

- Shrimp and Bottomfish - The shrimp and bottomfish trawl survey is designed to determine relative abundance of shrimp and bottomfish from Perdido Bay, Florida to Brownsville, Texas from June 1 to July 15. Stations will be randomly selected in one-fathom increments along the coast inside 50 fathoms. The NMFS Oregon II will work the offshore stations along the entire coast. A NMFS charter vessel will work Texas/Louisiana and a Texas vessel, the Western Gulf, will work shrimp statistical zone 20 off Texas. All the other states will trawl inside five fathoms of their respective states. One day has been set aside to do trawl comparability studies. Data from the survey will be made available to the states. A report will be presented to the Gulf Council in December 1982.
- Environmental - The environmental survey would piggyback both ichthyoplankton, and shrimp and bottomfish surveys. The following data will be collected: wind speed and direction; wave height; cloud cover; water clarity; water color; water depth; water temperature at surface, midwater and bottom; salinity at surface, midwater and bottom; chlorophyll at surface, midwater and bottom; oxygen at surface, midwater and bottom; turbidity at surface, midwater and bottom; and thermocline depth. Other parameters, such as position of vessel and time of day will be recorded. A satellite will be used to compare chlorophyll with ground truth data taken from the vessels. All data will be available to the states at the end of the survey.
- All working groups were charged to continue working through the SEAMAP coordinator in order to develop a plan before the March 15 meeting.
- The Subcommittee agreed by general consensus to extend an invitation to the Gulf States Sea Grant Programs to sit in on the March meeting. The purpose would be to identify funds and to assist in coordination with other agencies.
- The Subcommittee agreed by general consensus to continue with the SEAMAP concept after hearing the Work Group presentations.

- The Subcommittee has agreed by consensus to the development of an operational plan. The Subcommittee would like to receive direction from the TCC on cost and who will write up the plan.

Besides the motions listed above by the SEAMAP Subcommittee, the following issues need to be addressed:

- 1) Funding support for SEAMAP over the next five years.
- 2) Identification of future assessment activities.

The SEAMAP Subcommittee met on March 15 prior to the GSMFC annual spring meeting to continue discussion of the May/June Gulf-wide surveys and present recommendations for the development of an operational plan to the TCC. The following motions were adopted:

- Set up an additional work group to develop and coordinate the ichthyoplankton, shrimp and bottomfish and environmental work group plans into one overall survey design to take place during the shrimp and bottomfish time frame. The coordinating work group would consist of leaders from the other three work groups and the SEAMAP Chairman.
- To recommend to TCC that all of Gulf States be encouraged to use a central data system. APPLE computer terminals are already in place in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. In addition, a computer programmer be considered to assist with input of SEAMAP data and subcommittee advisement.
- To present to the TCC the preliminary objective and goals of the SEAMAP Subcommittee so the foundation for funding support of SEAMAP can be continued with the development of an Operational Plan.

Objective: Plan and Coordinate the Assessment and Monitoring of Gulf of Mexico Marine Resources for Commercial, Recreational and Social or Aesthetic Importance.

Goal 1: Identify existing data banks and ongoing local, state, federal, university, and public research activities accessible for entry into a single multi-use data bank, of value to assessment and monitoring of living marine resources in the Southeast area.

- Goal 2: Develop integrated assessment and monitoring programs for commercial and recreational fisheries and species possessing aesthetic and social qualities throughout their range in estuarine areas, state territorial waters, fishery conservation zones, and the high seas.
- Goal 3: Annually examine fishery stock assessment and monitoring activities in the Gulf of Mexico to insure coordination of assessment and monitoring activities of high priority fishery stocks within the various management areas.
- Goal 4: Provide mechanism for routine sampling and specialized surveys to collect data on the general condition of selected fisheries stocks.
- Goal 5: Plan and coordinate the maintenance of fishery-independent data on marine resources in the Southeast and disseminate to SEAMAP participants.

The SEAMAP Subcommittee is on schedule as charged by the TCC. In this day and age of budget constraints and increased fishing pressures, the states, federal government and universities need to combine their resources in a coordinated effort to gather the necessary data to make sound management decisions affecting the future of the renewable fishery resources. The first SEAMAP Gulf-Wide Assessment is the beginning of cooperative efforts between the states, federal government and universities to provide the necessary data for management for optimum yield of our gulf fishery resources.



TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

Wednesday, March 17, 1982  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Dr. Ted Ford, Chairman of the Technical Coordinating Committee, presiding. He declared a quorum with all five states represented.

The agenda was adopted on a motion by Mr. Tom Moore and seconded by Dr. Tom McIlwain with the addition of two items, approval of past minutes, a report on the West Hackberry Brine Disposal Project, and action on Gulf Council's recommendations.

The minutes of October 14 and December 2, 1981 meetings were adopted on a motion by Mr. Harry Schafer and seconded by Dr. McIlwain.

Mr. "Buck" Byrd reported on his Grant-in-Aid Workshop held on Monday. He indicated the administration recommended no funds (zero) for the program in FY 1983, however the Senate recommends \$5 million for the program and the House, \$3.8 million. He noted a few new Department of Commerce requirements for processing time (40 days/past 6 or 7 days) and documentation process. The obligation of funds is excellent by the states and in general the program is doing a great job. Buck indicated the contribution the P.L. 88-309 program makes in supplying information to carry out FCMA initiatives. Dr. Ford questioned whether the same realization is shared by the National Office (Washington, D.C.) of National Marine Fisheries Service. It was stated this is a growing awareness and increasing each year.

Dr. David Etzold reported on the controlled introduction of fresh water into eastern Louisiana and western Mississippi marshes. He indicated a meeting was held with Governor Treen of Louisiana to brief him on the project and he has shown interest. Toward that end the governor established a task force of his people to assist in monitoring and effecting the project. Some changes were recommended in the diversion site from the Mississippi River. Public hearings on the projects will be held this year. For coastal Louisiana (and possibly upstream) April and/or May in New Orleans. For Mississippi and eastern Louisiana, July in Gulfport, Mississippi and in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Ford commented there is

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page 2

support from Governor Treen on the project. Dr. McIlwain reported on the Southeastern Area Monitoring and Assessment Project (SEAMAP). His report is attached. He reviewed the history of the subcommittees' startup and their activities since the inception of the subcommittee. He noted the Intergovernmental Personnel Act loan of Mr. Perry A. Thompson from NMFS to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission office to support the project for one year. Dr. Bill Fox stated Mexico would have some involvement in the cooperative project. The data resulting from these efforts was discussed. States, Councils, Commission and others would have the overall picture of data to use and make their decisions as they deem necessary. Terminals to have access and input to the data base are anticipated to be used by the states in conjunction with NMFS. With this report action on the SEAMAP recommendations were delayed until after lunch.

Dr. Richard Condrey gave the Blue Crab Subcommittee report. He reported the Subcommittee has distributed the workload for the profile they are developing. The group toured crab plants in Mississippi during this meeting and held some interviews with processors and fishermen. They have set July 1 as the deadline for return of the drafts of their sections for initial organization and presentation to the T.C.C.

Mr. Pete Eldridge gave a report on the Regional Statistical Network. His report is as follows:

Significant progress has been made this past quarter in the regional statistical program despite a host of bureaucratic and legal constraints. Cooperative agreements are being processed for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. However, strict legal conditions have been attached to the agreements by NOAA General Counsel. Further, negotiations for cooperative agreements are underway with Alabama, Mississippi, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and CODREMAR in Puerto Rico.

APPLE terminals have been distributed to North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, and the U. S. Virgin Islands. Additional terminals have been ordered and will be distributed as soon as DOC clears the procurement action and they are received by TIMS. Also, an eight-hour introductory course describing the use of Apple terminals was given in February in Charleston, South Carolina to state, Fishery Management Council, and TIMS personnel. The course was excellent and well

received. A similar course will be held in the Gulf of Mexico region, probably in New Orleans in April or May. I would like to schedule the course after the Apples have been distributed, but am open to suggestions.

Although much has been accomplished, much remains to be done. Specifically, TIMS will be working on data management support for the Apple terminals and hopes to complete this task by November 15th. Also, Mr. Zweifel of TIMS is developing a sampling approach to obtaining fishery statistics and will test it on the stone crab fishery this fall. Other fisheries that may serve as pilot tests for sampling include the spiny lobster, and perhaps shrimp. One of the attractive points in Mr. Zweifel's approach is that it could solve the confidentiality problem in that no respondent would be required to provide total landings information. Of course, the approach must be thoroughly tested and found reliable before it is implemented on a wide scale.

The administration's FY83 budget significantly decreases federal support for fishery statistics. Specifically, all funds for the Southeast Statistics Initiative have been deleted. In addition, the national statistical recreational survey and all fishery market news activities will be terminated in FY83 if the administration budget prevails.

In conclusion, the need for states and the NMFS to cooperate has never been greater. However, it is equally true that budgetary conditions, at least for the past 20 years, have never been worse. It is always more difficult to cooperate in difficult economic times, but we must in order to preserve and manage wisely the fishery resources in the southeast.

Ms. Melissa Smith gave a brief report on the West Hackberry brine. She indicated no severe impacts.

The Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council at their March meeting voted to update the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Red Drum Profile to include offshore abundance information and other current data in cooperation with the Commission. Dr. Ford recommended to the states they designate members to the reactivated Red Drum Subcommittee of the T.C.C.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Hugh Swingle that the T.C.C. reactivate its Red Drum Subcommittee to cooperate with the Gulf Council; the motion carried. This will be presented to the Executive Session for action. Dr. Fox indicated his cooperation with the Commission and the Council in this effort. After some discussion, whether or not to

involve Spotted Sea Trout in the update, a substitute motion was made by Mr. Hugh Swingle and seconded by Mr. Ed Joyce to have two groups, one for Red Drum and one for Spotted Sea Trout; the motion carried. The Spotted Sea Trout information will be worked on as time is available and can be included at a later time.

The question of funding this effort was discussed. Mr. Mehos indicated the Council would fund travel expenses for its Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical committees, as well as consultants for the profile development, but did not see a direct allocation from the Council to the Commission. Dr. Ford asked Mr. Wayne Swingle to work out the mechanisms for cooperation and even if the Council funding was not available, the states of Texas and Florida have committed to fund their participation out of the state money.

The T.C.C. considered the following recommendations of the SEAMAP Subcommittee:

1. Hold a workshop on trawl calibration at the March 1983 GSMFC meeting. Motion was made by Mr. C. E. Bryan , seconded by Mr. Moore; motion carried.
2. Have a program chairman for the workshop. It was decided by consensus to have a person from NMFS laboratory at Pascagoula as chairman and to work with the Commission to set it up.
3. Have the activities of the SEAMAP participants recorded in the GSMFC annual report (ship activities, etc.). This was agreed by consensus.
4. Guidance on Operations Plan Development. T.C.C. recommended the Subcommittee develop some estimates on what is to be done, by whom, and costs for later action by the T.C.C.
5. Funding for SEAMAP in future. Subcommittee recommends continuation of program. The T.C.C. agrees and by consensus will help draw funding to the project in coming years.
6. Future assessment activities deferred to later meetings.
7. Objectives and goals of the Operational Plan. These were accepted with modifications:

Goal 2 with intent of integrated being cooperative  
not same, or same emphasis;

Goal 3 reworded;

Goal 5 to be initially at Pascagoula.

These changes are incorporated in the attached report.

8. Data analyst to work with Subcommittee. Dr. Fox will check his shop and the state will check with their people. This identified person will work with the Subcommittee in the future. This was agreed to by consensus.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at  
3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted B. Ford, Chairman  
Technical Coordinating Committee

Attch: SEAMAP Report

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 17, 1982

Larry Simpson	GSMFC Staff, Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-5912
Ted B. Ford	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-5671
J. Y. Christmas	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-2244
Tom McIlwain	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-2244
Harry Schafer	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-5676
Tom D. Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4800 X23
C. E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4861
I. B. Byrd	NOAA/NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL	813/893-3161
Bill Fox	NMFS, Miami, FL	305/361-4284
Walter M. Tatum	AL DCNR	205/968-7575
Hugh Swingle	AL DCNR	205/861-2882
J. Alan Huff	FL DNR	813/896-8626
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc.	205/949-7411
Larry King	ASMFC	202/387-5330
Jim Barrett	FL DNR	904/487-2256
Mary Brown	GCRL	601/875-2244
Harold B. Allen	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL	813/893-3142
David L. Pritchard	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL	813/893-3161
Peter Eldridge	NMFS, Charleston, SC	803/724-4770
Walter Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS	601/762-4591
Ed Klima	NMFS, Galveston, TX	713/766-3500
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-5912
Warren E. Stuntz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS	601/762-0055
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, Beaufort, NC	919/728-4595
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4862
Ralph Rayburn	TX Shrimp Association	512/476-8446
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.	504/657-9711
Richard L. Leard	DWC, BMR, MS	601/864-4602
Clyde Richbourg	American Seafood Co., FL	904/432-4133
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-6956
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Prod., Inc.	504/838-8211
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.	201/787-1000
Corky Perret	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-5688
David Etzold	University of Southern MS	601/266-7259
Richard E. Condrey	LSU (CWR)	504/388-1558
Barney Barrett	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	504/342-5860
Bill Demoran	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS	601/875-2244
Melissa W. Smith	SPRO	504/734-4387
Gerald Adkins	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	504/594-4139
Andrew J. Kemmerer	NMFS/NSTL	601/688-3650
Jack T. Styron	Wallace Menhaden Products	504/838-8211
James A. Prunty	Consultant	504/392-9696
John Null, Jr.	PISCES	512/853-0884
John Miloy	TX Coastal & Marine Council	512/475-5849
John Mehos	Liberty Fish & Oyster Co.	713/762-8661
Elton Gissendanner	FL DNR	904/488-1555
Henry H. Hildebrand	Corpus Cristi, Texas	512/937-4008
Ed Joyce	FL DNR	904/488-6058
Wayne Swingle	GMFMC	813/228-2815

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

Friday, March 19, 1982

Biloxi, Mississippi

Chairman Jesse Guidry, presiding. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Guidry at 8:10 a.m. The following Commissioners and/or proxies were present: Hugh A. Swingle, proxy for John M. McMillan, Jr.; John Ray Nelson; Jim Barrett, proxy for Elton J. Gissendanner; Ed Joyce, proxy for Joseph B. Allen, Jr.; Jesse Guidry; Sam Theriot; Richard L. Leard, proxy for Lon Strong; Michael Carron; Robert Kemp, proxy for Charles Travis; Tom Moore, proxy for Leroy Wieting; Ralph Rayburn, proxy for Walter Zimmerman.

Before adopting the agenda, Mr. Guidry recognized the following guests: Dr. Larry King, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; William H. Stevenson, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS; Jack Brawner, Southeast Regional Director, NMFS; and Wayne Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

Mr. Guidry then recognized Mr. Lyles. Mr. Lyles stated he would like to thank Mr. Irwin Alperin and the staff of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission for their help on many projects of mutual interest to the Commission and for their constant communications as to what is going on in Washington. Mr. Lyles directed his comments to Dr. King of the ASMFC staff. He also stated that this information has proved valuable to the Commission over and over again.

A motion was made by Rep. Sam Theriot that a resolution be prepared in appreciation to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. The motion was seconded by John Ray Nelson and unanimously carried.

Minutes of the October 16, 1981 meeting were adopted as presented.

Mr. Guidry called on Dr. Ford to report on the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting. Dr. Ford reported the committee meeting went very well. He stated that Buck Byrd reported on the progress of PL 88-309 projects and discussed available funding. David Etzold reported to the TCC on the status of controlled fresh water introductions to Eastern Louisiana and Western Mississippi marshes. Dr. Ford indicated public hearings would be held in the near future in Louisiana and Mississippi on this Corps of Engineers project and he encouraged

support for controlled introduction of fresh water into the marshes by all interested persons. Dr. Ford stated that Tom McIlwain reported on the status of the SEAMAP Subcommittee and he indicated that the committee was moving rapidly and cooperating closely with National Marine Fisheries Service. He reported they have three working groups currently set up and recommends holding a workshop at the 1983 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting. Dr. Ford stated that the Blue Crab Subcommittee had submitted progress reports on current subcontracts and their status is satisfactory. Pete Eldridge reported to the TCC on the current status of the regional statistics network and stated that all of the states should have terminals by the end of this fiscal year. In conclusion, Dr. Ford stated that the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council had taken action at their recent meeting to invite the cooperation of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission in updating and developing the Commission's profile on red drum. He indicated if the Commission desired to accept the invitation of the Council, that the TCC had the mechanism; namely, reactivate or reorganize the Red Drum Subcommittee to assist the staff of the Commission in cooperating with the Council in this matter.

A motion was made by Hugh Swingle that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission cooperate with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council in updating and developing the profile on red drum. The motion was seconded by Ed Joyce and carried. Dr. Ford's report was accepted as presented.

Mr. Guidry called on Ralph Rayburn to report on the Industry Advisory Committee. Mr. Rayburn stated that the committee recommends the Commission oppose Coast Guard user fees; the committee feels that they are not in the best interests of the fishing community. The committee supports the National Marine Fisheries Service and supports continuation of funding for the Galveston Laboratory and Bay St. Louis Laboratory. Title IV of the OCS Bill was discussed and it was the consensus of the committee to support current amendments and to encourage Congress to take swift action. The committee expressed concern about curtailing imports. Mr. Rayburn stated that a subcommittee was established to discuss various considerations of a marketing program in conjunction with import controls.



This subcommittee met and submitted a report dealing with provisions for an import quota system. In conclusion, Mr. Rayburn stated that the committee is in favor of bringing tuna under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act and recommends that the Commission go on record in favor of this recommendation. Mr. Rayburn's report was accepted as presented.

Mr. Guidry called on Officer Jim Hanley to give the report on the Law Enforcement Committee. Officer Hanley reported that the committee met for several hours at the hotel and reconvened in the Mississippi Marine Enforcement Office for an informal five hour session. The committee agreed to meet more frequently on an informal basis and will probably meet again within thirty to sixty days in Baton Rouge to discuss the Lacey Act. He reported that this session established common problems within the states including common violators and the problems of manipulating state laws. He stated that a committee was established consisting of one officer from each state designated to coordinate intelligence information between the states. Mr. Hanley's report was accepted as presented.

Mr. Guidry called on Willis Clark to report on the Sea Grant Committee. Mr. Clark stated that the Committee met longer than anticipated and covered a great deal of information but he would submit minutes of the entire meeting at a later date and just give the Commission a brief report. Among the topics discussed was the Sea Grant budget which is currently existing on a resolution through March 31 of this year. The committee was optimistic that Congress would support continuing funding. The outlook for FY83 is currently listed as zero, but again the committee feels they have Congressional support and also feels optimistic the current level of funding will be supported without an increase. Mr. Clark stated that the committee discussed the OCS Revenue Sharing and they support a modified version which would involve block grants being administered by the National Sea Grant College versus the individual states. In conclusion, Mr. Clark stated that the committee supported more interaction of the cooperative marine advisory services and would explore the many ways this interaction could continue. Mr. Clark's report was accepted as submitted.

Dr. Carron reported that the first meeting of the newly reactivated Recreational Fisheries Committee went very well. The main topic at this meeting was recreational fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico as a theme for the upcoming October 1982 meeting of the Commission. The Committee recommended that the Commission extend an invitation to Congressman Breaux to attend this meeting.

A motion was made by Ed Joyce that "Recreational Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico" be the theme of the October 1982 meeting and that the Commission extend an invitation to Congressman Breaux to attend. The motion was seconded by Sam Theriot and was carried. Dr. Carron's report was accepted as presented.

Harold Allen reported on the activities of the Gulf States Federal Fisheries Management Board. He stated the Menhaden Advisory Committee had recommended the Board approve an update of the current Menhaden Fisheries Management Plan. The Board accepted this recommendation and in the event that funds become available, the update will be considered highest priority. He also reported that all projects currently under contract were reviewed and on schedule as required. Mr. Allen indicated the State Directors meeting is coming up on April 27-29 1982, and this meeting is of great importance to the Board since it will be charting the future of the State/Federal program.

Mr. Guidry called on William Stevenson to give a report on National Marine Fisheries Service at the Washington level. Mr. Stevenson stated that Washington is indeed a very dynamic place and many changes are taking place due to change in government and poor economic conditions of this nation and the entire world. He made several announcements:

- 1) Bill Gordon will release his restructuring activities of National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington Office in the near future;
- 2) Jack Brawner was appointed Southeast Regional Director;
- 3) vacancy announcements will be out very soon for Directors for the Office of Resource Conservation and Management and the Office of Utilization and Development; and
- 4) Dr. Byrne is currently putting together a five-year comprehensive plan to identify the mission of NOAA. He stated this plan is a reorganization of sorts and the NMFS will be virtually unchanged. The plan will cause some changes in the National Ocean Survey program as it deals with environment and habitat, and it will re-examine the roles

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

Page 5

of Coastal Zone Management and the National Water Pollution Program. He also announced the appointment of Mr. Jim Winchester of Mississippi to Associate Administrator for NOAA. Mr. Stevenson gave his personal views on the NMFS budget. He said that for FY82 funds are currently available through a continuing resolution which will end March 31, 1982. He stated that although they are currently planning a shutdown on this date, he anticipates the resolution will be continued through the fiscal year. He feels the outlook for FY83 looks about the same, funds will be available through a continuing resolution. The 1983 fall election may change this but he does not feel this will affect FY83. Mr. Stevenson had no information on FY84 and feels perhaps Dr. Byrne's plan may reveal some information on this, or perhaps discussions at the upcoming State Directors meeting may shed light on the 1984 future of NOAA/NMFS. He urged the states to pay close attention to the important impact the OCS Revenue Sharing Act will have on living marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico. He anticipates the NMFS will consolidate many regional programs and perhaps within one year expand so that more emphasis will be on a regional basis. He touched on the bluefin tuna situation, saying that Japan had taken the lead in implementing changes in the management of tuna and it was now up to the United States to follow their lead.

Dr. Ford asked Mr. Stevenson what the personnel situation is within the NMFS at this time. Mr. Stevenson stated that FY83 budget calls for a reduction of 400 jobs and NMFS had refused to RIF these positions and had decided to take it by attrition. The current full time permanent employees stood at 1,720 with a target of 1,835 positions by FY84. NMFS is gearing up to fill these 100 plus jobs in order to hold onto as many man days as possible. Of course many things will have to take place before this can be accomplished and NMFS is keeping an eye on money and checking into other possibilities to alleviate the current problems created by a reduced personnel ceiling.

John Mehos asked Mr. Stevenson to discuss the outlook for research in regard to the federal government and the states. He asked how regional development will affect research. Mr. Stevenson reflected that Dr. Byrne's emphasis was on service, mission-oriented science and management. He broke it down into short and long term mission-oriented science. The short term mission does not see NMFS as a research and

development agency. Dr. Byrne's view is to redefine NMFS relationship with the states and transfer research for the states to the states. On a long term mission, Dr. Byrne has stated the states will be supported by NMFS to the extent it is possible and encourage data coordination between the states and NMFS.

Ed Joyce asked Mr. Stevenson if he thought the coordination of data would help the current situation or make it worse. Mr. Stevenson answered no. Ed Joyce stated he feels it would be better for NMFS to continue to update the system but the states will have to do the best they can.

Mr. Lyles stated that the NMFS budget has remained constant since 1970, as well as the personnel ceiling, although NMFS responsibilities have increased. He expressed concern as to whether or not NMFS can handle this increased responsibility without it having a tremendous impact on the entire Gulf program, in particular the impact that would ensue from closure of the Galveston Laboratory.

Mr. Stevenson responded to Mr. Lyles' concern by saying although the NMFS had found it necessary to close the Galveston Laboratory, the shrimp program the Laboratory has been doing will continue at another facility and key personnel from that Laboratory will remain with NMFS. Mr. Lyles responded this was tantamount to transferring all cotton research from the South to North Dakota.

Mr. Guidry called on the Executive Director for his report. Mr. Lyles stated that the Commission is continuing its support of all important fishery legislation, although the odds in Washington seem to be mounting. He expressed thanks to the Texas Shrimp Association, Louisiana Shrimp Association, Southeastern Fisheries Association, and the compact Commissions for their help and support during his many trips to Washington these past six months while he was trying to fight for funding and facilities to aid the fishing community. He said the Commission was on record as supporting the OCS Revenue Sharing (block grants) although some suggested changes have been made. He reported the MAFAC committee still has no good appointments from the Gulf area and hopes Mr. Gordon will soon restructure this very important committee. He also expressed his disappointment in general with NACOA Committee members. He reported Title IV of the OCS Bill still has not issued a

financial report and indicated further comment from the Commission would be delayed until Congress has acted on pending amendments.

Mr. Lyles asked the Commissioners to go on record as supporting tuna being placed under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (94-265) as recommended by the Industry Advisory Committee. His recommendation was adopted as presented.

The Commission requested that Mr. Lyles go on record as supporting Sea Grant funding for FY81 at \$41.8M and FY82 at \$35M. Other responsibilities he is charged with for the upcoming months include:

- 1) continued and strong support of PL 88-309 and PL 89-304 funding;
- 2) support for the Galveston Laboratory and NSTL; 3) strong opposition to Coast Guard user fees; 4) support Title IV amendments; and
- 5) increase the current bond for the Executive Director and include the Assistant to the Director in the amount of \$150,000 each.

Mr. Lyles requested that the Assistant to the Director, Larry B. Simpson, be authorized to sign on the Commission checking account in the absence of the Executive Director. The request was accepted as presented. He also presented the audit report for FY81 which was accepted as presented.

Ginny Herring reported the Commission had accrued \$8,521.98 in interest since the beginning of the 1982 fiscal year.

Mr. Lyles asked for a vote on the bylaw changes recommended at the October 1981 meeting. These proposed bylaws include the addition of certain designated proxies to be eligible for election as Chairman and Vice Chairman, and the addition of the Director of the Southeast Fisheries Center of NMFS to serve as an official TCC member. The proposed changes were accepted as presented.

Mr. Lyles presented a request that was submitted to the Commission requesting support for a meeting sponsored by the Sierra Club in the amount of \$500. Ed Joyce mentioned that he would question the request due to lack of time in which to consider it, as well as specific doubts regarding the meeting program. Tom Moore was concerned as to whether or not the Commission would be setting a precedent by contributing to this meeting. It was the consensus of the Commission not to act on the request at this time.

Larry Simpson, Assistant to the Director, gave his report on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and the Key West Shrimp Workshop held in November 1981. He reported the Commission had purchased a Displaywriter under the terms agreed upon at the last Commission meeting. Mr. Simpson expressed his appreciation to the Commissioners and others who had cooperated in supplying slides that will be used in preparing a slide show for the Commission. He gave a brief status report of the slide show being prepared for the Commission under contract with Miss Cathe Campbell of the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory. He stated the show should be ready for use by October 1982.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Lyles  
Executive Director

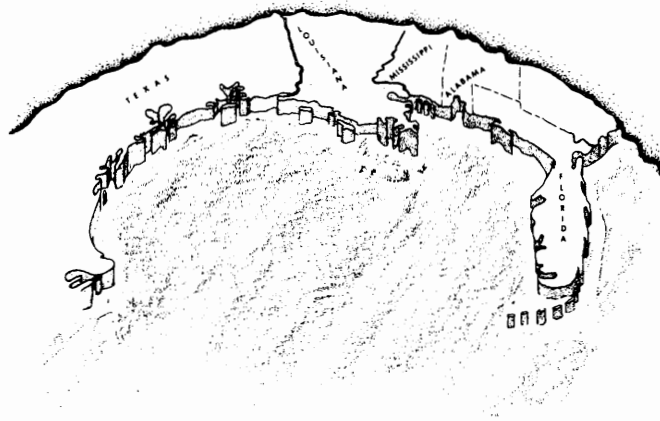
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Biloxi, Mississippi  
March 19, 1982

Tom D. Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife (proxy for L. Wieting)	Austin, TX
Bob Kemp	Texas Parks & Wildlife (proxy for C. Travis)	Austin, TX
Michael Carron	NSTL	Bay St. Louis, MS
Sam Theriot	Louisiana Legislature	Abbeville, LA
Ted B. Ford	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	New Orleans, LA
Jesse Guidry	LA Wildlife & Fisheries	New Orleans, LA
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries	Bon Secour, AL
Ed Joyce	Florida DNR (proxy for J. Allen)	Tallahassee, FL
Hugh Swingle	Alabama DCNR (proxy for J. McMillan)	Dauphin Island, AL
Richard Leard	Mississippi BMR (proxy for L. Strong)	Long Beach, MS
Jim Barrett	Florida DNR (proxy for E. Gissendanner)	Tallahassee, FL
Willis Clark	Sea Grant Advisory Services	Texas
Larry King	ASMFC	Washington, D.C.
Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Assn. (proxy for W. Zimmerman)	Austin, TX
Harold B. Allen	NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
Jim Hanley	BMR - Enforcement	Long Beach, MS
Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Staff	Ocean Springs, MS
Virginia Herring	GSMFC, Staff	Ocean Springs, MS
Wayne Swingle	GMFMC	Tampa, FL
John Mehos	GMFMC	Galveston, TX
Paul Fulham	NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
W. H. Stevenson	NMFS	Washington, D.C.
Jack Brawner	NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
Cathe Campbell	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	Ocean Springs, MS
Mary Brown	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	Ocean Springs, MS
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Staff	Ocean Springs, MS
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Staff	Ocean Springs, MS

# Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

## MEMBER STATES

ALABAMA  
FLORIDA  
LOUISIANA  
MISSISSIPPI  
TEXAS



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

## R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is required by the duties of his office to travel extensively on official Commission business, and

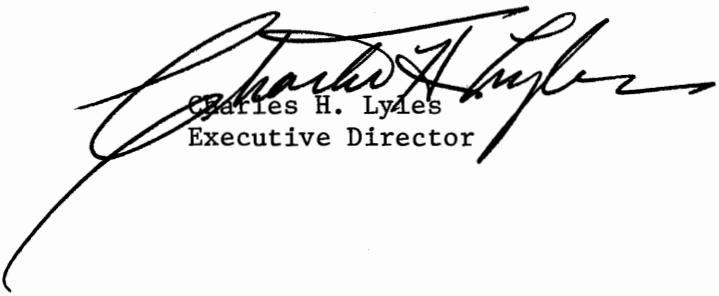
WHEREAS, this travel may cause his absence in the business office for extended periods of time, and

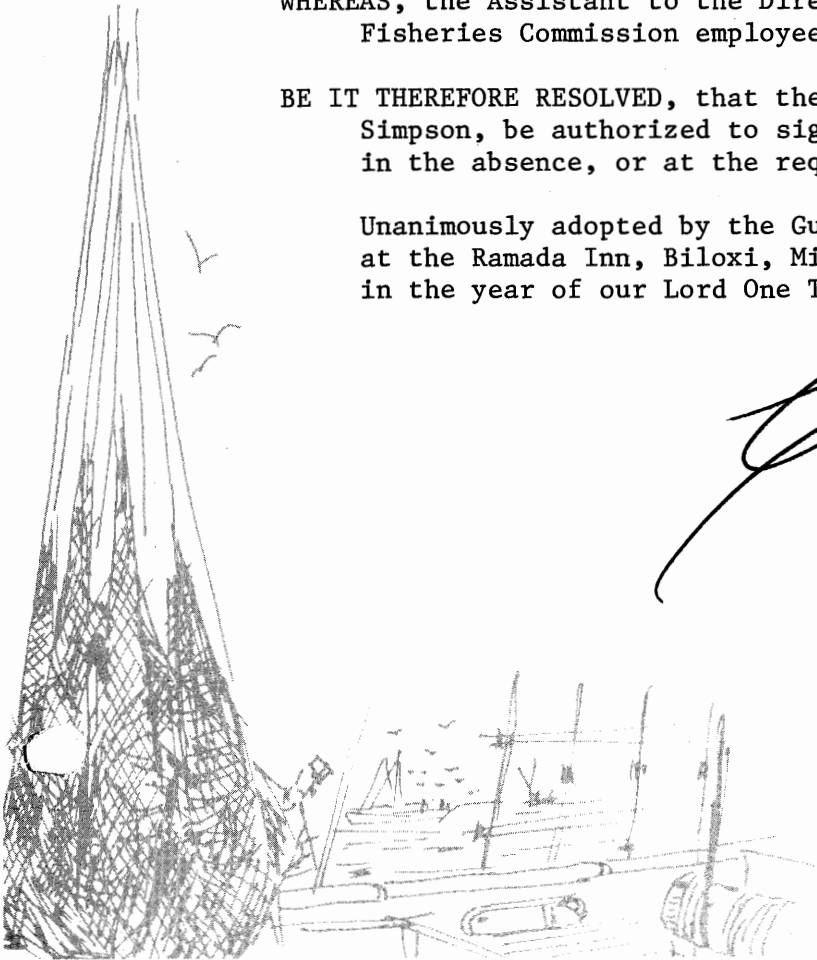
WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission charges the Assistant to the Director to carry out administrative duties in the absence of the Executive Director, and

WHEREAS, the Assistant to the Director is a bonded Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission employee,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Assistant to the Director, Larry B. Simpson, be authorized to sign on the Commission checking account in the absence, or at the request, of the Executive Director.

Unanimously adopted by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at the Ramada Inn, Biloxi, Mississippi, this the 19th day of March in the year of our Lord One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-two.

  
Charles H. Lyaes  
Executive Director





LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES BUILDING  
400 ROYAL STREET  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130

March 25, 1982

On March 16, 1982, at the Gulf States meeting held in Biloxi Mississippi, the Enforcement Committee met to discuss common problems existing in each of the five states. During this meeting it was agreed upon that many problems being combated by one state was in fact shared by all. At this time a Fisheries Liaison force was created with Major Charles Clark, of Louisiana, being appointed chairman. This force would contain a representative from the five states and members of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service along with U.S. Marine Fisheries.

The primary goals of this group would be to acquaint all concerned agencies with existing Enforcement efforts and provide assistance through a cooperative venture.

The following outline was adopted in order to pursue these goals;

- I. To determine what problems, if any, exist concerning the interstate abuse of our natural resources.
  - A. To isolate such problems and make all concerned agencies aware of them.
  - B. To gather information on illegal operations, which might affect other states.
  - C. To supply this information to other states, in order to coordinate our Enforcement efforts.
- II. To identify laws from each state concerning the Enforcement of fish laws.
  - A. To allow at least one Enforcement individual a working knowledge of surrounding state's laws.
  - B. To use this individual as a channel for a combined Enforcement effort.
- III. To allow the utilization of all Enforcement expertise by combining fields of experience.
  - A. To expedite investigations and quickly determine depth of the problem.
  - B. To by-pass methods of Enforcement which have been proven ineffective by other agencies.
- IV. To start a collection of data, kept on index, to supply to each state as needed, on individuals and companies dealing in non-resident fisheries.

- A. To identify proven violators applying for permits.
- B. To allow quick analyzes of business names, associates, and type of business.

It was also determined that this group could work with a relatively low budget. Through each Department furnishing transportation we should be able to arrange sleeping quarters and food to be furnished by the meeting state. Louisiana has facilities available for this purpose as others may have. The telephone will be our main communications. We feel this will allow a cheap but effective means of disseminating informative between agenices.

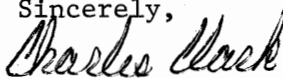
At this time we are awaiting the names of each state's representative.

This will be mailed to:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries  
400 Royal Street  
New Orleans, La. 70130

ATTN: Major Charles Clark

Sincerely,



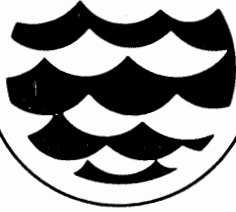
Major Charles Clark  
Enforcement Division

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Biloxi, Mississippi

March 15, 1982

Major Charlie Clark 504/568-5622	Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
Mr. Bill Ferguson 318/491-2588	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service P.O. & Courthouse Bldg., Lake Charles, LA 70601
Mr. Tom Maher, SRA 504/255-4300	U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA/NMFS Law Enforcement Div. Bldg. 320, 2nd Floor 13800 Old Gentilly Rd., New Orleans, LA 70130
Mr. Jerry Gollott 601/374-3205	Bureau of Marine Resources P.O. Box 472, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530
Mr. Dan M. Searcy 504/643-5286	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Room 2210 1010 Gause, Bldg. 936, Slidell, LA 70458
Capt. Wm. C. Walker 512/479-4951	Texas Parks & Wildlife 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744
Major Jerald K. Waller 205/861-8822	AL Dept. of Conserv/Nat. Resources, Marine Res. Div. P.O. Box 188, Dauphin Island, AL 36528
Col. Ray Montet 504/342-8625	Louisiana Fish & Wildlife P.O. Box 14526, S.E. Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70898



April 1, 1982

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Report of Meeting of Sea Grant MAS Committee of  
GSMFC, March 16-17, 1982, Biloxi, MS

The Sea Grant MAS Committee of the Gulf State Marine Fisheries Commission met on March 16-17, 1982 at the Ramada Inn, Biloxi, MS during the spring meeting of the Commission.

In attendance representing Marine Advisory Service Programs were:

Willis Clark, Texas, Chairman  
David Veal, Mississippi  
Bill Hoskings, Alabama  
Marion Clarke, Florida  
Mac Rawson, Georgia  
Jim Murray, North Carolina

Also attending were:

Jim Cato, Director, Florida Sea Grant  
Jimmie Jones, Director, MS/AL Sea Grant

Review of Discussions at Meeting of 13-14 October 1981

A report of the 13-14 October meeting of the MAS group as prepared by the Chairman was quickly reviewed since all items were to receive additional discussion.

Federal Sea Grant Budget Situation

Willis Clark presented an up-date of the Washington, D.C. budget situation. For FY82, Sea Grant and NOAA as a whole has been the subject of continuing resolutions, the latest calling for \$35 million on an annualized basis. This resolution expires on 31 March 1982, therefore, one or more resolutions will be required to insure funding through the remainder of FY82. For FY83 the Administration's budget message is the same as it was initially for FY82, only \$1.8 million for closeout.

Should Sea Grant continue through FY83, funding for FY84 and later could continue to come from general revenue appropriations or be tied to formulas set forth in bills being considered by the House and Senate to assign OCS revenues to states in a revenue sharing approach. The Sea Grant community has suggested that both approaches be thoroughly considered prior to FY84 budget deliberations.

#### Sea Grant Week, 1982

The annual Sea Grant Week program will take place in Washington, D.C., July 19-23 at the Capitol Hilton. The program format will be similar to 1981 with special sessions for Sea Grant MAS, communicators, fiscal personnel and those in marine education. Program arrangements are the responsibility of Jim Sullivan, University of California, chairman of Council of Sea Grant Directors and Feenan Jennings, President, Sea Grant Association.

#### Demise of Public Health Service activities

Marion Clarke reported that progress has been slow insofar as identifying ways to offset the loss of PHS services to the fishing community. Commercial insurance offerings are not meeting the void. Note was made of an inaugural meeting (March 31) concerning MARAD's Seafarers Health Insurance Program (SHIP). However, information currently available on SHIP shows it to be very different than that available from PHS. Clarke will keep MAS leaders informed on this matter.

#### MAS Vacancies in South Carolina

John Armstrong, Director of Sea Grant in South Carolina informed the chairman that MAS vacancies for a program leader and an agent existed in the state. This information was made known to the MAS group.

#### Energy Conservation Training Sessions

Energy conservation training sessions were conducted in Houston on January 27 and in Orlando on January 28, 1982. The purpose of these sessions was to convey findings on recent studies of energy efficiency in the shrimp industry to all MAS county marine agents in the Gulf region. As a followup to these sessions each state is to develop programs for transferring energy related information to their constituents in the fishing and boat construction industry.

#### Gulf and South Atlantic Cooperative MAS Programs

This was the major item of discussion as it had been in New Orleans. A basic concept for cooperative programs was outlined in New Orleans and

the chairman was instructed to convey the thinking of the MAS program leaders to all Sea Grant directors from Texas through North Carolina and to seek the director's endorsement of continued planning under this concept. Such a letter was sent out in February 1982. Oral comments to date are supportive, however, formal endorsement is not likely until the conceptual issues are clarified with specifics. Therefore, the Biloxi meeting was devoted to a broad range of discussions on program needs, planning technique, training, talent sharing, joint use of facilities, joint publication efforts, liason with agencies such as NMFS and organizational matters. These matters will be covered in more detail in a report by the chairman to MAS program leaders and will be discussed again when the group meets in Washington, D.C. during July 1982 at the annual Sea Grant Association meeting.

Amendments to H.R. 4041

Offered by Mr. Breaux

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the "American Shrimp Industry  
3 Development Act".

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND POLICY.

5 (a) Findings.--The Congress finds and declares the  
6 following:

7 (1) The American shrimp industry makes an important  
8 contribution to the economy of the Nation in that it  
9 provides over one billion dollars annually to the  
10 economy and directly employs tens of thousands of  
11 individuals.

12 (2) The maintenance and expansion of existing  
13 markets and the development of new markets are vital to  
14 the welfare of the domestic shrimp industry, as well as  
15 to the general economy of the Nation.

16 (3) Improved programs of research, consumer and  
17 producer education, and market promotion are necessary  
18 for the maintenance and expansion of existing markets,

1 and the development of new markets, for shrimp because  
2 individual shrimp harvesters, processors, and marketers  
3 are unable to provide for, or to carry out, such  
4 endeavors.

5 (4) American shrimp harvesters are being seriously  
6 injured by competition from foreign shrimp imports that  
7 depress the prices received by the domestic harvesters.

8 (5) If granted temporary protection from the  
9 competitive pressure of foreign shrimp imports, the  
10 American shrimp harvesting industry will have the  
11 opportunity to recover its economic health and  
12 stability.

13 (b) Declaration of Policy.--It is the policy of the  
14 Congress--

15 (1) to permit and encourage the development and the  
16 financing of effective and coordinated programs of  
17 research, consumer and producer education, and market  
18 promotion designed to strengthen the domestic shrimp  
19 industry's position in the marketplace; and

20 (2) to encourage the organization of effective  
21 organizations for the production, handling, processing,  
22 and marketing of shrimp.

23 TITLE I--TARIFF PROVISIONS AFFECTING SHRIMP

24 SEC. 101. ADJUSTMENT OF TARIFFS ON SHRIMP.

25 (a) Congressional Findings.--The Congress finds that the



1 United States shrimp harvesting, processing, and marketing  
2 industries are adversely impacted to a serious degree  
3 because--

4 (1) various forms of subsidization by foreign  
5 governments of their shrimp industries give foreign  
6 shrimp products a competitive edge in the United States  
7 market;

8 (2) United States shrimp products are virtually  
9 foreclosed from entry into many foreign markets because  
10 of prohibitive foreign tariffs and non-tariff barriers;  
11 and

12 (3) United States shrimp harvesters are being  
13 denied, or severely limited in, access to foreign waters  
14 in which they have traditionally harvested shrimp.

15 (b) Adjustment of Tariffs.--The President shall  
16 immediately increase the rates of duty on shrimp (whether  
17 fresh, chilled, frozen, prepared or preserved) provided for  
18 in item 114.45 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States  
19 to that level, and for that period of time, which, in his  
20 judgment, will ameliorate, in whole or in part, the adverse  
21 conditions which the domestic shrimp harvesting, processing,  
22 and marketing industries presently face.

23 TITLE II--QUOTA PROVISIONS AFFECTING SHRIMP

24 SEC. 201. QUOTAS ON THE IMPORTATION OF SHRIMP.

25 (a) Definitions.--For purposes of this section--

1 (1) The term "domestic harvest" means, for any  
2 calendar year--

3 (A) the harvest of United States shrimp that  
4 will be made during that year; and

5 (B) the cold storage holdings of shrimp in the  
6 United States at the beginning of such year.

7 The domestic harvest, and the domestic demand, of shrimp  
8 determined for purposes of this title shall be stated in  
9 poundage (heads-off weight).

10 (2) The term "entered" means entered, or withdrawn  
11 from warehouse for consumption, within the customs  
12 territory of the United States.

13 (3) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of  
14 Commerce.

15 (4) The term "shrimp" means shrimp, whether fresh,  
16 chilled, frozen, prepared, or preserved.

17 (5) The term "United States shrimp" means shrimp  
18 harvested within the United States or accorded duty-free  
19 treatment under item 180.00 of such Schedules.

20 (b) Quantitative Restrictions.--(1) Before the beginning  
21 of each calendar year after 1982, the Secretary shall  
22 determine, on the basis of the best available information  
23 and after consulting with the appropriate Regional Fishery  
24 Management Councils established under section 302 of Public  
25 Law 94-265 (16 U.S.C. 1852), the National Shrimp Board

1 established under title III of this Act, and other  
2 representatives of the harvesting, processing, and marketing  
3 sectors of the domestic shrimp industry--

4 (A) the domestic harvest for such calendar year; and

5 (B) the domestic demand for shrimp during that year,  
6 including exports.

7 If the Secretary determines that the domestic demand for the  
8 calendar year will exceed the domestic harvest for that  
9 year, the total poundage (heads-off weight) of shrimp that  
10 may be entered under item 114.45 of the Tariff Schedules of  
11 the United States during such year may not exceed the amount  
12 of such excess.

13 (2) The Secretary shall apply the quantitative  
14 limitation imposed under this subsection for any calendar  
15 year on a calendar quarter or other appropriate intra-annual  
16 basis so as to ensure that the quantity of shrimp entered  
17 during any quarter does not cause domestic market  
18 disruption.

19 (c) Administration.--The Secretary of the Treasury shall  
20 take such action as may be necessary to ensure that the  
21 quantity of shrimp that is entered during any calendar year  
22 after 1992 or any calendar quarter thereof, does not exceed  
23 the quantitative limitation established by the Secretary for  
24 that year or quarter under this section.

25 TITLE III--NATIONAL SHRIMP BOARD

## 1 SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.

2 AS used in this title--

3 (1) The term "Board" means the National Shrimp  
4 Board provided for under this title.5 (2) The term "marketing" means the sale or other  
6 disposition of shrimp, shrimp products, the catch from  
7 associated fisheries, and products from such catch in  
8 any channel of interstate, foreign, or intrastate  
9 commerce.

10 (3) The term "person" means--

11 (A) any individual who is a citizen or national  
12 of the United States or a citizen of the Northern  
13 Mariana Islands; and14 (B) any corporation, partnership, association,  
15 or other entity, nonprofit or otherwise, if such  
16 entity is a citizen of the United States within the  
17 meaning of section 2 of the Shipping Act, 1916 (46  
18 U.S.C. 802), and for purposes of applying such  
19 section 2 with respect to this Act--20 (i) the term "State" as used therein  
21 includes any State referred to in paragraph  
22 (10).23 (ii) citizens of the United States must own  
24 not less than 75 percent of the interest in the  
25 entity or, in the case of a nonprofit entity,

1 exercise control in the entity that is  
2 determined by the Secretary to be the equivalent  
3 of such ownership, and

4 (iii) nationals of the United States and  
5 citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands shall  
6 be treated as citizens of the United States in  
7 meeting the ownership and control requirements  
8 referred to in clause (ii).

9 (4) The term "promotion" means any action,  
10 including, but not limited to, consumer education,  
11 advertising, and the development of new marketing  
12 channels, designed to increase the consumption of  
13 shrimp, shrimp products, the catch from associated  
14 fisheries, and products from such catch.

15 (5) The term "research" means study or  
16 investigation with respect to methods of increasing the  
17 harvest of shrimp and fish from associated fisheries,  
18 and the efficiency of such harvesting; increasing the  
19 efficiency of processing shrimp and fish from associated  
20 fisheries (including the upgrading of product quality or  
21 the development of new products); and expanding, and  
22 increasing the efficiency of, marketing.

23 (6) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of  
24 Commerce.

25 (7) The term "shrimp harvester" means a person who

1 owns a vessel of the United States that is used for the  
2 harvesting of shrimp on a commercial basis and who  
3 derives at least one-half of his annual income from such  
4 harvesting. A resident shrimp harvester is a shrimp  
5 harvester who resides, is organized under the laws of,  
6 or is engaged in business in a State within a shrimp  
7 producing region.

8 (8) The term "shrimp marketer" means a person who  
9 buys, or otherwise acquires, shrimp from shrimp  
10 harvesters, or who imports shrimp, for processing or  
11 marketing, or both. A resident shrimp marketer is a  
12 shrimp marketer who resides, is organized under the laws  
13 of, or is engaged in business in a State within a shrimp  
14 producing region.

15 (9) The term "shrimp producing region" means the  
16 geographical area over which a Regional Fishery  
17 Management Council established under section 302 of the  
18 Act entitled "An Act to provide for the conservation  
19 and management of the fisheries, and for othe  
20 purposes", approved April 13, 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1852)  
21 exercises jurisdiction for the purposes of that Act.

22 (10) The term "State" means any State, the  
23 District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,  
24 American Samoa, the Virgin Islands of the United States,  
25 Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other

1 Commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United  
2 States.

3 SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD.

4 (a) Referendum.--Within 180 days after the date of the  
5 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall--

6 (1) identify the resident shrimp harvesters and the  
7 resident shrimp marketers of each shrimp producing  
8 region; and

9 (2) conduct a referendum among the shrimp harvesters  
10 and marketers identified under paragraph (1) regarding  
11 whether they desire the establishment of the National  
12 Shrimp Board.

13 (b) Action After Referendum.--(1) If not less than 50  
14 percent of the persons voting in the referendum conducted  
15 under subsection (a) approve the establishment of the Board,  
16 the Secretary shall, within 60 days after the date of the  
17 referendum--

18 (A) determine with respect to each shrimp producing  
19 region the proportion (expressed as a percentage) which  
20 (i) the number of resident shrimp harvesters in that  
21 region bears to the total number of shrimp harvesters in  
22 the United States, and (ii) the number of resident  
23 shrimp marketers in that region bears to the total  
24 number of shrimp marketers in the United States;

25 (B) on the basis of the respective proportions

1 derived under paragraph (1), apportion among the shrimp  
2 producing regions 12 memberships on the Board for shrimp  
3 harvesters and 12 memberships on the Board for shrimp  
4 marketers (except that no shrimp producing region may  
5 have less than one member of the Board);

6 (C) solicit from the resident shrimp harvesters and  
7 resident shrimp marketers of each shrimp producing  
8 region the nominations from among themselves for the  
9 Board memberships apportioned to that region under  
10 subparagraph (B); and

11 (D) conduct an election in each shrimp producing  
12 region among the resident shrimp harvesters and resident  
13 shrimp marketers to determine the initial members of the  
14 Board from that region.

15 (2)(A) The term of office of a member of the Board is 3  
16 years. No member may serve more than 3 consecutive terms.

17 (B) Individuals are not entitled to compensation for  
18 service as members of the Board, but shall be reimbursed for  
19 their reasonable expenses in performing duties as such  
20 members.

21 (3) Upon the election of the initial members of the  
22 Board, the Secretary shall formally establish the Board by  
23 publication of a notice to that effect in the Federal  
24 Register.

25 (4) The initial membership of the Board shall, as soon



1 as practical after its election, develop and implement the  
2 organizational structure of the Board and establish the  
3 practices and procedures under which the Board will carry  
4 out its functions. A statement of the organizational  
5 structure and the practices and procedures shall be made  
6 available for public inspection. The Secretary shall provide  
7 to the Board, upon its request and on a reimbursable basis,  
8 such interim technical and clerical assistance as the Board  
9 may require for purposes of initial organization and  
10 operation.

11 (5) The Board shall maintain such books and records as  
12 the Secretary may require regarding its financial  
13 operations.

14 **SEC. 303. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF BOARD.**

15 (a) Functions.--The functions of the Board are--

16 (1) to develop and implement appropriate plans and  
17 projects for promotions, marketing, and research; and

18 (2) to disburse the technical data and other  
19 information resulting from research plans and projects  
20 undertaken under paragraph (1).

21 (b) Powers.--For purposes of carrying out its functions  
22 the Board may--

23 (1) enter into such contracts as may be necessary or  
24 appropriate to carry out plans and projects referred to  
25 in subsection (a)(1);

1 (2) employ such staff, which shall not be subject to  
2 the civil service laws, as necessary.

3 (3) sue and be sued;

4 (4) subject to section 304, determine, and collect  
5 from shrimp marketers, assessments to cover the  
6 operating expenses and contract obligations of the  
7 Board;

8 (5) accept and use donations for the carrying out of  
9 its functions; and

10 (6) take such other actions as may be necessary or  
11 appropriate to carry out its functions in a manner  
12 consistent with this title.

13 (c) Contracts.--(1) The Board may not enter into a  
14 contract under subsection (b)(1) unless the contractor first  
15 develops and submits to the Board a detailed statement of  
16 the proposed plan or project, together with a budget which  
17 shall set forth the estimated costs of the plan or project.

18 (2) A contract may not be entered into unless approved  
19 by a majority of the Board.

20 (3) Each contract entered into by the Board shall  
21 contain such terms and conditions as may be necessary or  
22 appropriate, including, but not limited to, the conditions  
23 that the contracting party shall keep accurate records of  
24 all of its transactions under the contract and make periodic  
25 reports to the Board regarding activities carried out by it

1 to implement the contract.

2 (4) The United States is not liable in any manner, or to  
3 any extent, with respect to any contract entered into by the  
4 Board other than a contract that is entered into between the  
5 United States and the Board.

6 SEC. 304. ASSESSMENTS.

7 (a) For each fiscal year, the Board shall finance its  
8 operating expenses, carry out its contractual obligations,  
9 and maintain its reserves through the levying of an  
10 assessment on shrimp marketers, as provided in this section,  
11 on the number of pounds of shrimp purchased by them during  
12 that year.

13 (b) Amount.--For each fiscal year, the Board shall  
14 determine the amount of the assessment required for purposes  
15 of subsection (a); except that--

16 (1) during the first 2 fiscal years of the Board's  
17 existence, the assessment shall be 1 cent per pound for  
18 shrimp under 100 count, and 1/2 cent per pound for  
19 shrimp of 100 count or over; and

20 (2) for each fiscal year after the first 2 fiscal  
21 years, the Board may increase or decrease the amount of  
22 assessment in either or both count classifications as  
23 appropriate, but the increase or decrease in a count  
24 classification for such fiscal year may not exceed by 25  
25 percent the amount of assessment levied for that

1 classification during the immediately preceding fiscal  
2 year.

3 (c) Reserve.--The Board shall maintain a reserve equal  
4 to potential liabilities for refunds as provided in  
5 subsection (e).

6 (d) Suits for Collection.--The Board may maintain a suit  
7 against any shrimp marketer for the collection of  
8 assessments made under the authority of this section and the  
9 several district courts of the United States are hereby  
10 vested with jurisdiction to entertain such suits.

11 (e) Refunds.--Notwithstanding any other provision of  
12 this title, any shrimp marketer from whom an assessment is  
13 collected under authority of this section and who is not in  
14 favor of the programs of the Board has the right to demand,  
15 and receive, from the Board a refund of such assessment if  
16 such demand is made within thirty days after the end of the  
17 month in which the assessments are due and collectible by  
18 such marketer in such form, and upon submission of such  
19 proof that the marketer paid the assessment for which the  
20 refund is sought, as may be satisfactory to the Board.  
21 Refunds shall be made by the Board within thirty days after  
22 the date on which the shrimp marketer makes satisfactory  
23 demand.

24 SEC. 305. TERMINATION OF BOARD.

25 If at least 25 percent of the aggregate of the shrimp

1 harvesters and shrimp marketers in the United States  
2 petition the Secretary for a referendum regarding the  
3 continued existence of the Board, the Secretary shall  
4 identify, and conduct such a referendum among, the resident  
5 shrimp harvesters and resident shrimp marketers in each  
6 shrimp producing region. If not less than 50 percent of the  
7 persons voting in the referendum approve the  
8 disestablishment of the Board, the Secretary shall  
9 disestablish the Board by publication of a notice to that  
10 effect in the Federal Register; except that the Board may  
11 continue to function solely, for such time as may be  
12 necessary, in order to meet all outstanding contractual  
13 obligations, liquidate its reserve, and make final refund of  
14 assessments under section 304.

15 TITLE IV--REPORTING AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

16 SEC. 401. SHRIMP INDUSTRY STATISTICS.

17 (a) In General.--The Secretary may require that shrimp  
18 harvesters and shrimp marketers (as defined in section  
19 301(7) and (8)) and such other persons, as the Secretary  
20 deems appropriate, who are engaged in the harvesting,  
21 processing, transportation, or marketing of shrimp or shrimp  
22 products within the United States, to report periodically  
23 such statistics to the Secretary regarding such activities  
24 as the Secretary may require for the purpose of carrying out  
25 this Act and the amendments made by it.

1 (b) Regulations.--The Secretary, after consultation with  
2 the Regional Fishery Management Councils and the National  
3 Shrimp Board, shall prescribe such regulations as are  
4 necessary and appropriate to carry out this section.

5 (c) Confidentiality of Statistics.--All statistics  
6 submitted to the Secretary by any person in compliance with  
7 any requirement under this section shall be confidential and  
8 shall not be disclosed except when required under court  
9 order; except that the Secretary may release or make public  
10 any such statistics in any aggregate or summary form which  
11 does not directly or indirectly disclose the identity or  
12 business of any person who submits such statistics.

13 (d) Civil Penalty.--(1) Any person who is found by the  
14 Secretary, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing in  
15 accordance with section 554 of title 5, United States Code,  
16 to have violated a regulation issued to carry out this  
17 section shall be liable to the United States for a civil  
18 penalty. The amount of the civil penalty shall not exceed  
19 \$1,000 for each violation. Each day of a continuing  
20 violation shall constitute a separate offense. The amount of  
21 such civil penalty shall be assessed by the Secretary, or  
22 his designee, by written notice.

23 (2) Any person against whom a civil penalty is assessed  
24 under paragraph (1) may obtain review thereof in the  
25 appropriate court of the United States by filing a notice of

1 appeal in such court within 30 days from the date of such  
2 order and by simultaneously sending a copy of such notice by  
3 certified mail to the Secretary. The Secretary shall  
4 promptly file in such court a certified copy of the record  
5 upon which such violation was found or such penalty imposed,  
6 as provided in section 2112 of title 28, United States Code.  
7 The findings and order of the Secretary shall be set aside  
8 by such court if they are not found to be supported by  
9 substantial evidence, as provided in section 706(2) of title  
10 5, United States Code.

11 (3) If any person fails to pay an assessment of a civil  
12 penalty after it has become a final and unappealable order,  
13 or after the appropriate court has entered final judgment in  
14 favor of the Secretary, the Secretary shall refer the matter  
15 to the Attorney General of the United States, who shall  
16 recover the amount assessed in any appropriate district  
17 court of the United States. In such action, the validity and  
18 appropriateness of the final order imposing the civil  
19 penalty shall not be subject to review.

20 (4) The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit, with  
21 or without conditions, any civil penalty which is subject to  
22 imposition or which has been imposed under this section.

23 SEC. 402. SHRIMP IMPORT STATISTICS.

24 The Secretary, in consultation with the United States  
25 International Trade Commission and the Secretary of the

1 Treasury, shall establish a system for reporting the entry  
2 of shrimp provided for in item 114.45 of the Tariff  
3 Schedules of the United States that includes statistical  
4 suffix categories for shrimp in those product forms and size  
5 counts ordinarily used to differentiate products in the  
6 commercial marketing of shrimp in the United States.

7 SEC. 403. PRIORITY FISHERIES RESEARCH.

8 (a) Required Projects.--In the administration of section  
9 2 of the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly referred to as the  
10 Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, 15 U.S.C. 713c-3), the Secretary  
11 shall, if an application is received during fiscal year 1983  
12 or 1984 for a grant under subsection (c) of such section 2--

13 (1) to establish and operate a project which  
14 utilizes the by-catch from shrimp harvesting; or  
15 (2) to carry out a project to improve fuel  
16 efficiency in carrying out harvesting of the shrimp  
17 fishery (including fishing strategies, gear, and other  
18 aspects of fishing vessel operations that affect fuel  
19 efficiency);

20 award the grant if the Secretary finds that the applicant  
21 and proposed project meet the requirements of paragraph (3)  
22 of such subsection (c).

23 (b) Discretionary Projects.--If an application for a  
24 project described in subsection (a) is not received during  
25 fiscal year 1983 or 1984 (or, if received, the applicant or



1 the proposed project do not meet the requirements of  
2 subsection (c)(3) of such section 2), the Secretary may  
3 carry out such a project, pursuant to the national fisheries  
4 research and development program under subsection (d) of  
5 such section 2.

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to establish a  
National Shrimp Board, provide for the development and  
improvement of the domestic shrimp harvesting, processing,  
and marketing industries; and for other purposes."

## EXPLANATION OF BREAUX AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4041

As I indicated in my opening statement, this amendment, in the nature of a substitute, is designed to take into account the testimony and evidence received at our hearings, and better address the problems faced by the shrimp industry.

The first title of the amendment contains a revised tariff proposal. As the Members will recall, the domestic shrimp industry prosecuted an action before the International Trade Commission (ITC) in 1975, seeking the imposition of a countervailing duty. While that effort resulted in a positive finding by the ITC, the President ordered that no remedy be provided. Why? As usual, U.S. fishing interests were forced to take a back seat to other foreign policy considerations of the State Department's regional bureaus.

The revised tariff provision contained in the bill is, in essence, a Congressional finding of unfair competitive advantages by foreign shrimp producers in the U.S. marketplace. It directs the President to adjust the tariff rates on shrimp to ameliorate the adverse conditions facing all segments of the domestic industry.

Critics contend that this provision, if applied to certain countries, would violate the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). I would reply by noting the high tariffs many of these same GATT partners impose on U.S. produced shrimp and ask the critics, what has become of the Administration's "free, but fair" trade philosophy.

Title II of the substitute contains a vastly revised quota provision. As I indicated in my opening statement, we discovered that the timing of product entry onto the domestic market is one of the most critical elements in the prices received by U.S. shrimpers. Witnesses also expressed concerns

about Congressional action that could set arbitrarily low levels for foreign imports, increasing the consumer cost to an extent that would undermine demand.

In reaction to these points, Title II of the amendment erects what could be called a "domestic product preference" quota system. That is, prior to the beginning of each calendar year, the Secretary of Commerce will determine: (1) the total domestic harvest for such calendar year, including the on-hand cold storage holdings; and (2) the domestic demand for such calendar year, including exports of U.S. shrimp to foreign countries. The difference between these two numbers, if any, will be the level of foreign product that will be allowed into the U.S. during that year.

Most important to this scheme is the provision requiring the Secretary to apply the annual limitation, if any, on foreign imports, on a quarterly, or other intra-annual basis. The intended effect of the revised quota is to avoid artificial restrictions on the total supply-demand situation, while more carefully synchronizing the introduction of foreign imports onto the U.S. market so as not to disrupt the domestic harvesting season.

Title III of the substitute retains the basic outlines of the marketing board concept contained in the original version of H.R. 4041. That is, the domestic shrimp industry will be asked to vote on whether or not it wants to create a marketing board empowered to develop and implement plans and projects related to the promotion, marketing and research of shrimp and shrimp products. The board will be self-funded through levies imposed, on a per-pound basis, or the industry itself. The only federal involvement will be the holding of the referenda required to approve the formation of the board, elect the members of the board, and dissolve the board--in the event it becomes clear that the board is not accomplishing the purposes for which it was created. All expenses

incurred by the government in the start-up costs for the board are to be reimbursed by the board from industry assessments. Otherwise, project approvals and contractual obligations entered into by the board, as well as enforcement of the assessment provisions, will be the responsibility of the industry itself. The legislation thus stipulates that the board may sue and be sued in its own name and that the U.S. government is not liable in any manner with respect to contracts entered into between the board and third parties.

Changes to the original marketing board concept outlined in H.R. 4041 include:

(1) provisions expanding the board membership to shrimp marketers/processors, as well as shrimp harvesters. The board would be composed of 24 members, representatives equally divided among the two groups. Each shrimp producing region, defined to parallel the eight regions created by the FCMA, will be guaranteed at least one seat; otherwise, representation will be decided proportionally based upon the percentage of harvesters or marketers/processors in that region as compared to the national total. Each board member will serve three year terms with a right to re-election for no more than two additional consecutive terms;

(2) provisions requiring the mandatory assessment of fees at the first point of sale. Fees will originally be established at 1¢/pound for shrimp of 100 count and under; 1/2¢/pound for shrimp over 100 count. Upon the timely and proper request of any shrimp marketer, the board shall reimburse the assessment collected, if that person is not in favor of the board's programs; and

(3) provisions allowing the board to be terminated upon petitioning of 25 percent of the harvesters and marketers/processors for a dissolution vote and the subsequent ballot of at least 50 percent of the industry in favor of such dissolution.

Title IV of the substitute is identical to the same provisions of H.R. 4041 and provide the Secretary with authority to collect any additional statistics that might be necessary to accomplish the purposes of the bill. Strict confidentiality provisions protect such statistics. Finally, we provide priority for any S-K proposal that either looks to the utilization of shrimp by-catch or fuel efficiency in the shrimp harvest.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY  
MINUTES

New Orleans, Louisiana  
July 1, 1982

The Industry Advisory meeting was called to order by Mr. Simpson at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the shrimp legislation bill (HR-4041). Mr. Simpson stated that the committee has a chance to provide input on HR-4041. Congressman Breaux, after several field hearings, comments and other communications for and against the bill has put in a substitute for the bill. The bill is almost totally revamped with some of the same concepts. Mr. Ralph Rayburn of Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) will review the high points of HR-4041 and then the committee will go through it section by section.

Mr. Rayburn stated that this committee should provide Congressman Breaux with an overview of what the Gulf and South Atlantic shrimp industry is interested in and how they feel about this legislation in order to make appropriate changes. Also, with this meeting the committee will show Congressman Breaux that he has the support of the shrimp industry.

HR-4041 still has four provisions: (1) tariffs, (2) quotas, (3) marketing board, and (4) some information on statistical gathering. This bill is a complete substitute. Strike out everything after acting clause and insert the following (attached copy). The original HR-4041 has the enabling clause and everything after that is encompassed in this legislation.

Basically the findings and the policy are the same as the original bill. The tariffs provision of the legislation primarily establishes the fact that various other countries have direct and indirect subsidies for their shrimp fisheries. They also have tariffs that prohibit the importation of shrimp into their countries. The harvesters have limited access to foreign waters in which they traditionally fished over the past years. In order to adjust for this, and to give the administration or the government some opportunity to make adjustments, this bill authorizes the President to establish a tariff rate on shrimp based on these considerations. A reciprocal tariff program where there's an

import tariff in other countries in reference to shrimp, where as now for subsidization you would go through a countervailing route to international trade administration. What Mr. Breaux is trying to achieve by this section is to make an issue of the fact that the trade between countries is not fair. It might in the eyes of the U.S. be free and in it's free access to this market it is not fair that we do not get reciprocity free access to other markets.

Mr. Chauvin stated that India, for example, produces enough shrimp to export and for their own people to consume. Consequently, India has a high tariff to protect their industry. The United States does not produce enough shrimp for consumption and has to have imports. The argument that these countries are not being fair is irrelevant because they are doing it to protect their own industries.

The group discussed tariffs on shrimp imports of Mexico and India, the cost per pound and item 114.45 of the tariff schedules.

Mr. Rayburn said that Texas generally agreed to HR-4041. There were a few descending votes on each one of the titles but once people saw what Mr. Breaux was trying to do they felt he was on target.

Mr. Shepard stated that National Fisheries Institute (NFI) is opposed to tariffs and quotas and Mr. Breaux knows NFI's position. In marketing, NFI has a suggestion in Breaux's bill that 50% of the harvesters and 50% of the producers approve the bill. Since there are 3 to 4 thousand fishermen (harvesters) and only 100 producers, they are suggesting that 50% of each segment support the marketing bill. That is NFI's position. He also stated that being a member of the Louisiana Shrimp Association he would suggest to Breaux that he scrap the whole thing and go just for a 5% tariff - a discretionary presidential tariff period.

Mr. Chauvin stated that on marketing we figured out that some of our processors would have to pay as much as \$12,000 a month under the marketing portion of the bill. The processors do not have the money to promote the generic product. They want to promote their own brand. It is what Mr. Shepard said that some of the foundations and associations can be very effective in promoting shrimp, but to put this kind of tax, which is in effect what it is, on processors is going to be prohibitive.

Mr. Simpson asked if the committee had a synthesized position on tariffs other than what was already stated in Section 1.

The discussion continued on with tariffs. Several committee members seem to think that tariffs would not hurt the market, but that all depends upon the percent of tariffs.

Mr. Chauvin stated that if it is a 15% tariff then that would be pretty tough. American Shrimp Cannery and Processors Association would be against it strictly from the principle of limiting free trade. But at times it would keep countries from dumping shrimp on the market, and to have a discretionary tariff may be a workable thing.

Mr. Simpson: Basically what Breaux has proposed is that the president can apply tariffs at that level and for that period of time which will in his judgement compensate U.S. industry for problems that the foreign shrimpers cause.

Mr. Rayburn stated that the Texas Shrimp Association is in favor of tariff provisions.

Mr. Shepard replied that the Louisiana Shrimp Association is in favor of tariffs. Charlie Lyles has at least on two or three occasions taken that position before our board.

Mr. Rayburn on quota provisions, page 3. The problem with quotas is the numbers. TSA told Senator Tower that 250 million pounds looked like the average needs for the industry taken over past 6 years. Commerce has problems with those numbers, the same problems they had with the tariff numbers. He thinks commerce felt they were not able to justify 250 million pounds under litigation, and also there were implications to General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and trades in reference to the way that was written. So they decided instead to create what they called a domestic product preference quota. It would allow for the secretary to make a prediction at the first of the year on a calendar year basis of what the domestic harvest is going to be and what the domestic demand is going to be. Then, from that decide what the available excess of demand over harvest and use that as the mechanism to establish how much shrimp will be coming in. When TSA discussed it yesterday the concern was as to just how valid any prediction would be at the start of the year as to demand or possibly demand would be easier to tie into than the domestic harvest. TSA suggested that cold storage



holding, per capita consumption, interest rates and all be taken into consideration in order to determine what the supply might be. Then skew this, instead of a calendar year basis bring it closer to when you have a better ability to predict good, fair or poor seasons. The suggestion was made at that date, 1 May, instead of the 1 January calendar year be used to begin the year. Then give the secretary flexibility over the next 90 days or so to adjust based on what the harvest actually was.

Mr. Chauvin asked, "Will there be any provision on the quota to deal with size specifications? For example, if you say Mexico can bring in "x" number of million pounds and Mexico puts 10-15's and 15-20's to fill that entire quota that could still mess up our market?"

Mr. Rayburn: No. TSA made a recommendation that they include that and Mr. Breaux has made a recommendation in the final part of this bill here today. Before the secretary would enact a quota, one of the responsibilities is not only to talk to the regional fisheries councils, and the national shrimp board, but also to representatives of harvesting, processing and marketing sectors of the domestic industry to get the information for making a decision on quotas. The quotas could be done either on an annual basis or an intra-annual basis where it could be a quarterly system. It would be an anti-dumping provision almost. It would give more flexibility, more direct access to a decision-maker than you would have under the current bureaucratic scheme. This quota provision is something that they intend to refine before it goes to full committee markup. That's why the suggestion on predictability and even the concept of predictability is something to look at before the bill gets out of committee.

Mr. Simpson stated as a group you want the quota to be used until we have the ability to do a good job of predicting. In addition you are saying delay the quota institution past January to at least May or later use quarterly adjustments thereafter to be considered and also consider size breakdown in this quota.

Mr. Rayburn stated that one of the recommendations made by TSA was that there be attached to this a flexibility for readjusting the time frame of 90 days. In addition, TSA talked about a bail out provision. Bail out wasn't the term but where there was some drastic indication that everybody started eating shrimp and you had a sharp fall, an escape

clause would be needed. The secretary would have the ability under an escape clause to go in and re-adjust either to prevent a flood of product that would depress the shrimp market or to allow for more product flow into the market.

The discussion continued around the time period it would take to get shrimp on demand. Some committee members felt the restaurants could get shrimp on a 24-hour notice. Other members said they would need 60 to 90 days depending on where you get them from.

Mr. Simpson stated, I think it would be fair to say then that the position is that we've got problems with this quota. There are questions about the predictability. There needs to be some more work done about possibly bringing in historical trends of consumption and importation. There needs to be an escape clause. I think that the general consensus we have problems with quotas but we basically agree in principle to the idea.

Mr. Rayburn opened discussion on the marketing board. He stated that this bill is only enabling legislation to establish a board, whether the board actually comes to reality or not will be dependent on whether the industry felt like it was needed. A referendum would be held and if the vote was not sufficient, 50% of more voting in favor of it, then the enabling legislation would still be in place but there would be no board. We would just go on as we have been doing and at such time when the industry felt like it would be beneficial to have a marketing board set up, then they could go back in and petition the secretary again to hold a referendum. At that time possibly industry would choose to accept it.

In the past National Marine Fisheries Service could supply a million dollars for promotion of shrimp. Whether the fees are too high or too low, the fee of a penny a pound for under a hundred count and a half a cent over a hundred were questioned. These were used as the first two years fees to get the program going. And then after that, the fees could be adjusted depending on what kind of program industry tells them to have. It is a regional approach though. Look at the use of the eight regions as depicted in the FCMA for shrimp interest, 24 member board-12 harvesters and 12 marketers-a representative from each one of the regions, at least one and then a prorating of the rest of the

membership based on the economic impact of shrimp in that particular region. All the cost of putting that together would be compensated by NMFS, commerce would take care of holding a referendum and the clerical help of putting it together. Then after that it would be completely industry operated even to the extent that industry would sue for collection and assessments if need be.

In H.R. 2173 it calls for government enforcement. This bill, H.R. 4041, is not enforced. It is a mandatory assessment; it is a voluntary contribution. Unlike the original H.R. 4041 you would only pay if you voted to participate. In this version, it is agreed to by the majority of the industry then everyone would be responsible for paying the assessment. They could ask for their money back within 30 days but everybody would be responsible for paying it. If somebody failed to pay it then it would be the responsibility of the board to go to court to try and collect.

In H.R. 2173 civil action would be referred to the attorney general for appropriate action. So it would be taken to court and their would be a \$5,000 fine for failing to submit the fees.

Mr. Simpson asked if the committee had problems with the concept of the board and its makeup - that is 12 processors and 12 harvesters nationally for a total of 24.

In general discussion it was stated that marketers may have problems with fees. If marketers pay they will raise prices to consumers. Additional discussion was held on equal numbers of processors and harvesters.

Mr. Shepard stated the only thing NFI has to say about title 3, which is the marketing board, is that NFI does support legislation which would create a mechanism, enabling act, to determine a desire within the industry for a marketing board or council. As such NFI will support Title 3 with several important changes. One concerns a proposal to include both the cold water industry of Alaska, Washington and Oregon. There is really no reason to have Alaska tied into this thing with the rest of the shrimp industry. They should have a separate marketing board with the Alaska and Oregon people. The second objection is create the board if more than 50% of the voting harvesters and marketers approve. Since the boat operators are numbered in the thousands and the

marketers are numbered in the hundreds the control of the referendum is placed on the basis of the vessel operator. Yet the assessments are to be levied on the marketer. NFI proposes that the board be created if at least 50% of the voting harvesters and 50% of the voting marketers approve. Those are the two objections.

Discussion centered around the severance tax on shrimp, who pays the tax - the harvester or the producer. The concerns of paying twice. It was concluded, page 8, line 8, that the shrimp market is responsible for paying the severance tax. On page 13, line 10, which states level of assessment as group marketers.

Mr. Simpson stated that the committee generally agrees to (1) no compensation, reimbursement for reasonable expenses; (2) 12 harvesters and 12 processors on the marketing board for a total of 24 nation-wide divided up into the eight producing regions; (3) NFI thinks that Oregon and Alaska should have their own marketing board.

The Committee discussed what species of shrimp would be considered in the bill. It was decided that all shrimp species be included into the bill.

The question was raised on who (of the harvesters) would be able to vote on the referendum for the marketing board.

Mr. Shepard replied to the question by saying that the people in order to vote will have to prove by affidavit that one-half of their annual income comes from catching shrimp.

Mr. Simpson stated as a committee we have no problems with one-cent a pound for under 100 count and one-half cent a pound for over 100 count, as long as it is clarified as heads-off (Section 304). The board can increase or decrease its duty but not more than 25% of the fee levied for that classification during the immediately preceding time period. You can get your money back and terminate the board at any time (Section 305).

Mr. Rayburn stated the board does need to establish a due date or time of assessment.

Mr. Simpson asked the committee if they have problems with the statistics for shrimp industry (Section 401). Basically it is National Marine Fisheries Service's responsibility. Also, does the committee have problems with civil penalties for violators when they don't pay.

Any problems with shrimp import statistics (Section 402). Any problems with priority fisheries research (Section 403) funds by SK.

Mr. Simpson stated that basically as a committee we are going to agree with H.R. 4041 and present come clarifying points and general comments on other related bills.

Mr. Rayburn stated that H.R. 2173 has no momentum. I don't know if NFI will push H.R. 2173. That is the shrimp marketing board put in by Southeastern and NFI. It is the Chiles and Holling bill. They are waiting to see what happens with this bill. Florida's opposition to H.R. 4041 is the tariff and quota. They are for H.R. 2173.

Mr. Collins stated he did not believe this bill will help or hurt the shrimp industry. If anything it will help in a way to stabilize the price of shrimp. It is watered down compared to the first version.

Mr. Rayburn stated it is a positive step. It provides some access to decision makers and allows them to make a decision. If you need a board then you have access to establish a board.

Mr. Shepard said the board is designed to increase consumption of shrimp. Like Mr. Rayburn said if we could get people to eat one-half pound more of shrimp that's 120 million pounds of shrimp. Something the shrimp industry has never been able to do and that is to get the housewife to buy shrimp. Approximately 80% of all shrimp are consumed in restaurants.

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for participating in the meeting.  
Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Zimmerman, Chairman  
Industry Advisory Committee

INDUSTRY ADVISORY MEETING

JULY 1, 1982

MEMBERS

ADDRESS

Perry Thompson

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

Larry Simpson

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

Julius Collins

Texas Shrimp Association

Ralph Rayburn

Texas Shrimp Association

Bill Chauvin

American Shrimp Cannery & Processors  
Association

Tee John Mialjevich

Concerned Shrimpers of Louisiana

Ted Shepard

Louisiana Shrimp Association -  
National Fisheries Institute

MENHADEN PLAN MEETING  
MINUTES  
Austin, Texas  
July 29, 1982

The meeting was opened by Bob Kemp at 8:30 a.m. at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Building on Smith School Road. Mr. Kemp briefly traced the history of menhaden management and research in Texas. He stated that most work had been carried on in the bays and not much attention had been given to the fish and the Gulf of Mexico. He stated that he will be required to brief his Commission on September 2 on the status of the fishery and planning.

Gary Matlock then took over and explained that Texas Parks and Wildlife is in the process of classifying fish as to game fish and non-game fish and that when this is completed management plans must be developed. There must be information on prey-predator relationships. He pointed out that Texas has information on stocks of menhaden in the bays based on sampling done over several years.

Matlock then explained the procedure by which matters of this kind (notice of intent to prepare management plan) are handled. Publication of Notice of Intent must first be published in Texas Register followed by hearings.

Matlock then inquired about updating the management plan prepared by the Commission under contract. Ed Swindell spoke up and said the menhaden industry would pay for the plan but that such an arrangement might have problems.

I pointed out that the advisory group had from time to time recommended redoing the plan but funds had not been available. Kemp asked about a special assessment to do the plan. Lyles suggested this might be slow and that it might be better to draw on the reserve and replace it at a later date. He was asked to poll the Commissioners and talk with Christmas about redoing. Matlock would like the following material covered.

1. Length - Weight Relationship
2. Mortality Estimates
  - (1) Fishing mortality
  - (2) Natural mortality
  - (3) Predators and other causes of mortality

3. Food Habits of Adults
4. Value of Fishery - to numbers of people, to communities as well as dollar value of product
5. Estimates of MSY - Using Other Models Than Shaeffer
6. By Catch Information
7. Fishery Independent Sampling
8. Clearer Definition of Management Objectives - Options in Management
  - (1) Limited entry
  - (2) Restricting effort in some years and increasing in other years
  - (3) Sociological regulations
  - (4) Others

There was then some lengthy discussions which ended about 2:00 p.m.  
Lyles will report back to Matlock.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Lyles  
Executive Director



SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
September 16-17, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee of the TCC, presiding. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. to review the 1982 SEAMAP activities and plan for the 1983 activities. The agenda and the minutes from the March meeting were approved without corrections.

Dr. Warren Stuntz reviewed the 1982 environmental Survey activities. He stated that environmental samples were collected from 689 stations. The data have been computerized and edited for correctness. The chlorophyll data should be in the computer by the middle of October and distributed to the Subcommittee. The environmental data will be put into an atlas, hopefully by March of 1983. He suggested that the atlas should contain more than one year of data and also contain information on shrimp and finfish for comparison purposes. The low oxygen area off Louisiana was very thin, less than a meter from the bottom.

Mr. C. E. Bryan reviewed the shrimp and bottomfish survey. He stated that the real time data were very helpful to determine if Texas should extend the Texas closure. By using the real time data they decided not to extend the closed season.

He reviewed the purpose, objective and results of the survey. In his opinion, the survey went very well. The only problem encountered was with the Texas vessel, WESTERN GULF, which developed a leak. Texas chartered a vessel to complete the sampling. Unfortunately, the chartered vessel was not equipped to take hydrographic data. Comparison tows between the OREGON II and TOMMY MUNRO and JEFF and TINA were

completed. The WESTERN GULF or the chartered vessel did not do any comparison tows.

One major problem developed with data handling aboard the JEFF and TINA. The directions for handling the finfish and invertebrate samples were unclear.

Mr. Baxter stated that on the JEFF and TINA, due to manpower problems, they collected 100 pounds of fish from each station of all species over 150 mm for analysis in the laboratory. For the discards under 150mm they recorded species, range and total weight of discard. They saved 5 specimens of all species from the discards. The 100 pound sample only includes finfish not invertebrates. Total weight by species was not taken. A total of 287 stations were completed by all vessels involved in SEAMAP.

Mr. Simpson asked if more vessels fished off Texas in 1982 than 1981, what are Texas' plans for the Western Gulf and has Texas used SEAMAP to assist in funding for vessel support?

Mr. Bryan replied that he did not have any real numbers of vessels for 1982 vs. 1981 but felt more vessels fished in 1982. Texas has asked the legislature for two new vessels but did not use SEAMAP as a specific justification for that support.

Dr. Nelson reported on the SEAMAP real time data. Real time data started out as a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) commitment to SEAMAP participants to turn the data around rapidly. The system did work well enough so the data could be distributed, to persons interested in SEAMAP, as computer plots and data listings. Questionnaires were sent out to those persons asking them to respond to SEAMAP data. Approximately 91% responded favorably to SEAMAP.

The Subcommittee discussed if there should be a limit to the type of real time data distributed. From the questionnaire comments, people were concerned about directing fishing effort towards high productive areas. The Subcommittee members said they did not use the data listings but did use the plots. It was concluded that the data listings should be discontinued weekly to persons interested in SEAMAP and detailed data list distributions at the end of survey to the Subcommittee.

Mr. Watson reported on the SEAMAP workshop which will be held during the March 1983 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) meeting in Austin, Texas. He stated that six papers are being prepared on sampling design and trawl calibration.

The Subcommittee discussed the main objective of the workshop which is gear calibration. Several of the papers dealt with sampling design. The purpose of the workshop was to put together a manual on calibration of shrimp and bottomfish trawling gear.

Dr. Nelson stated that the Subcommittee is zeroing in on shrimp and bottomfish trawling gear as a theme and should consider three things for the workshop.

- (1) Gear Comparison (calibration between 16' and 40' nets, etc.)
- (2) Gear Standardization (specific set guidelines and criteria for sampling and standardizing gear).
- (3) Catchability coefficient or absolute information on gear.

We have information to start gear calibration, gear standardization and within those two he will be able to put together a workshop on gear comparison and to come forward with requirements for gear standardization. This will also identify what we need to do to tackle catchability aspect.

Dr. McIlwain stated, as a Subcommittee we will ask Mr. Watson to

proceed along the guidelines of what Dr. Nelson stated. We will assist Mr. Watson so he can contact those people to suggest specific papers dealing with gear calibration. Mr. Watson is to report back to the Subcommittee in October.

Dr. Richards reviewed the 1982 ichthyoplankton survey activities. He stated that all ichthyoplankton samples will be shipped to Poland around October 1. The results will be returned to be distributed in May of 1983. Ichthyoplankton will be identified down to family with the exception of scombridae which will be identified down further. Those who requested samples can identify down further. So far Dr. Richardson, Dr. Shaw and people out of the Florida Department of Natural Resources (FDNR) have requested samples.

It might be considered by the Subcommittee or workgroups when the samples return from Poland that some priorities or time frames be discussed as to what will happen with the samples.

Mr. Thompson discussed the SEAMAP activities to be published in the GSMFC Annual Report. The objective is to list SEAMAP survey activities and develop a list of vessel capabilities and schedules. In putting the activities report together NMFS has volunteered the services of Fred Diaz. Mr. Diaz will use a questionnaire to collect information for this report.

Dr. McIlwain opened the floor for discussion on data management. He introduced Mr. Ken Savastano whose position is computer system analysis at NSTL and will assist the Subcommittee in data management.

The discussion centered around a centralized data system for SEAMAP. Where would SEAMAP data be housed, type of format, level of data to be entered into the system. Most of the states will have Apple

computer terminals in order to be plugged into the TIMS system at the NMFS in Miami.

Dr. Stuntz stated that we need to discuss a standardized data form in order to cut down on replication and errors in the data. On the OREGON II they were using as many as ten data forms. The environmental data are in good shape but transfer of the data into a common format has been long and tedious.

Mr. Savastano indicated that a standardized data sheet would be less costly in terms of computer cost but not necessary if all the parameters are recorded the same. Computer software could transfer the data to a common format. He recommended that the states try to have the best compatibility of parameters that they can.

Dr. McIlwain stated that we need to discuss what we are going to do with the 1982 data before we jump into the 1983 objectives of SEAMAP.

The ichthyoplankton work group has a large amount of data that won't be available until June of 1983. Most of the environmental and shrimp and bottomfish work groups have the data on the system and the data are available. We need to discuss what we intend to do with the data.

The discussion centered around the fact that the data are already being used. Dr. Stuntz has put together a paper on low oxygen off Louisiana and the basic parts of an atlas to be completed by March 1983 on environmental data. The NMFS is preparing three papers for the Gulf Council on the Texas closure due December 6th.

Dr. McIlwain stated that a preliminary report to the TCC will be presented in October with a detailed report on 1982 SEAMAP data out to TCC in March 1983. The report in October will be introduction, methods

and results of 1982 SEAMAP survey. The report, will indicate that the data are available to those who request it. Perry Thompson in the GSMFC office will put it together for the TCC in October.

The 1983 SEAMAP objectives were discussed by the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee agreed by general consensus that the shrimp and bottomfish survey be continued for 1983 comparable to 1982 in order to support the Texas closure. The Subcommittee modified the work group members as follows: Mr. C. E. Bryan, leader, Texas Parks and Wildlife Service; Dr. Ed Klima, NMFS; Mr. Charlie White, Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries; Steve Heath, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and Elmer Gutherz, National Marine Fisheries Service. The work group would meet on October 18th in Mobile, Alabama, during the GSMFC meeting, and be charged with the following:

- I. Review the 1982 survey activities in order to improve the following for the 1983 survey:
  - A. Methodology
    1. Sampling design
  - B. Data handling
    1. Recording
    2. Formatting
- II. Contact ongoing state programs in the Gulf to see how they can coordinate and intensify sampling effort inshore and offshore.
- III. Review the problem of species composition that occurred in the 1982 survey.
- IV. Review real time data format.
  - A. Type of data to be distributed
- V. Type of report for 1983 in order to:
  - A. How best to present the information to meet the objective of monitoring.
    1. Abundance
    2. Size
    3. Species composition
  - B. Who will publish the report.

The work group would report back to the Subcommittee in November.

The Subcommittee discussed the value of the real time data report.

The Subcommittee was concerned with the fact that the anticipation of

the catch or where heavy concentration of shrimp are at, can determine the price. The Subcommittee concluded that they should be careful in distributing the real time data. The Subcommittee agreed by consensus that a new mailing list be developed from the GSMFC and Galveston mailing list. Mail out the new list from the GSMFC office to see who wants the data and place an article in National Fisherman, etc., to inform more people of the availability of the real time data.

Dr. Kemmerer said that the NMFS has several shrimp and bottomfish surveys this spring and fall in the Gulf. Should those surveys be part of SEAMAP or do we want to maintain and focus only on the summer survey.

After some discussion the Subcommittee agreed by consensus that we should encourage those surveys but let's concentrate on the summer survey one more time in order to do a good job. To do other surveys the Subcommittee would be working full time.

Dr. McIlwain requested the working groups to coordinate with Ken Savastano in formatting and handling data. Also try to meet with cruise participants to make sure data collecting and recording is done correctly.

The Subcommittee agreed by consensus that the ichthyoplankton survey be continued into 1983. The work group will consist of Dr. Bill Richards, NMFS, Group leader; Dr. Sally Richardson, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory; Mike Leiby, Florida Department of Natural Resources; and Dr. Rick Shaw, Louisiana State University. The work group would meet on October 18th in Mobile, Alabama, during the GSMFC meeting, and be charged with:

- I. Review of the 1982 ichthyoplankton survey activities in order to improve the following for the 1983 survey:
  - A. Methodology

- B. Data handling
  - 1. Recording
  - 2. Formating
- II. Contact ongoing state programs in the Gulf to see how they can coordinate and intensify sampling effort inshore and offshore.
- III. Discuss species priority.
- IV. Type of report for 1983 Ichthyoplankton survey.
  - a. Who will write the report.
- V. Recommend whether the Subcommittee should consider a Fall 1983 Ichthyoplankton cruise.

The ichthoplankton work group leader would report back to the SEAMAP Subcommittee in November on their October meeting.

The Subcommittee agreed that the environmental survey should continue as a piggy back survey to both ichthyoplankton and shrimp and bottomfish surveys. The work group would consist of Dr. Warren Stuntz, Leader, NMFS; Mr. Ken Haddad, Florida Department of Natural Resources; Tom Lemming, NMFS; and John Roussel, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The environmental work group would meet on October 18th in Mobile, Alabama, during the GSMFC meeting, and be charged with:

- I. Review 1982 environmental survey activities in order to improve the following:
  - A. Methodology
  - B. Data handling
    - 1. Recording
    - 2. Formating
- II. Contact ongoing state programs in the Gulf to see how they can coordinate and intensify sampling effort inshore and offshore.
- III. Review real time data format
  - A. Type of data to be distributed
- IV. Type of report for 1983 Environmental Survey
  - A. Who will write the report.

The environmental work group would report back to the Subcommittee in November on their October meeting.

The Subcommittee agreed to form a SEAMAP data coordination work group. The work group would consist of Ken Savastano, Leader, NMFS; Dr. Tom McIlwain, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory; and the other three work group leaders or their designees. The work group would be charged with



making recommendations on SEAMAP data management to the Subcommittee.

Dr. McIlwain reviewed the SEAMAP funding. He stated that NMFS has given a verbal commitment of 15 K for 1983 SEAMAP activities. In March of 1982, during the GSMFC meeting, the Subcommittee was asked to submit a budget for fiscal year 1984 on SEAMAP activities. That budget was sent to Dr. Fox and has received a favorable review in Washington. The question here is if SEAMAP has funds for fiscal year 1984, how much and who controls the funds. This question should come before the TCC in October.

The SEAMAP 1982 financial statement from 12/1/81 to 8/31/82 shows revenues of \$19,840.00, expenses of \$13,485.77 leaving an excess of \$6,354.23. September expenses (meeting cost, travel and mailouts) should leave unobligated funds of 1,954.23. Due to the unseen expenses of SEAMAP mailouts the GSMFC needs to purchase a postage meter. The Subcommittee had no objections with the SEAMAP financial statement or the purchase of postage equipment by the GSMFC.

Dr. Kemmerer stated that the SEAMAP fiscal year budget shows a deficit in travel funds. He recommends that the Subcommittee approach the TCC in October for assistance.

Dr. McIlwain recommended that we postpone the selection of Chairman and Vice-Chairman until the November meeting. The Subcommittee agreed by consensus.

The floor was open for discussion on the development of an operational plan. Several states stated that they did not need an operational plan to obtain program funds.

Dr. Kemmerer said that in order to obtain funds for SEAMAP from

Washington an operational plan needs to be developed before fiscal year 1984. Funding looks secure for fiscal year 1984. To protect the funds and to identify how the SEAMAP program will evolve and grow the Subcommittee needs to develop an operational plan.

Mr. Tatum asked Dr. Kemmerer, are we talking about an operational plan for NMFS or SEAMAP, how much funds are involved for fiscal year 1984 and whose funds are they, NMFS or SEAMAP?

Dr. Kemmerer replied that its an operational plan for SEAMAP. The last report was SEAMAP funding for FY84 should sufficiently increase for SEAMAP activities in the Gulf and those funds should be identified as SEAMAP funds.

Dr. McIlwain said that in the March TCC meeting minutes the Subcommittee asked for guidance for developing an operational plan. The TCC recommended the Subcommittee develop estimates on what should be done and cost of the plan.

The Subcommittee agreed that NMFS knows more about the development of operational plans than the states and requested that Dr. Kemmerer develop an RFP outline to present to the Subcommittee before the October TCC meeting. The outline should contain what the operational plan will contain, who will do it and the cost.

Dr. Kemmerer stated that he would do the wishes of the Subcommittee, but the development of an operational plan needs to come from the Subcommittee instead of NMFS. Dr. McIlwain will assist in the RFP outline development.

NMFS is planning for the fall groundfish cruise to transmit data back to Pascagoula via satellite link. We do not want to dilute SEAMAP

objectives but some people are interested in the fall data possibility of making the data available in a non-SEAMAP context through the GSMFC office.

The Subcommittee agreed that certain individuals would like to have the data. A memo will be sent out through the GSMFC office using the current mailing list, saying the fall groundfish survey is on going and if you want the data please contact NMFS. The memo needs to be identified as a SEAMAP coordinated effort.

Dr. McIlwain adjourned the September SEAMAP meeting at 12:00 noon on September 17th.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
Mobile, Alabama  
September 16-17, 1982

Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-6956
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.	512/479-4849
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
Larry Simpson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Wil Seidel	NMFS	601/762-4591
Rick Shaw	Center for Wetlands Research, LSU	504/388-6734
Warren Stuntz	NMFS	601/762-0055
Ken Haddad	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources	813/896-8626
C. E. Bryan	Texas Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4861
Walter M. Tatum	Alabama MRD - DCNR	205/968-7575
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS	601/762-4591
Ken Savastano	NMFS	601/688-3002
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
Sally Richardson	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
Andrew Kemmerer	NSTL	601-688-3650

BLUE CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES

Monday, October 18, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Harriet Perry, chairman, with the following persons in attendance: Richard Condrey, Harriet Perry, Paul Hammerschmidt, Gerald Adkins, Phil Steele, Charles Moss, Garey Perkins, Steve Heath. Completed sections of the fishery management planning profile were reviewed including the introduction, description of the resource, current and projected research, and rules and regulations. Copies of the Blue Crab Colloquium Proceedings were made available to committee personnel. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 19, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

The meeting was called to order by the chairman at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Richard Condrey reviewed commercial catch/effort data from individual Gulf states and discussed MSY considerations based on use of this data.

Dr. Ken Roberts and Dr. Garey Perkins reviewed a draft of the socio-economic section with the committee. The remainder of the session was devoted to a discussion of problems in the fishery and management considerations. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Harriet Perry*  
Harriet Perry, Chairman  
Blue Crab Subcommittee

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Monday, October 18, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee, presiding.  
Dr. McIlwain called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The agenda (attached) was approved as modified to include under other business (a) date for November SEAMAP meeting (b) a SEAMAP report to the Gulf Council in December. The minutes were approved with minor corrections.

Dr. Tom McIlwain reviewed a report on the 1982 and proposed 1983 SEAMAP activities to be presented to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) on October 20. The report was accepted by the Subcommittee with minor changes.

Dr. McIlwain stated that he would like to know how much in-kind support and services were supplied by those who participated in 1982 survey activities. He has requested Mr. Thompson to contact each SEAMAP participant for this information before the November SEAMAP meeting.

Dr. Kemmerer reviewed the SEAMAP operational plan outline in which Dr. McIlwain will present to the TCC on October 20. He went through each segment of the outline and stated that it should take a contractor seven months and 50 K to complete the plan.

Dr. Matlock stated that both Dr. Kemmerer and Dr. McIlwain did an excellent job on the operation plan outline in satisfying the request of the TCC. He made the motion that the Subcommittee should accept the operational plan outline. The Subcommittee agreed by consensus.

Mr. John Watson reviewed the workshop papers (memo attached) for the March 1983 workshop. He stated that a manual could not be developed from one workshop and recommended that other workshops be established.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
Page Two

The discussion centered around the best approach to review and publish the papers from the workshop.

Dr. McIlwain asked Mr. Watson to think in terms of identifying someone to review the papers and make a schedule to have final drafts by June of 1983.

Dr. Kemmerer stated that he was concerned about the format of the workshop. The Subcommittee needs to look upon some agreed recommendations as to types of measurements to be made for calibration of sampling gear. He suggested that within the format of the workshop introduction, papers, discussion group from the authors and aid of the audience participation to come up with those recommendations for calibration of sampling gear.

Dr. McIlwain opened the floor to other business. The Subcommittee agreed to meet November 18 and 19 in New Orleans at the Airport Ramada Inn. The Subcommittee also agreed by consensus that Dr. McIlwain present a report on SEAMAP activities to the Gulf Council in Brownsville, Texas on December 8, 1982.

The meeting of the Subcommittee was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

October 18, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries	504/568-6956
John W. Watson	NMFS	601/762-4272
T. Alan Huff	FL Dept. of Natural Resources	813/896-8626
Andrew Kemmerer	NMFS	601/688-3650
Fred R. Diaz	NMFS	601/769-4591
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula	601/762-4591
Sally Richardson	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/432-1612
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.	512/479-4849
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244
Larry Simpson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Perry Thompson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Gene Nakamura	NMFS, Panama City, FL	904/234-6541
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	601/875-2244



INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 19, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

The meeting of the Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Ralph Rayburn, proxy for Walter Zimmerman, Chairman of the committee.

The agenda for the meeting was approved as presented. Charles Lyles was first called upon to discuss the amendments to Title IV, Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. Mr. Lyles indicated that the majority of recommended amendments were achieved. Publication of the final regulations should appear in the Federal Register near the end of the month. Mr. Lyles then alerted the committee to S. 2660 which is a rewrite of Title 46 of Maritime Laws. Concern was expressed for this action.

User fees were next discussed. It was expressed that currently the user fee issue appears dead for this Congress. Some committee participants expressed that their concern is not against payment of direct services actually performed by the Coast Guard.

Charles Lyles was again asked to review the status of legislation dealing with Outer Continental Shelf block grant proposals, specifically H.R. 5443 was discussed.

Next, Mr. Rayburn recognized Leland Roberts of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Tom Linton of Texas A & M University who addressed the issue of seismic operations and their relations to marine life and the habitat. Mr. Roberts reviewed occurrences of fish kills in various bays in Texas after seismic activities and also the Texas method of regulation developed on this issue. Dr. Linton explained his research in East Bay, Galveston Bay System. He worked primarily with

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Two

oysters, blue crabs, black drum and shrimp. Both Mr. Roberts and Dr. Linton indicated that their interest was to make the Industry Advisory Committee aware of this study and to get the committee's support for this effort. Concern was expressed in the committee discussion for the habitat in both the bay and Gulf area. Charles Lyles recommended that this concern be brought before the Executive Committee in order that each state might become informed of this effort. In addition, Mr. Lyles agreed to express the IAC's concern to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) in that the TCC umbrella might be used to form a forum for spotlighting activities which will impact fisheries habitat in the Gulf area.

Mr. Perry Thompson was called upon to explain the SEAMAP program. Mr. Thompson explained the parameters of the program and the three surveys conducted. He also presented future activities under this effort to include a report to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council in its Brownsville meeting during December. A workshop will also be held during the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) meeting in March 1983. Mr. Thompson stressed the effort to make information derived by SEAMAP a "real-time" operation. Dr. Fox, NMFS-SEC, indicated that while the focus of SEAMAP is for strategic planning, the effort to provide real-time data was to have some utilization for tactical planning within the industry. Mr. John Ray Nelson expressed his concern that caution be used in the utilization of the data presented by SEAMAP in that it might be prematurely used in developing management regimes.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Three

The next subject discussed was that of bluefin tuna management. Mr. Rayburn reviewed the position of the committee on this subject taken at its last meeting. George Patrenos, Southeastern Fisheries Association, explained the work of his association in working along the lines of coastal states preference rather than management under MFCMA.

The issue of net tariff reduction was reviewed by Charles Lyles, Jerry Samson, Organized Fishermen of Florida, and Ralph Rayburn. After some discussion, a motion was made by Jerry Samson, seconded by George Patrenos, that the IAC recommend to the Executive Committee that it support passage of the net tariff reduction legislation, but should such passage be unacceptable that the tariff on monofilament netting be considered separately and that it be eliminated entirely. The motion passed.

The item dealing with the "Texas Option" of the Shrimp Management Plan was next discussed by the committee. Mr. Lyles reviewed concerns expressed to him by industry members. General concerns were on the non-existence of management activities in some state territorial seas. A motion was offered by Dick Ellis, Texas Shrimp Association, that a recommendation be made to each state of the GSMFC that results of the Texas option be considered by those states in development of the shrimp management regimes. The motion was seconded and passed. Mr. Bill Chauvin, American Shrimp Cannery and Processors Association, then presented a motion that a recommendation be made to Louisiana that its management regime be extended to the states territorial sea. The motion was seconded by Leroy Kiffe and passed. Drs. Bill Fox and Ed Klima

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Four

offered their assistance in providing the necessary information on this effort. Mr. John Ray Nelson and Charles Lyles were recognized to discuss industry attendance and participation in both the IAC and other forums. Industry members were recognized as an excellent information resource necessary to effective Commission activities. Some committee members expressed concern on the IAC roles within the GSMFC. Also concerns were expressed of the commercial fisherman's image within society.

Mr. Dick Ellis called the committee's attention to the need for adequate information on which to base decisions. Dr. Klima, NMFS - Galveston Laboratory, indicated that he had significant information which might be helpful on white shrimp management. Mr. Ellis presented a motion to back the programs such as those conducted by the Galveston Laboratory, and encourage continuation of this research. The motion was seconded and passed.

Next Mr. Rayburn introduced Mr. Fred Johnston to discuss a mechanism for cleaning up and removing fish kills. The primary interest of Mr. Johnston was to offer assistance in the clean up and indicated some usable fish were being recovered that industry might be interested in utilizing. Some discussion ensued.

As a final topic the minutes of the March 16, 1982, meeting at the IAC were approved without objection.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 19, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association	Austin, TX
John Burgbacher	Shell Offshore, Inc.	New Orleans, LA
Jerry Sansom	Organized Fishermen of FL	Melbourne, FL
George Patrenos	Southeastern Fisheries Assn.	Tallahassee, FL
Tom Linton	Texas A & M Univeristy	College Station, TX
Leland E. Roberts	TX Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.	Port Monmouth, NJ
Dick Ellis	Texas Shrimp Association	Aransas Pass, TX
Ed Klima	NMFS	Galveston, TX
Tom Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc.	Bon Secour, AL
Wallace Calhoun	AL Sea Grant Advisory Serv.	Mobile, AL
Orville Allen	NMFS	New Orleans, LA
Bill Chauvin	American Shrimp Cannery & Proc.	New Orleans, LA
Charles Lyles	GSMFC	Ocean Springs, MS
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC, Commissioner	Lockport, LA
Fred Johnston	Price - Darnall, Inc.	Mobile, AL
Bill Fox	NMFS	Miami, FL



FOB JAMES  
GOVERNOR

JOHN M. McMILLAN, JR.  
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF ALABAMA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

P. O. Box 189  
DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA 36528

HUGH A. SWINGLE, DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF MARINE RESOURCES

MINUTES

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Law Enforcement Committee Meeting

October 19, 1982

Jerry Waller (AL) nominated for Chairman beginning next period by Walker (TX) and seconded by Brown (FL).

A motion was made and accepted to adopt the minutes as presented.

States are to establish a committee to look into each of the states requiring decals for trucks shipping fish. Industry participation will be requested.

States are to send requirements for licensing to Howell (NMFS) for data file to be established.

Key elements to be included in the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission violation file were selected. Howell (NMFS) to develop file, arrange computer acquisition for Alabama, Mississippi and Texas. She will contact state chiefs to decide date and location of training session.

Long-range goals are to develop more files in computer such as licensing, permits, stolen boats, etc.

Brown (FL) brought up problem of states not titling boats and motors. Presently only Florida and Texas title motor vessels.

Waller (AL) and Howell (NMFS) briefed Committee on status of blanket enforcement authority for NMFS agents. This authority will be passed on by state officers through cooperative agreements with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Motion to close meeting by Brown (FL) and seconded by Gollott (MS).

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
Law Enforcement Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 1982

ATTENDEES

Pat Howell, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), St. Petersburg, FL  
Tom Maher, NMFS, New Orleans, LA  
Morris M. Pallozzi, NMFS, Washington, D.C.  
Frank Richardson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA  
Jerry Gollott, Bureau of Marine Resources, Biloxi, MS  
Tony Beckham, Bureau of Marine Resources, Biloxi, MS  
Charlie Clark, Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, New Orleans, LA  
William C. Walker, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD), Austin, TX  
Bob Miles, TPWD, Harlingen, TX  
Gordon Hart, TPWD, Beaumont, TX  
Harold Oates, TPWD, Austin, TX  
Ray Montet, Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA  
Joe Brown, Florida Marine Patrol, Tallahassee, FL  
Jerry Payne, Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (ADCNR), Gulf  
Shores, AL  
Kenneth Williams, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL  
Jerry Waller, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL  
Jack Friend, Mobile County Wildlife Association, Mobile, AL  
Manning McPhillips, Gulf Coast Conservation Association, Mobile, AL  
John Ray Nelson, Bon Secour Fisheries, Bon Secour, AL

Menhaden Advisory Committee  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 19, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

Mr. Robert Chapoton, Chairman, presiding. Mr. Chapoton called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Changes in committee membership were requested pending approval by the Gulf States/Federal Fisheries Management Board as follows:

George Brumfield/Edward Swindell replacing Earl Conrad for Zapata  
Bill Pendleton replacing Jake Dermer for Petrou

The Chairman noted the committee members presence as follows:

George Brumfield	- present	Gary Matlock	- present
Alt. E. Swindell	- present	Alt. C. E. Bryan	- present
Dalton Berry	- present	Harry Schafer	- present
Alt. Bill Pendleton	- absent	Alt. V. Guillory	- present
Bordon Wallace	- present	J. Y. Christmas	- present
Alt. J. Styron	- absent	Hugh Swingle	- present
James Nelson	- present	Robert Chapoton	- present
Alt. T. Christopher	- present	Charles Futch	- absent
Ray Richardson	- present		
Alt. T. O'Brien	- absent		

The agenda was adopted on a motion by Mr. Richardson and seconded by Mr. Berry. Two corrections in the previous meeting's minutes were noted.

1. Change GET Corporation on page 1 and 2 to SET
2. Second line of the second full paragraph should read "...Menhaden Management Plan to include consideration of a flexible..."

The minutes with the changes noted were approved on a motion by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Swingle.

Agenda Item - Status of Landings in 1982 Fishery and Allied Information was discussed by Bob Chapoton. He indicated this would surely be a new record year (pending collection of all data) in the fishery. Approximately 850 thousand metric tons or a 3% increase over



the last record. June and July for 1982 were the major months of landings. As of October 14, 1982, compared to last year Mississippi had a 63% increase; Louisiana East had a 36% increase; Louisiana West had a 65% increase for an overall increase of 53%.

This represents the largest catch of any single species in U. S. Waters, ever. Effort last year consisted of 64 vessels in the fishery.

Agenda Item - Outlook for 1983 Fishery was discussed by Mr. Chapoton and Mr. Guillory. Mr. Guillory stated he would give the committee a complete report at the March meeting. Initial indications are for a fair to good year. Mr. Chapoton's forecast was for a 600-650 thousand metric ton range year. This may increase due to improvement in the presence of year class I fish at end of current year.

Questions about viability of MSY Concept for use in Menhaden fishery was discussed and dissatisfaction with effort in Vessel Ton Weeks was noted.

Agenda Item - Status of Captain's Daily reports and contracts. The Set Corporation is no longer going to be used for data collection and analysis. The National Marine Fisheries Services at the Beaufort Laboratory will handle the data in-house for 1983.

A suggestion was made by Mr. Nelson that if problems with compliance occur in future, contact the industry members on this committee for that company and most likely they would be able to take action to correct the situation.

Agenda Item - Plan Update was discussed by Mr. Christmas. The contract to develop the plan update was briefly reviewed by Mr. Simpson.

Menhaden Advisory Committee  
MINUTES  
Page 3

He indicated Mr. J. Y. Christmas and Mr. David Etzold were employed as consultants to draft the update.

Mr. Christmas recommended that this Menhaden Advisory Committee act as the task force to help develop the update as per the contract. Mr. Ed Swindell made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Ray Richardson to have this committee serve as a task force to develop the plan update pending approval by the Gulf States/Federal Fisheries Management Board. Motion passed unanimously.

A question was asked about Texas considering developing a menhaden plan and the effort of this plan update on that consideration. It was noted that with an updated regional plan in place the state probably would not institute a change in management strategy. Ray Richardson made the point that if we develop a plan or update our plan under the Commission and the Gulf States/Federal Fisheries Management Board framework and then the states write their own plan we are spending money inefficiently.

Mr. Harry Schafer was elected Chairman for the next year by unanimous acclimation pending approval by the Gulf States/Federal Fisheries Management Board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Schafer, Chairman  
Menhaden Advisory Committee

MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, October 19, 1982

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Larry B. Simpson	G.S.M.F.C.	Ocean Springs, MS
Robert Chapoton	NMFS, Beaufort Lab	Beaufort, NC
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
Dalton Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.	Empire, LA
Eldon Lerri	NMFS	Gulfbreeze, FL
Ben Humphreys	Standard Products Co.	Kilmarnock, VA
Jim Nelson	Standard Products Co.	Kilmarnock, VA
T. G. Christopher	Standard Products Co.	Kilmarnock, VA
Bordon Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products	New Orleans, LA
Edward Swindell	Zapata Haynie, Corp.	Houston, TX
Vince Guillory	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Grand Isle, LA
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Raymond Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.	Port Monmouth, N.J.
Walter Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Natur. Res.	Gulf Shores, AL
Hugh Swingle	AL Dept. Cons. & Natur. Res.	Dauphin Island, AL
David Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS	Hattiesburg, MS
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Cost Research Lab	Ocean Springs, MS
Eugene Nakamura	NMFS	Panama City, FL
Edwin Joyce	FL Dept. of Natur. Res.	Tallahassee, FL
I. B. Byrd	NOAA/NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Baton Rouge, LA
Bill Fox	NMFS	Miami, FL
C. E. Bryan	Texas Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
Tim Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
J. E. Roussel	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Grand Isle, LA
Fred Johnston	Price-Darnell, Inc.	Mobile, AL
Orville Allen	NMFS	New Orleans, LA
Corky Perret	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Philip Bowman	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Bourg, LA
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Timothy Morrison	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Baton Rouge, LA
Paul D. Fulham	NMFS	St. Petersburg, FL
Melissa W. Smith	US Dept of Energy	New Orleans, LA
Richard Condrey	LSU-Center for Wetland Res.	Baton Rouge, LA
Gil Bane	LSU-Center for Wetland Res.	Baton Rouge, LA



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southeast Fisheries Center  
Beaufort Laboratory  
Beaufort, North Carolina 28516-9722

October 15, 1982

TO: Industry Members, State and NMFS Personnel  
with Special Interest in the Menhaden Fisheries

FROM: Robert B. Chapoton *Bob*

SUBJECT: Status of Purse-Seine Landings of Gulf Menhaden in 1982

As of the date given, estimated purse-seine landings (thousands of "standard fish")<sup>1/</sup> of Gulf menhaden are as follows:

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>Gulf Menhaden (as of Oct. 14, 1982)</u>			
<u>Mississippi:</u>	472,000	289,000	+63%
Louisiana: East (Empire, Dulac and Morgan City)	977,000	718,000	+36%
West (Intracoastal City and Cameron)	1,342,000	811,000	+65%
TOTAL:	2,791,000 <sup>3/</sup>	1,818,000 <sup>2/</sup>	+53%

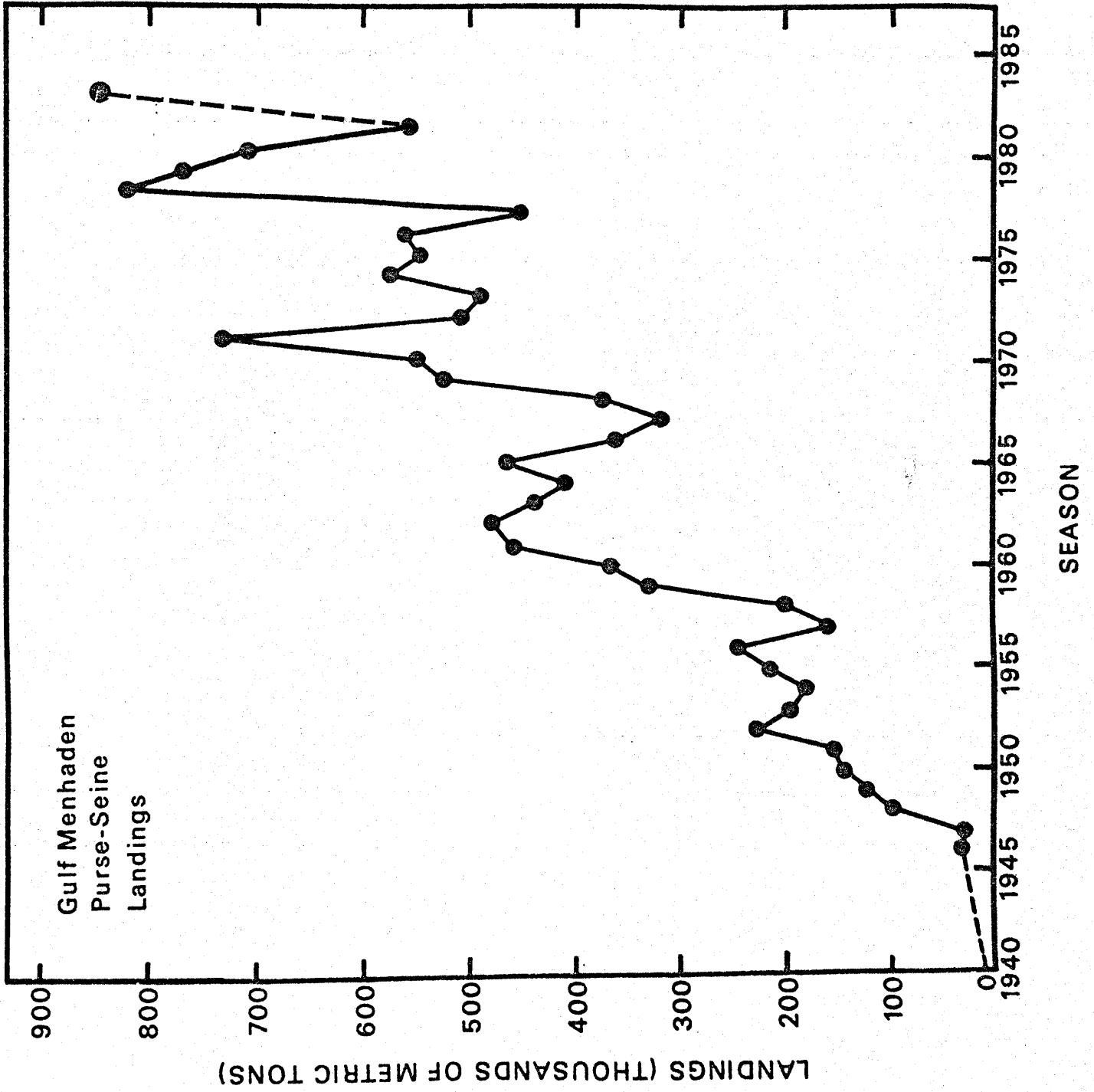
<sup>1/</sup> To convert to pounds, multiply by 670

<sup>2/</sup> 100 of 1981 catch was "in" at this date

<sup>3/</sup> A few unloadings are yet to be recorded, but this amount = 848,000 metric tons - a new record for Gulf menhaden!



Figure 1



# LANDINGS OF GULF MENHADEN (by month)

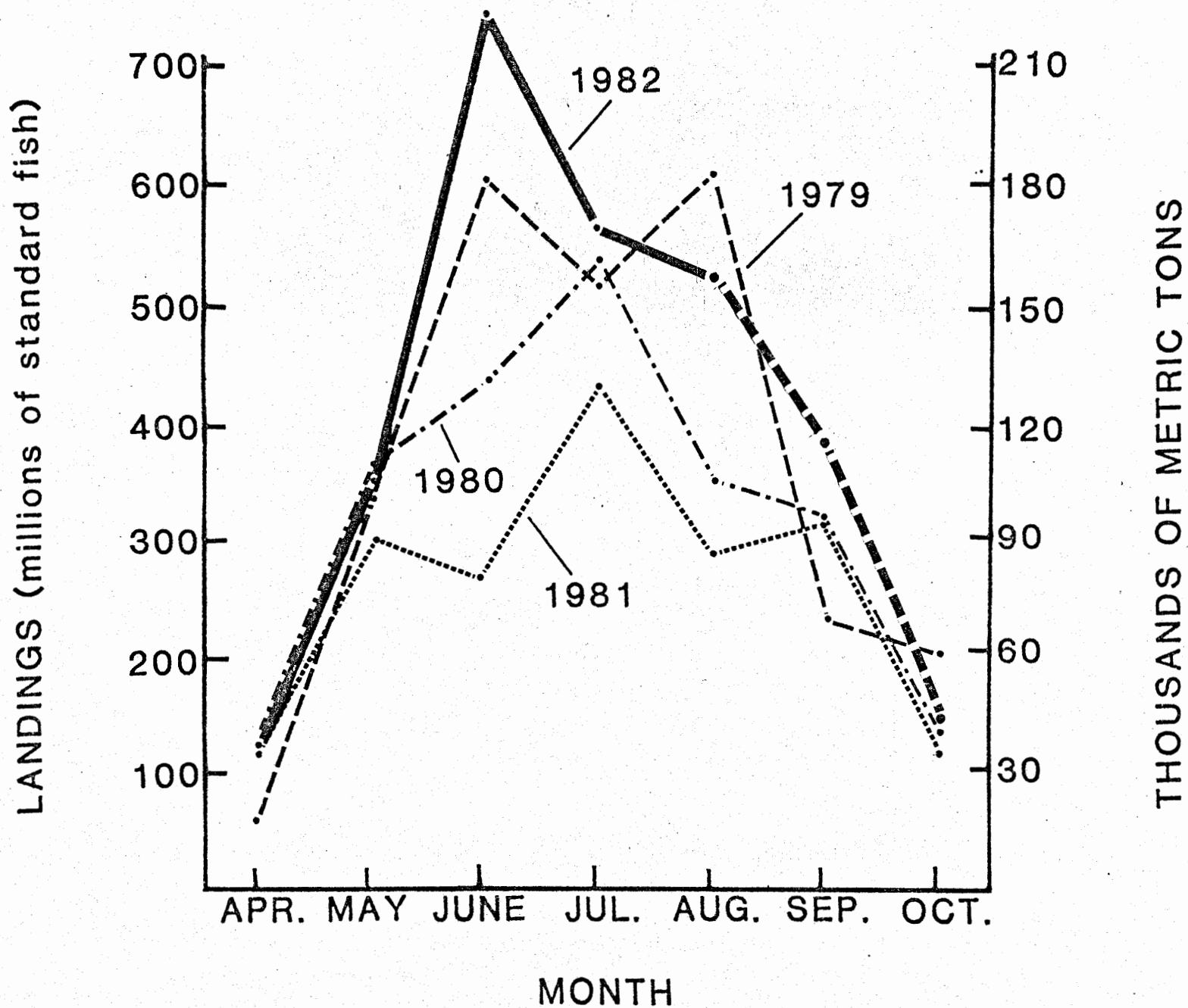


Figure 2

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 19, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

Mr. Frank Richardson, acting Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The floor was opened for nomination of Chairman. Walter Tatum was nominated and elected Chairman by unanimous acclamation. Mr. Richardson then turned the meeting over to Walter Tatum. Mr. Tatum asked for nominations of Vice-Chairman. Gary Matlock was nominated and elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

A motion was made by Frank Richardson to adopt the minutes of the March 1982 meeting, seconded by Gary Matlock. The motion carried.

Reports were made on the Marine Recreational Fishing Symposium held in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in May. Mr. Jim Barrett stated the theme of the meeting dealt with conflicts within the fisheries and the resolutions used to resolve those conflicts. Several reviews were commented upon but no formal reports were given. The March 1983 Marine Recreational Fisheries Meeting will be in San Diego, California. The theme of the meeting will be Aquaculture Within Fisheries.

The National Recreational Survey was discussed. It was brought out that Texas and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) show conflicting data. Gary Matlock with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department contributed the difference to the way in which the data were collected. NMFS shows a division of pier and shore data whereas Texas Parks and Wildlife collected their data from boat fishing. The national survey is good overall but when the data is broken down to individual states it is not as accurate.

Long and short term goals for the committee were discussed but

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Two

undecided upon. Jim Barrett made a motion to form a subcommittee to identify both long and short term goals and to report back to the committee at the March 1983 meeting, seconded by Frank Richardson. The motion passed unanimously.

Gary Matlock made a motion that the subcommittee consist of only three members including the Chairman. Frank Richardson seconded. Motion passed. Nominated and elected as members of the subcommittee were Jim Barrett (Chairman), Ron Schmied and Frank Richardson.

The meeting was recessed to reconvene from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 20, 1982.

The Recreational Committee reconvened to discuss committee long term goals. After a great deal of discussion two goals were adopted for recommendation to the Executive Session of the Commission.

GOAL I

The Recreational Fisheries Committee of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission believes that one of the greatest immediate threats to marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico is loss and abuse of habitat. It shall be a goal of this committee, with the endorsement of the Commission, to work for the protection, preservation and restoration of marine habitat wherever possible and within the limits of practicability.

RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE GOAL I

1. Identify, educate and encourage users in a concerted effort to protect and restore marine fisheries habitat.
2. Promote research and development of natural habitat restoration programs.
3. Promote the research and development of procedures to establish and manage artificial reefs.



RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Three

GOAL II

Promote the collection of statistically sound information on the multidisciplinary (social, economic, biological, etc.) aspects of Gulf of Mexico fisheries.

The above goals and activities will be recommended to the Commission for adoption.

There being no further business the committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Tatum, Chairman  
Recreational Fisheries Committee

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

October 19, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Walter M. Tatum	AL Dept. Natural Resources, Gulf Shores, AL
Frank Richardson	U.S. Fisheries & Wildlife, Atlanta, GA
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife Department, Austin, TX
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, New Orleans, LA
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, New Orleans, LA
Philip Bowman	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Bourg, LA
Jane Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Bon Secour, AL
Anita Grant	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Mel Russell	Texas A & M Univ., Marine Advisory
Jack Friend	Mobile County Wildlife
Bill Wade	AL Marine Resources Division
Bill Fox	NMFS, Miami, FL
Lou Villanova	U.S. Fisheries & Wildlife, Atlanta, GA
Bill Cantwell	Plaquemines Parish Commission, Pt. Sulphur, LA
Eugene Nakamura	NMFS, Panama City, FL
Joe Bran	FL Dept. Natural Resources
Ed Smith	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
John Roussel	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Grand Isle, LA
Timothy Morrison	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Gil Bane	LSU, Center for Wetland Resources,
Corky Perret	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, New Orleans, LA
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Edwin Joyce	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL

GS-FFMB SHRIMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 19, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

Representative Leroy Wieting, Chairman, presiding. Representative Wieting recognized the special guests at the meeting and made introductions of those present.

The agenda was adopted without objection. Minutes of the previous meeting held in Biloxi, Mississippi were adopted as distributed without objection.

Dr. Richard Condrey reported on his work with the "Shrimp Population Dynamics Models" contract with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (#000-009). He briefed the committee on the technical aspects of the work and indicated the final report to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission should be in by late November.

Dr. Condrey stated the above contract had made possible other events for which he was thankful, including:

1. Attendance and participation at the GSMFC, FAO and NMFS workshops on shrimp management.
2. A NMFS workshop on stock assessment.
3. Publishing a related paper in the Fisheries Research Board of Canada.
4. A DOE Menhaden field trip.
5. Allowed him to contribute to the development of the Blue Crab Management Profile.
6. Allowed him to contribute to the freshwater diversion of the Mississippi River into Eastern Louisiana marshes.

For Richard's past, current and future contributions the committee passed a motion to commend his work by letter to his supervisor at Louisiana State University.

The above motion and a recommendation to accept Dr. Condrey's final

GS/FFMB SHRIMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Two

report in fulfillment of his contract were the recommendations to the  
GS/FFMB.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Leroy Wieting, Chairman  
Shrimp Management Committee

GS/FFMB SHRIMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Mobile, Alabama  
October 19, 1982

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Larry Simpson	GSMFC	Ocean Springs, MS
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab.	Ocean Springs, MS
David J. Etzold	University of Southern MS	Hattiesburg, MS
Walter M. Tatum	AL Marine Resources Dept.	Gulf Shores, AL
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	New Orleans, LA
Mark Thompson	LSU-Center for Wetland Res.	Baton Rouge, LA
Bill Chauvin	American Shrimp Cannery & Proc.	New Orleans, LA
Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association	Austin, TX
Tom Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife	Austin, TX
Richard Condrey	LSU	Baton Rouge, LA
Ed Joyce	FL Dept. of Natural Resources	Tallahassee, FL

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, October 20, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

Mr. Leroy Wieting, vice-chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Mr. Wieting briefly discussed the importance of legislative members of the Board participating in the semi-annual meetings and taking advantage of the information and knowledge available at the meetings to better serve their individual state legislatures. He discussed the need for all state and federal members of the Board to encourage legislative participation. He then called for adoption of the agenda. Ted Ford made a motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Hugh Swingle, the motion carried.

Mr. Wieting asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the March 1982 minutes. There being none, Hugh Swingle made a motion to adopt the minutes, seconded by Ted Ford. The motion carried.

Ginny Herring reported on the "Administrative Support of the State-Federal Fisheries Management Program", project segment #5 of NOAA Cooperative Agreement #SF-5. She stated that all objectives of this project had been performed and reported on in accordance with all terms and conditions of the agreement. She added that the Commission would be able to fulfill its administrative responsibilities in support of the state-federal program with the allocated funds awarded (\$22,157) but that it should be noted that the Commission staff expends many hours in accomplishing the objectives of the project for which they are not reimbursed by the agreement.

Mr. Wieting requested that the reports for the other portions of NOAA Cooperative Agreement SF-5 be brief since the majority of the attendees were present earlier when detailed reports were given.

Mr. Wieting called on Richard Condrey to report on the project entitled "Shrimp Population Dynamics Models". He reported that there are three main objectives to this project and that two of the objectives have been completed. The third objective is to examine the pattern of white shrimp mortality during the overwintering period to address the management question - "Is there an increase in either biological yield

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Page Two

or economic yield associated with protecting the smaller shrimp?" The analysis that has been conducted suggests that for the sizes smaller than 89 tails to the pound, there should be economic return to the fishery by protecting these, only if you can prevent harvest after November 15 until sometime into the June-July period. Dr. Condrey stated that Yew-Hu Chien who has been working with him on this project will be reporting on further project developments at the next meeting.

Harriet Perry reported on the two projects being conducted by the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory: "Gulf States Blue Crab Fishery Management Planning Profile" and "Morphological Characteristics of Blue Crab Larvae Callinectes sapidus from the Northern Gulf of Mexico". She stated that additional time was needed in order to complete the final reports on both of these projects. She intends to have a review copy of the planning profile to Technical Coordinating Committee members by November 22, 1982 and anticipates that this will give her enough time to take their comments into consideration and have a final report into the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission office by the December 30, 1982 completion date. She passed out an update on the larval rearing project. She stated that both spring and fall broods had been reared successfully and that morphological descriptions were being prepared. She stated that both projects should be complete by the December 30, 1982 revised contract completion date.

Thomas McIlwain reported on the SEAMAP Subcommittee. He gave a brief history of the project, its objectives and how the Subcommittee would achieve the objectives. He stated that in 1983 the Subcommittee would continue the spring ichthyoplankton survey as well as the fall ichthyoplankton survey, also a continuation of the environmental data coupled with shrimp and bottom trawl surveys. His report was brief since he had given a more detailed report to the Technical Coordinating Committee.

Mr. Wieting called on Buck Byrd to discuss State-Federal Management Programs in the Gulf of Mexico and to give an update on federal

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Page Three

assistance awards awaiting approval. Mr. Byrd stated that Jack Brawner, Regional Director, NMFS sent his regards to the Board and he continued by saying that the Southeast Regional Office as well as Bill Gordon, Assistant Administrator all consider the State-Federal program of highest priority and that their intentions were to enhance the relationship even further. Mr. Byrd stated that his report would be brief since he had given a more detailed report earlier. He reported that they had a continuing resolution that goes until December 17, 1982, that gives them about 22 percent of last year's allocation. This applies to all cooperative programs that NMFS has with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. He reported that the applications for the administrative support project and the SEAMAP project had been approved and he anticipated that a pre-award agreement back to October 1, 1982 would be possible at the amounts requested. He stated that an agreement for the menhaden update had been awarded and that the project was already under way. He closed by saying that he was extremely proud of the relationship his office had with the Commission and the outstanding job they did for the Board.

Robert Chapoton reported that the Menhaden Advisory Committee had met with all members present. They reviewed the 1982 fishery and heard several status reports on the resource. Some of the highlights were that the 1982 catch set an all time record of 850,000 metric tons, a very good year that was not indicated by excessive fishing or excessive effort, and was very much in keeping with last years forecast. The Committee will be monitoring the menhaden plan update and look forward to the final product. In conclusion he asked the Board to consider the Committees nomination of Harry Schafer as Chairman of the Committee for the next year. Ted Ford made the motion to accept the Committee nomination of Harry Schafer as Chairman for the next year. Seconded by Fred Deegen, the motion carried.

Mr. Wieting reported that the Shrimp Management Committee had a good meeting. They listened to Richard Condrey's report on shrimp



GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
MINUTES  
Page Four

dynamics and voted to accept the report as written. Ted Ford motioned that Leroy Wieting be nominated as Chairman of the Shrimp Management Committee for the following year by acclamation, seconded by Hugh Swingle. The motion carried. Mr. Wieting requested that the Commission staff take steps to have new members appointed to the Shrimp Management Committee to replace members that are no longer active or involved with the Board.

Harriet Perry reported that the Blue Crab Subcommittee in addition to working on the projects she previously reported on, participated in a management session in conjunction with the National Shellfish Association Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland in June 1982. She also thanked Ginny Herring and Larry Simpson for their help in getting the Blue Crab Colloquium proceedings printed.

Hugh Swingle made the motion that Leroy Wieting be nominated as Chairman of the Board. Elton Gissendanner seconded the motion. Mr. Wieting asked Taylor Harper to chair the meeting momentarily since he had been nominated. Taylor Harper called for further nominations and since there were none he declared Mr. Wieting Chairman by acclamation.

Leroy Wieting made the motion that Buck Byrd be nominated vice-chairman. The motion was seconded by Tom Moore. There were no further nominations and Buck Byrd was declared vice-chairman by acclamation. Taylor Harper returned the chair to Leroy Wieting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

GULF STATE--FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD

October 20, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ginny Herring	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Leroy Wieting	Texas Legislature
I. B. Byrd	NMFS
Hugh Swingle	AL Dept. Conservation
Taylor Harper	Alabama Legislature
Leroy Kiffe	LA
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Elton Gissendanner	FL Dept. Natural Resources
George Brumfield	Proxy for Ted Millette, MS
Tom D. Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife
Frederick Deegen	MS Bureau of Marine Resources
Lou Villanova	U.S. Fisheries & Wildlife
Leland E. Roberts	TX Parks & Wildlife
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Harriet Perry	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
David J. Etzold	University of Southern Mississippi
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc.
Wallace Calhoun	Alabama Sea Grant Advisory Service
Richard Schaefer	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Melissa W. Smith	Department of Energy, New Orleans, LA
Bill Cantwell	Plaquemines Parish Commission Council
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.
Robert B. Chapoton	NMFS, Beaufort Laboratory
E. Lerri	NMFS, Gulf Breeze, FL
Ray Stevens	Zapata Haynie, Corp.
Richard Condrey	Center for Wetland Resources, LSU
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Irwin M. Alperin	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Bob Norris	National Ocean Survey
Ed Smith	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Perry A. Thompson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Ed Joyce	FL Dept on Natural Resources
Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association
Anita Grant	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Charles H. Lyles	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, October 20, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

Dr. Ted Ford, Chairman of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), presiding. Dr. Ford noted that all five Gulf States were represented.

Additions and changes in the agenda were noted as follows:

1. Other business, discuss a statistical subcommittee.
2. Agenda Item #9, Pete Eldridge report to be given by James Zweifel.
3. Other business, presentation by Larry Price of Price-Darnell company's work with fish kill cleanup.

On a motion by Fred Deegen and seconded by Dr. Bill Fox the agenda was adopted as modified.

Dr. David Etzold reported on the TCC continued monitoring of the controlled freshwater introduction to Eastern Louisiana and Western Mississippi marshes. Dr. Etzold indicated two diversion sites, one at Caernarvon for Louisiana marshes and one north of Bonnet Carre for Mississippi.

He expects the 1st draft of the Louisiana/Mississippi Estuarine Study to be available in July 1983. He indicated problems with Lac Des Allamands catfishermen to the diversion project.

Dr. Thomas McIlwain gave the SEAMAP Subcommittee report, a detailed report of which was distributed under separate cover.

1983 SEAMAP activities will be basically the same as last year including.

1. Ichthyoplankton Surveys
2. Shrimp and Bottomfish Surveys
3. Environmental Data Collection, which will be piggybacked onto the above surveys

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Two

Significant activities and accomplishments of the SEAMAP

subcommittee included:

1. Demonstration of real-time data distribution.
2. A questionnaire which indicated 91% agreement with SEAMAP project and continuation.
3. Formation of a Data Management work group led by Ken Savastano.
4. Development of a workshop on Gear Calibration to be held in conjunction with the March 1983 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) meeting in Austin, Texas. Mr. John Watson will chair.
5. Description of the research vessels and activities in the Gulf to be included in the GSMFC Annual Report. Coordinated by Mr. Fred Diaz.
6. Funding for fiscal year 1983 will still be at approximately 15 K. Funding for fiscal year 1984 is hoped to be significantly increased to allow for full operation of SEAMAP activities and intended objectives.
7. Operational Plan recommended to be developed at approximate cost of 50 K by contract.

Dr. McIlwain made the following recommendations on behalf of the SEAMAP

Subcommittee for TCC action:

1. Continue program involvement for fiscal year 1983.
2. The three SEAMAP survey activities (Shrimp and Bottomfish, Ichthyoplankton, and Environmental) be approved.
3. Data Coordinating work group be approved and formed.
4. TCC work to identify future and augmented funding for SEAMAP.
5. TCC approve the operational Plan development and in addition seek funding sources for this contractual effort (50 K).

Ed Joyce made a motion and was seconded by Fred Deegen to approve the five recommendations of the SEAMAP Subcommittee. The motion passed unanimously.

Harriet Perry reported on the Blue Crab Subcommittee's project, a management profile for that species. She indicated Sections 1, 4, 6, 7, and 9 were complete and work continues on the other sections.

I. B. "Buck" Byrd reported on the status of the Grant-in-Aid Programs. He indicated they have been authorized to spend 22% of last

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Three

year's annual appropriation to get them by until the December 17th deadline for action on this continuing resolution. There are other bills which will fund some of the current work done by Grant-in-Aid Programs being developed in Congress, i.e. H.R. 5002, and several Outer Continental Shelf Block Grants.

Sentiment was that Congress will support 88-309 and 89-304 programs even if administration does not. The TCC will continue to support these Grant-in-Aid Programs.

Tom Linton and Leland Roberts gave a presentation on their research work concerning seismic operations in the Gulf. Their work shows some affect on marine life associated with seismic exploration operations. Tom Moore made a motion and was seconded by Fred Deegen to have them back in March to report on the final aspects of their project. Motion passed unanimously. J. Y. Christmas made a motion and was seconded by Tom Moore to have the TCC endorse in concept their study program. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Richard Condrey reported on the West Hackberry Menhaden Study he is doing under contract from Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Energy.

Dr. Ford reported on the recent Mexus-Gulf meeting held in Vera Cruz, Mexico. That group will continue to work in seven general areas as follows:

1. Environmental Work Group
2. Ichthyoplankton
3. Remote Sensing and Technology
4. Sea Turtles
5. Shrimp
6. Demersal Fish
7. Coastal Pelagics

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Page Four

The next meeting of Mexus/Gulf is tentatively set for August 1983 in Galveston, Texas.

James Zweifel reported on the TIMS and Apple systems for fishery statistics. He indicated the Apples were delivered to the five Gulf States and the Council. They expect the software for use to be developed by January 1983 and on line in operation when the confidentiality of statistics provisions of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are resolved.

Walter Tatum made a motion seconded by Fred Deegen to reform a statistical subcommittee under the TCC. Motion passed. The subcommittee will be composed of one member from each state which the state will name and one member from NMFS. They will select their own Chairman from among the group. Dr. Fox indicated the NMFS member would be Ed Zuboy. A letter will be sent by the GSMFC office to document this committee appointment by the states.

In the last order of business on a motion by Hugh Swingle and seconded by Harry Schafer, Dr. Ted B. Ford was elected Chairman by unanimous acclamation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted B. Ford, Chairman  
Technical Coordinating Committee

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

October 20, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Fred Deegen	MS Bureau of Marine Resources
Bill Fox	NMFS/SEFC
Tom Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife
Wayne Swingle	GMFMC
Hugh A. Swingle	AL Dept. Conservation
Walter M .Tatum	AL Dept. Conservation (MRD)
C. E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife
Thomas D. McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab.
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Ed Joyce	FL Dept. Natural Resources
Auttis Mullins	LSU Food Science
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC, Commissioner
Harriet Perry	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.
Warren E. Stuntz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Orville M. Allen	NMFS, New Orleans, LA
James R. Zweifel	NMFS, Miami, FL
Ed Smith	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Ralph Rayburn	TX Shrimp Assn., Austin, TX
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. Natural Resources
Leroy J. Wieting	GSMFC, Commissioner
I. B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Dick Schaefer	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Melissa W. Smith	Dept. of Energy, New Orleans, LA
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, SEFC, Beaufort, N.C.
Morris Pallozzi	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Tom Linton	TX A & M Univ., Wildlife & Fisheries
Leland Roberts	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife
Dan Sheehy	Aquabio
Eugene Nakamura	NMFS, Panama City, FL
Bob Norris	National Ocean Survey, Rockville, MD
Pete Juneau	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Gil Bane	LSU Center Wetland Resources
Richard Condrey	LSU Center Wetland Resources
Philip Bowman	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Lou Villanova	U.S. Fisheries Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc.
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Bill Chauvin	American Shrimp Cannery & Proc. Assn., N.O., LA
Frank Richardson	U.S. Fisheries Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA
Timothy Morrison	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

LIST OF ATTENDEES  
(continued)

Joe Allen	FL State Representative
Bill Lindberg	FL Marine Advisory Program
Scott Andree	FL Marine Advisory Program
Ray Stevens	Zapata Haynie
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc.
Bill Cantwell	Plaquemines Parish Commission Council



EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 20, 1982

Mobile, Alabama

A luncheon meeting was held prior to the convening of the Executive Session. At the luncheon the Commission budget for FY83 was presented and approved by all Commissioners without change. A copy of the FY83 budget will be attached to these minutes as a matter of record.

In the absence of Chairman Jesse Guidry, Vice-Chairman Taylor Harper called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm. The following Commissioners were present:

Taylor Harper - AL  
John McMillan - AL  
John Ray Nelson - AL  
Elton J. Gissendanner - FL  
Joe Allen - FL  
Leroy Kiffe - LA  
Leroy Wieting - TX

The following proxies were seated:

Edwin A. Joyce proxy for Clyde Richbourg - FL  
Ted B. Ford proxy for Jesse Guidry - LA  
Mike L. Hogan proxy for Sam Theriot - LA  
George Brumfield proxy for Ted Millette - MS  
Frederick Deegen proxy for Lon Strong - MS  
Ralph Rayburn proxy for Walter Zimmerman - TX  
Tom D. Moore proxy for Charles Travis - TX

A motion was made by Ted Ford to adopt the agenda, seconded by Tom Moore. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Elton Gissendanner to adopt the minutes of the March 1982 meeting, seconded by Ted Ford. The motion carried.

Ted Ford reported that the Technical Coordinating Committee had met earlier that morning and the meeting was interesting and effective. He stated that the agenda was very lengthy and included reports on the continued monitoring of the controlled freshwater introduction into Eastern Louisiana and Western Mississippi marshes; a progress report and update from the SEAMAP Subcommittee; status report from the Blue Crab Subcommittee regarding the planning profile project currently under way; a report on the grant-in-aid and state-federal program; Tom Linton and Leland Roberts gave a presentation on their research work concerning seismic operations in the Gulf; Richard Condrey reported on the West

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Two

Hackberry menhaden study he is doing for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Energy; Ted Ford reported on the recent Mexus Gulf Meeting held in Vera Cruz, Mexico in August of this year; and, James Zweifel reported on the TIMS and apple systems for fishery statistics. Other business included the decision of the Committee to re-establish a statistical subcommittee and the election of Ted Ford as Chairman for the upcoming year. Tom Moore suggested that a subcommittee of the TCC be formed to keep up with the seismic operations going on in the Gulf of Mexico. Ted Ford agreed that it would appear on the TCC agenda at the March 1983 meeting.

A motion to adopt the TCC report was made by Leroy Wieting, seconded by Tom Moore. The motion carried.

Ralph Rayburn reported on the activities of the Industry Advisory Committee. Among topics discussed in the meeting were the amendments to Title IV of the OCS Lands Act; Title 46 of Maritime Laws; Coast Guard user fees; OCS block grant proposals; and bluefin tuna management. A presentation regarding a mechanisms for cleaning up and removing fish kills was made by Fred Johnston and a report from Perry Thompson regarding the current SEAMAP project was given. He reported that the Committee recommended that the Commission consider forming a subcommittee to spotlight activities which will impact fisheries habitat in the Gulf area. Another recommendation was made that members states of the Commission consider the results of the Texas option in development of their shrimp management regimes. The Committee requested action from the Commission on two items. The first was that the Commission go on record supporting passage of the net tariff reduction legislation, but should such passage be unacceptable that the tariff on monofilament netting be considered separately and that it be eliminated entirely. Ralph Rayburn made the motion, it was seconded by Leroy Kiffe. The motion passed. The second request for action was that the Commission write a resolution to the State of Louisiana recommending that its management regime be extended to the states territorial sea. Ted Ford presented this motion, it was seconded by Leroy Kiffe. The

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Three

motion passed. Leroy Wieting motion to accept the report of the Industry Advisory Committee, seconded by Leroy Kiffe. The motion carried.

Gerald Waller newly elected chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee submitted his report. He stated that nineteen persons attended the meeting and that all states were represented. The committee has become very active and met in Baton Rouge in September 1982 to establish more effective state coordination. Among topics discussed was the long-range goal to develop more files in computer storage on such things as licensing, permits, stolen boats, etc. and the status of legislation by Congressman Breaux regarding blanket enforcement authority for National Marine Fisheries Service agents. This legislation permits the authority to be passed on by state officers through cooperative agreements with the National Marine Fisheries Service. Elton Gissendanner made a motion that the Executive Director be authorized to send a resolution to Congressman Breaux supporting this legislation, seconded by Ted Ford. The motion carried. Leroy Wieting motion that the Law Enforcement Committee report be accepted, seconded by John Ray Nelson. The motion carried.

Taylor Harper commented that he would like to see the Commission discuss at a future meeting some of the licensing policies between the five gulf states. He stated that as a legislator he constantly runs into persons complaining about or just wanting to know the licensing practices of the various gulf states. He stated that perhaps a meeting centering around this topic, including legislators and enforcement people could be arranged and set-up in such a way as to educate the people charged with the responsibility of making the laws.

Willis H. Clark reported for the Southeast Marine Advisory Services Network. He stated that the committee had enjoyed the relationship with the Commission that originated in 1970 and that became more unified and active since Charles H. Lyles had taken over as Executive Director in 1977. The Committee met earlier this week in Boston at the Fish Expo. At this meeting the committee established a charter that includes eight

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Four

states from North Carolina to Texas, with anticipation of including Puerto Rico in 1983. Mr. Willis expressed optimism for the Sea Grant Program. He is not sure where funds for FY83 will come from but there are two alternatives in the works. He reported the Sea Grant Week will be held in San Antonio in July 1983 and encouraged all attendees to participate. Leroy Wieting made the motion to accept Willis Clark's report, seconded by Ted Ford. The motion carried.

Walter Tatum, newly elected chairman of the Recreational Fisheries Committee reported on that committee's activities. He stated that he had been elected chairman since Michael Carron had taken an assignment in Naples, Italy and would not be able to continue his participation with the Committee. The short term goal of the committee, namely a symposium on recreational fishing was completed and would be presented at this session. Additional goals were discussed at the committee's most recent meeting. The first goal was to seek the Commission's endorsement to work for the protection, preservation and restoration of marine habitat wherever possible and within the limits of practicability. The second goal was to promote the collection of statistically sound information, biological, sociological, and economic aspects of the Gulf of Mexico fishery systems. Leroy Kiffe discussed the establishment of artificial reefs in areas used by shrimpers and suggested that artificial reefs were not always in the best interest of the shrimpers. Walter Tatum explained that the committee is not necessarily encouraging artificial reefs but that they wish to promote research and development of procedures to establish and manage artificial reefs. John Ray Nelson made the motion to accept the Recreational Fisheries Committee report, seconded by Ted Ford. The motion carried.

Leroy Wieting reported on the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board. He stated that all current cooperative agreements were reported on, as well as standing committee reports. He stated that since the meeting preceded this Executive Session and since the minutes of this meeting will be available to all participants he would keep his report very brief. Mike Hogan made a motion to accept the report,

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Five

seconded by Frederick Deegen. The motion carried.

Buck Byrd reported for Jack Brawner, Regional Director, NMFS. He stated that the accomplishments of the State-Federal Program are the continued relationship with the Commission, relationships with the Gulf states, and the relationship of current cooperative programs. Despite funding problems things are going well in the Southeast Regional Office and the plan is to continue to work towards a firmer and even better partnership in managing the marine resources of the Gulf of Mexico. Leroy Wieting motion to adopt the report of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office. It was seconded by Leroy Kiffe and carried.

Charles Lyles gave a legislative update regarding current fishery related legislation. He stated that during his last trip to Washington, D.C. he had the opportunity to review the FY84 NMFS budget which is not yet public knowledge and that in his opinion NMFS was in serious trouble. He said if the current appropriation bill is passed it will be harmful to NMFS. He recognized that William Stevenson, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS was present and asked if he wished to add anything. Mr. Stevenson stated that the general philosophy of budget management in Washington today is a game of attrition. In FY82 there was a significant reduction in the programs on the entire civilian side of the budget. The budget at that time was initially proposed to be reduced by 20 to 30 percent. NMFS was successful in defending the budget and Congress was successful in putting it back. NMFS has repeated the activity in FY83 with an accumulation of the reductions that we had for 1982 and added to that a planned reduction for 1983, and that was the FY83 budget that is presently before the Congress. Mr. Stevenson predicted that FY83 will turn out well, with no problems just minor adjustments. In 1984 we will take all of the reductions that were proposed in 1982, that were not implemented, all of the reductions that were proposed in 1983, that were not implemented, plus an additional significant reduction in programs in 1984 that will bring a 40 to 50 percent reduction in the FY84 budget. This is the kind of attrition

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Six

which is the philosophy of the budgets, not just in fisheries. In FY84 we will see proposed reductions in entirely new areas. It will have major impact on programs and our capabilities of operating in every program for which NMFS has responsibility.

Mr. Lyles continued his report and briefed the Commissioners on many of his activities since the last meeting. He requested that the Committee take action to reduce the surety bonds for the Director and Assistant to the Director to be more in line with the amount of funds handled by the staff. It was motioned by Ted Ford to reduce the amount of the surety bond to \$100,000. It was seconded by John Ray Nelson and the motion carried. He also discussed the concept of having the Commission host a sort of appreciation reception for the Congressional delegation of the five Gulf States as well as other key members and staff of the U.S. Congress. He stated that many organizations which depended heavily on their Congressional delegation for support and information did this sort of thing and he felt it would be a good idea for the Commission to establish a yearly reception in appreciation for the congressional aid it received. Leroy Wieting made the motion that the Executive Director be directed to take the necessary steps to hold an appreciation reception for members of the U.S. Congress. It was seconded by Ted Ford, the motion carried. Mr. Lyles brought the Commissioners up to date on plans for future meetings and Ralph Rayburn elaborated on the upcoming joint session of the Commission and Texas Shrimp Association to be held in Austin, Texas in March 1983. Mr. Lyles recognized Irwin Alperin, Executive Director, Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission to report on the Dingell-Johnson Expansion Fund. Mr. Alperin requested that the Commission take the firm position to support the D-J Expansion Fund. It was motioned by John Ray Nelson to accept the Executive Directors report, seconded by Elton Gissendanner. The motion carried.

Taylor Harper called on Larry Simpson to give his report. He reported on the activities of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council over the last six months and reported that John Green had been

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Seven

elected new chairman of the Council. He stated that according to Wayne Swingle, Executive Director, GMFMC that they were a month and a half behind schedule on the red drum profile but that all states were cooperating in the effort to get all sections completed. He reported that the annual report and the slide show on the Commission were complete and available to all Commissioners. He attended the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting in Baltimore, Maryland where he presented Irwin Alperin a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the Commission. Mr. Alperin took the opportunity to thank the entire Commission for the plaque and stated that the three compact commissions made a good team and were recognized in Washington as such. He appreciated the honor that GSMFC bestowed on him and his staff and looks forward to a rewarding relationship. Leroy Kiffe made a motion to accept the Assistant to the Director's report, seconded by Leroy Wieting. The motion carried.

Ted Ford nominated Taylor Harper for Chairman of the Commission for the coming year, seconded by Mike Hogan. Taylor Harper turned the chair over to Leroy Wieting. There being no further nominations, Taylor Harper was elected Chairman by acclamation. Leroy Wieting returned the chair to Taylor Harper.

Tom Moore nominated Robert Kemp for Vice-Chairman of the Commission for the coming year. There being no further nominations, Robert Kemp was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

Taylor Harper passed out Michael Carron's letter of resignation to the Commissioners and Governor of Mississippi. John McMillan motioned to accept the resignation, seconded by Ted Ford, the motion carried.

Elton Gissendanner discussed the fact that since the State of Florida had adopted the Coastal Zone Management Plan that they took the federal laws very seriously. He said that most of the time these laws are consistent with the state laws but that he had problems with a specific law in the books that was inconsistent, namely the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's mackerel plan which allows the

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES  
Page Eight

taking of food fish with a purse seine. He planned to go to Washington to try to work out this inconsistency with Florida's Coastal Zone Management Plan, which does not allow the taking of food fish with a purse seine. He wanted to inform the other states of this fact and alert them to the fact that this might occur in their state at some future date.

Willis Clark introduced Bill Lindberg, Marine Advisory Program Leader for the State of Florida, replacing Marian Clarke.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.



EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Wednesday, October 20, 1982  
Mobile, Alabama

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ginny Herring	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Taylor Harper	Alabama House of Representatives
Hugh Swingle	AL Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
John McMillan	AL Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Mike L. Hogan	Louisiana House of Representatives
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Elton J. Gissendanner	FL Dept. of Natural Resources
Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.	FL Dept. of Natural Resources
Joe Allen	Florida House of Representatives
George Brumfield	Zapata Haynie, Moss Point, MS
Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association
Larry Simpson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Charlie Lyles	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc.
Tom D. Moore	Texas Parks & Wildlife
Frederick Deegen	MS Bureau of Marine Resources
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC, Lockport, LA
Leroy Wieting	Texas House of Representatives
Lou Villanova	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA
Willis H. Clark	Texas A & M University
Ken Roberts	Louisiana State University
Mark Thompson	Louisiana State University
Bill Chauvin	American Shrimp Cannery & Processors
Ed Smith	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Corky Perret	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Bill Cantwell	Plaquemine Parish Commission Council
Harriet Perry	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Richard Condrey	Center for Wetland Resources, LSU
Frank Richardson	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA
Wallace Calhoun	Alabama Sea Grant Advisory Service
Walter M. Tatum	AL Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
Jerry Waller	AL Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
I. B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Bill Seaman	Florida Sea Grant
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife
Melissa Smith	Dept. of Energy, New Orleans, LA
Leland E. Roberts	Texas Parks & Wildlife
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. of Natural Resources
Morris Pallozzi	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Perry Thompson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Anita Grant	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Bob Norris	National Ocean Survey
Bill Lindberg	FL Marine Advisory Program
Scott Andree	FL Marine Advisory Program
Timothy Morrison	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Paul D. Fulham	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION  
Workshop I  
MINUTES  
November 17-18, 1982  
Airport Ramada, Kenner, LA

Workshop I was called to order at 9:00 am with attendance as shown on attached list. All participants were present except Alabama and Florida. The agenda was approved with minor changes in the order of consideration of the revised management plan format.

Three ring notebooks with appropriate dividers were distributed. Preliminary information concerning plan format options was distributed. Options were enumerated as follows: (1) the present "Green Book" format; (2) Atlantic Menhaden Management Plan format; (3) Gulf Council FMP format, and; (4) any other format devised by the Task Force. Decisions were deferred until later.

Protocol for approval of the results of the efforts of revisors was established as follows:

- 1) Task Force
- 2) Director, GSMFC
- 3) Menhaden Advisory Committee
- 4) GS-FFMB
- 5) GSMFC
- 6) NMFS

Workshop procedures were established as follows:

- 1) The Director, GSMFC, or his representative will chair workshop sessions with consultants acting when specific agenda items are being discussed.
- 2) All task force decisions will be made on a consensus basis. In the event consensus cannot be reached, options will be presented to the Director, GSMFC, who agreed to negotiate a conclusion. His decision will be accepted as the Task Force decision.

The schedule was explained and revised. A copy of the revised schedule will be submitted to NMFS as part of our contractual requirement (Article V).

All contract items were reviewed briefly and related to the 1977 "Green Book" with appropriate homework assignments being made. The results of "Green Book" discussions were as follows:

Chapter 2., "A Description of the Resource and Fishery", will be updated and modified with new data and improved information.

Chapter 3., "Present Management System and Associated Problems", is essentially the existing Chapter 5., as adopted and implemented in 1977. This material, together with the updated current state regulations, will form the main thrust of this new material. State task force members have responded to an earlier request for current state statutory and regulatory information (Green Book 3.1) and this material will be used in preparation of revised drafts by GSMFC staff. Problems (3.3) and ongoing projected research and monitoring (3.4) will be reviewed, updated and placed in another part of the plan.

Chapter 4., "Goals and Objectives" will be reviewed and modified as necessary to reflect current conditions.

Chapter 5., "Proposed New System" became the current system when adopted by GS-FFMB in 1977. Chapter 5., will be modified as required and put in Chapter 3. Any proposed changes to the present system will be addressed.

Chapter 6., "Recommendations" and Chapter 7., "Management Action Program Summary" will be combined with problems (3.3) and ongoing and projected research (3.4); updated as deemed appropriate. Research pricing will not be performed. That has now become an operational function of MAC.

More detailed discussion of specific items with homework assignments were as follows:

- 1) Rewrite the first paragraphs of the present management system (Ref. Page 21). Discuss uniform seasons, net regulations, fees, licenses, areal constraints, etc.

Homework: Christmas, Etzold

- 2) Write an historical plan implementation review.

Homework: Etzold

- 3) Consider deletion of Pages 42-43.

Homework: Simpson

- 4) Under data accumulation, request permission to use unpublished papers.

Homework: Simpson

- 5) (Ref. Page 8) Jim Nelson distributed information on the measurement of vessel tonnage and the historical catch per vessel net ton for Standard Products' vessels. After some discussion it was agreed to defer further comments until later (see Item 17).

- 6) Review and update social/economics.

Homework: Etzold, Condrey, Wallace

- 7) Review and update processing/products.

Homework: J. Nelson, Wallace

- 8) Tabular information: update and expand.

Homework: Chapoton

- 9) Flow of products

Homework: Chapoton, Industry

- 10) Chapters 4, 5, 6 and 7: review and update.

Homework: Christmas, Etzold

- 11) Chapter 7: B-4: Captains daily report.

Homework: Chapoton, Industry, Christmas

- 12) A list of items submitted by Gary Matlock from Texas were discussed and related to current "Green Book" format. (See Item 17 for action.)
- 13) Public information with specific relation to "Bread Upon the Waters", "In Search of Menhaden", "All the Men Singing", etc.

Homework: Simpson

- 14) Freshwater introduction.

Homework: Etzold

- 15) Discuss effective management.

Homework: Christmas, Etzold

- 16) Remote sensing: update and reduce.

Homework: W. Nelson

- 17) A representative of the NMFS presented information on population dynamics of Gulf menhaden. The information is the results of a summary and analysis of data collected by the NMFS Gulf menhaden since 1964. MSY. Write draft. An ad hoc committee was formed and will meet early in January. Members are as follows: Chapoton, J. Nelson, Condrey, Christmas, Dean Ahrenholtz and/or W. Nelson. All members are to attend and participate.

The next workshop was scheduled for February 2-3, 1983 at the Airport Ramada, Kenner, LA. The schedule was reviewed and updated.

The Gulf Council FMP format was adopted with the provision that current effort would continue with the "Green Book" format until appropriate change over detail is established.

A homework procedure was established as follows:

- 1) Where possible, homework is to be completed within a two week time frame and returned to the GSMFC.
- 2) All inputs, including homework, are to be mailed to GSMFC, Attention: Menhaden, unless specifically determined otherwise.
- 3) Telephone Larry Simpson if a task force member is unable to complete his homework assignment within two weeks.
- 4) In addition to specific homework assignments, all task force members are charged with the following responsibilities.
  - A) Thoroughly reading/re-reading the entire contents of the "Green Book" and suggesting changes thereto.
  - B) Reviewing all material sent to them and responding promptly.
  - C) Requesting assistance from any member of the Task Force and/or the GSMFC staff when needed.
  - D) Suggesting agenda items for the next workshop.

The workshop was adjourned on schedule.

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION

Workshop I

November 17-18, 1982

Kenner, LA

LIST OF ATTENDEES

David Etzold	University of Southern Mississippi
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Ray Stevens	Zapata Haynie Corp.
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc.
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.
Jim Nelson	Standard Products, Inc.
T. G. Christopher	Standard Products, Inc.
Ben Humphrey	Standard Products, Inc.
George A. Brumfield	Zapata Haynie Corp.
Bob Chapoton	NMFS, SEFC, Beaufort Laboratory
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Richard Condrey	Center for Wetland Resources, LSU
Larry Simpson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Vince Guillory	Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 18-19, 1982  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The agenda was accepted with additions (copy attached). The October 18, 1982 SEAMAP minutes were approved by consensus.

Dr. Tom McIlwain was elected SEAMAP Chairman and Mr. Walter Tatum was elected Vice-chairman by acclamation for 1983. Mr. Perry Thompson was selected as SEAMAP Coordinator for 1983.

Dr. Walter Nelson gave a status report on National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) SEAMAP vessels for the 1983 survey activities. He stated that the Oregon II will be available. The NMFS Galveston Laboratory will not be able to charter a vessel to survey off Louisiana and Texas for the 1983 SEAMAP Survey. The NMFS Southeast Regional Office provided vessel money to the Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO) for vessel refurbishing of a 102 foot vessel called the Suncoaster. In return FIO will contract the Suncoaster for 25 to 30 days to NMFS. Dr. Nelson stated if the state of Florida is going to do ichthyoplankton work from Cedar Keys south off Florida then NMFS is proposing the Suncoaster to do ichthyoplankton, environmental and shrimp and bottomfish survey from Cedar Keys to the mouth of the Mississippi River. The Mississippi vessel (Tommy Munro) will survey off Mississippi. The Oregon II will coordinate off Mississippi with the Suncoaster and Tommy Munro to do trawl calibrations. The Oregon II will then concentrate the bulk of its effort west of the Mississippi River off Louisiana and Texas to replace NMFS charter vessel time. Texas will survey in its waters. Overall it

will be a broader coverage with 35 to 40 fewer stations in 1983 as opposed to 1982 west of the river. So far this is just a proposal for the larger offshore vessels.

Mr. Bryan reviewed the 1982 Shrimp and Bottomfish report from the October 18th work group meeting (copy attached).

Dr. McIlwain stated that NMFS charter vessel off Louisiana and Texas did not collect finfish species composition of those finfish under 150 mm. This problem needs to be corrected prior to the 1983 SEAMAP Survey. One way to solve problems would be to make a formal presentation to all cruise participants prior to the cruise on sampling design, data sheets, methods of handling samples, etc. In addition, suggest that each work group standardize on paper how samples are to be collected.

Mr. Matlock requested that NMFS distribute in its weekly real time data summary, shrimp catch rates in numbers/hour along with pounds/hour and count/pound. In addition he requested statistical information on mean length of shrimp species in a sample.

Dr. Ford asked Dr. Nelson if Scott Nichols would be setting up the 1983 Texas Closure sampling design plan and if so could he distribute a copy.

Dr. Nelson stated that NMFS will supply that information to Mr. Matlock, Dr. Ford and the Subcommittee.

The discussion centered around the effect of day/night sampling. The question was raised to the compatibility of day/night sampling. Do we need to sample at night?

Dr. McIlwain stated that he will summarize seven years of Gulf Coast Research Laboratory day/night catches for the next meeting.



Mr. Huff stated that money to operate Hernan Cortez is in Florida's state budget and has survived the first rounds of budget cuts. The alternative to losing the Cortez to budget cuts would be to supply biologist for the Suncoaster.

Dr. McIlwain requested Subcommittee members to go back to their respective states to identify an individual or individuals to be aboard the Suncoaster.

Dr. Richards reviewed the ichthyoplankton report to the Subcommittee (copy attached).

The Subcommittee still expressed concern with the length of time it will take to identify the ichthyoplankton samples. Some members would like the samples identified down to species without taking ten years to do it. An accounting procedure needs to be developed to inform the scientific community that the samples exist and are available.

Dr. McIlwain suggested that the Subcommittee should charge the ichthyoplankton work group with setting up an accounting procedure for the ichthyoplankton samples. The work group should answer the questions as to: type of samples, where located, who is working on or interested in what species and where the samples will be maintained. Once the samples are used and identified by a researcher then the data should be made available in a computer system for other uses. The Subcommittee agreed to Dr. McIlwain's suggestion by consensus.

Dr. Richardson stated that the ichthyoplankton work group recommends that a fall ichthyoplankton survey be considered for the fall of 1983 in the Gulf. Mexico is interested in participating.

Dr. Nelson stated that the Oregon II has an annual spring/fall

groundfish survey across the Northern Gulf. If budget cuts do not reduce the Oregon II sea days then NMFS could provide some assistance for the ichthyoplankton survey.

The Subcommittee agreed by consensus to the fall 1983 ichthyoplankton survey.

Dr. McIlwain stated that the Subcommittee needs to identify funds down the road for vessel support to assist the Oregon II with the Fall survey.

Dr. Stuntz reviewed the environmental workshop meeting in October. He stated that during the 1982 survey the sampling strategy was not sufficient for taking surface, midwater and bottom samples for the deep water stations. The work group agreed to increase coverage by sampling every 20 meters. The workgroup will modify the data forms accordingly.

In data handling the workgroup did not see any major changes except the different types of data forms are causing repetitious work. The duplication of effort is causing errors and presently the work group does not have a solution to the problem.

The work group did not discuss what to do with the 1983 data but suggested putting out a March 1983 atlas with only 1982 data. The work group would like to combine the environmental data with the biological data.

The Subcommittee discussed alternative plans for identifying, researching and alerting the fishing industry about environmental phenomenon that may occur in the Gulf. It was suggested that when an environmental phenomena occurs, i.e., low oxygen area off Louisiana, that all state/federal/university marine agencies be alerted in the

Gulf. Research vessels might be directed to the area to collect scientific information. The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) office will be the primary office of exchange of information in which the SEAMAP coordinator will contact marine interest in the Gulf.

Mr. Savastano reviewed the data coordinating work group October 18 meeting. He stated that a biomass computer program has been designed and will be used to compute biomass for Elmer Gutherz's finfish report and Dr. Klima's shrimp report.

In real time data the log forms and method of handling real time data was satisfactory and should be continued into 1983. Dr. Stuntz reviewed the data forms and identified some different approaches for collecting data. The environmental work group will change the data form by January 15.

The data coordination work group discussed the idea of getting all the data in one location so cross analysis can be done between biological data, environmental and eventually ichthyoplankton.

A table was distributed to the Subcommittee on the summary status of the 1982 data. The table will be updated prior to the next SEAMAP meeting.

Discussion centered around merging the SEAMAP data with other data sources in the Gulf. It was concluded that it may be best to get SEAMAP up and running before we consider merging with other data sources.

Mr. Matlock discussed the role SEAMAP could play with the development of the Menhaden Management Plan. The Menhaden Committee suggested that 1982 menhaden catch/effort data from shrimp trawls taken during SEAMAP surveys could be used to illustrate possible trends in the Menhaden Management Plan. The SEAMAP Subcommittee should consider the

importance of sampling activities that are directed towards doing the same for menhaden as brown shrimp. If the trawl is not the most effective gear for menhaden perhaps the Subcommittee could examine or identify other sampling schemes, methods and time periods which might extend into the estuarine activities. It would increase the importance of the SEAMAP and menhaden interrelationship.

The Subcommittee discussed an integrating SEAMAP report which will bring all three 82 survey activities together into a SEAMAP atlas. The Subcommittee agreed by consensus that the work group leaders along with the SEAMAP Chairman and Coordinator will meet February 7-10 at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs. The purpose of this meeting will be to put together an integrated SEAMAP Atlas prior to the March TCC 1983 meeting. This atlas's main function will be as a reference copy of 1982 SEAMAP data to inform people as to the type of data, how taken, where taken and its availability. The GSMFC will act as a clearing house for the data.

The NMFS will supply environmental and biological distribution plots to the work group leaders the last week of January. Each work group leader will be responsible for writing an introduction, methods and materials for his survey activity. In the February meeting this newly formed work group will prepare an outline, figures, discussion and some interpretation of the 1982 SEAMAP data. The SEAMAP chairman and coordinator will put together an overall introduction. During the work group meeting the GSMFC staff will type the first draft of the atlas for an inhouse review. The atlas will then go out for review to the Subcommittee, revised, retyped and printed prior to the March Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting in Austin, Texas.

The Subcommittee discussed the idea of developing a mechanism to keep track of who, how and what the SEAMAP data is being used for.

Dr. McIlwain suggested that the coordinator send out a memo to the SEAMAP participants asking if they are interested in the data. The GSMFC will act as a clearing house for the data.

The Subcommittee agreed to hold the next SEAMAP meeting in March during the next GSMFC meeting in Austin, Texas.

The Subcommittee also agreed that each work group should get together over the phone to plan and discuss the 1983 SEAMAP Survey prior to the February 7th Atlas work group meeting. The work group leaders will then meet for half a day during the atlas workshop session to discuss the 1983 SEAMAP survey activities.

The Subcommittee discussed in-kind SEAMAP support. A preliminary table was distributed to show state and federal in-kind support for SEAMAP. The Subcommittee felt that the table did not show all of the in-kind support and requested the coordinator to update the table.

Mr. Fred Diaz reviewed the SEAMAP questionnaire for the SEAMAP Marine Directory. The questionnaire was approved by the Subcommittee with minor changes (revised copy attached).

The Subcommittee discussed the development of the SEAMAP Operational Plan. During the March GSMFC meeting the TCC agreed to the development of the plan but did not identify funds. The TCC felt that the plan could be done in-house.

Dr. Nelson stated the two basic reasons why NMFS should not write the operational plan: (1) It is a half man year worth of work and NMFS doesn't have the manpower. (2) If NMFS does it then the plan would be considered as a NMFS plan. What we would like to propose is that if the

total cost of the plan is 50 K then Pascagoula would identify 15 K, request 15 K each from the Regional Office and Central Office and a 5 K contribution from the states.

The Subcommittee was opposed to the development of the operational plan through a contractor for 50 K as too much money. The Subcommittee felt that the plan could be developed in-house at possibly half the cost with professional guidance from someone along with the Subcommittee assistance.

Dr. McIlwain requested J. Y. Christmas to contact David Etzold to see if they would be interested in developing the plan. In addition the SEAMAP Operational Plan outline will be distributed to other individuals who might be interested in developing the plan. He further stated that he will set up a meeting with the GSMFC to explore a mechanism for identifying funds from the Commission, states or Gulf council. The Subcommittee will be kept informed and be notified by phone for Subcommittee approval prior to a selection of someone to develop an operational plan.

The Subcommittee agreed with Dr. McIlwain's approach.

The Subcommittee requested that the coordinator find out how much funds are available in the SEAMAP budget for travel.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon on November 18, 1982.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
November 18-19, 1982

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Perry Thompson	GSMFC	601/875-5912
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4849
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab	601/875-2244
Walter Nelson	NMFS	601/872-2396
J. Alan Huff	Florida Dept. Natural Resources	813/896-8626
W. E. Stuntz	NMFS	601/762-0055
Fred R. Diaz	NMFS	601/769-4591
C. E. Bryan	Texas Parks & Wildlife	512/479-4861
Walter M. Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Nat. Resources	205/968-7575
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab	601/875-2244
Ken Savastano	NMFS	601/688-3103
Sally Richardson	Gulf Coast Research Lab	601/432-1612
Ted Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	504/342-5878
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	504/342-5860
Richard Shaw	Louisiana State University	504/388-6734

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE PRELIMINARY AGENDA  
To Act On  
1983 SEAMAP ACTIVITIES

November 18-19, 1982

ALSACE ROOM  
Airport Ramada Inn, New Orleans, Louisiana

DATE/TIME

Thursday, November 18, 1982

- 1:00 p.m. Adoption of Agenda
- 1:05 p.m. Adoption of Minutes (October 18, 1982)
- 1:10 p.m. FY83 Selection of SEAMAP  
A. Chairman  
B. Vice Chairman  
C. Coordinator
- 1:15 p.m. Vessel Support - Nelson
- 1:30 p.m. Status Report on Proposed 1983 Survey Activities  
A. Ichthyoplankton Workgroup Leader - Richards  
B. Shrimp and Bottomfish Workgroup Leader - Bryan  
C. Environmental Workgroup Leader - Stuntz  
D. Data Coordinator Workgroup Leader - Savastano  
E. Menhaden Report - Matlock
- 4:00 p.m. 1982 SEAMAP Data Integration and Presentation - McIlwain  
A. Protocol (form and substance)  
B. Responsibility  
C. In-Kind Support
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Friday, November 19, 1982

- 8:00 a.m. SEAMAP Marine Directory Report - Diaz  
A. Approval of Questionnaire
- 9:00 a.m. Operational Plan - McIlwain  
A. Responsibility  
B. Funding  
C. Time Frame
- 11:00 a.m. Future SEAMAP Meetings - McIlwain  
A. Subcommittee  
B. Work Groups  
c. Travel Funds
- 11:30 a.m. Other Business - McIlwain
- 12:00 a.m. Adjourn





- In the long term it may be possible to merge all the separate files into one central file;
- In the meantime all present forms used for recording will be sent to Mr. Ken Savastano to check for compatibility.
- Dr. Ed Klima's staff will determine sample size necessary for shrimp measurements. Currently 200 shrimp, if available, are measured in each sample.

II. Contact on-going state programs in the Gulf to see how they can coordinate and intensify sampling effort inshore and offshore.

- Steven Heath is preparing a report on each states sampling activities. An outline of the report will be available in November.

III. Review the problem of species composition that occurred in the 1982 survey.

- Dr. Ed Klima said finfish species composition was obtained and data had been sent to Pascagoula. One of the problems was whether or not invertebrates other than shrimp were included in all samples. It was agreed that invertebrates would be included in 1983, so that samples would be divided into the broad categories of total finfish, total crustacean, total others.

- Key species are as follows:

Brown shrimp  
 White shrimp  
 Pink shrimp  
 Blue crab<sup>a</sup>  
 Squid<sup>a</sup>  
 Atlantic croaker  
 Silver seatrout  
 Sand seatrout  
 Spot  
 Longspine porgy  
 Butterfish  
 Sea catfish  
 Atlantic cutlassfish  
 Red snapper

<sup>a</sup>Blue crab and squid tentative

IV. Review of Real Time Data Format

A. Type of data to be distributed

- It is recommended that the same format and data used in 1982 be continued, since a large majority of users responded favorably. One of the complaints was that the publicity as a result of the real time data might lower prices. Dr. Klima pointed out that prices did not in fact decrease.

V. Type of report for 1983 in order to:

A. How best to present the information to meet the objective of monitoring trends in:

1. Abundance
2. Size distribution
3. Species composition

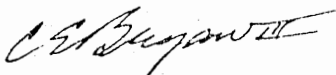
A report on the Texas Closure will be submitted by NMFS to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council as in 1981 and 1982.

A 1983 SEAMAP report on shrimp/bottomfish similar to the one submitted to the TCC in October is proposed. Elmer Gutherz will summarize data for fish and invertebrates, other than shrimp and Ed Klima will summarize shrimp data. C. E. Bryan will merge the two for a shrimp/bottomfish report. At this time the report is envisioned as a geographic presentation of abundance, size distribution and species composition by depth for three different areas, i.e., east of the Mississippi river, west of the Mississippi river, and the Texas coast.

It was not discussed at the work group meeting in October, but some consideration should be given to reporting organisms by number caught rather than weight caught. I would like direction from the Subcommittee on this matter.

The work group felt that a meeting should be held prior to initiation of SEAMAP in 1983 with work plans, so that information on sampling may be conveyed to all participants.

Before work plans may be initiated it is necessary to know what vessels will be available and number of samples/sample days that will be committed. To date only the Oregon II and Western Gulf are committed.

  
C. E. Bryan, III  
Shrimp and Bottomfish  
Work Group Leader

cc: Subcommittee members



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center GULF STATES MARINE  
Miami Laboratory FISHERIES COMMISSION  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, FL 33149-1099

OCT 21 1982

October 8, 1982

F/SECI:WJR

Dr. Thomas D. McIlwain  
SEAMAP Chairman  
P.O. Box 726  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Dear Tom:

I will be unable to convene a meeting of the ichthyoplankton working group on October 18. The reasons are many, but through correspondence and telephone the same end can be met. I have circulated the draft report to the other working group members with a copy of this letter. I believe you will see by the report that the need for a meeting is unnecessary at this time. We will need to meet later in the year or early next year once we have some data to evaluate. The work group discussed this at our September meeting and believe this is the best course of action.

At this writing all of the samples from U.S. cooperators are enroute to Poland. Mexican samples still have not been received in Miami, but they are expected soon.

I have just started a review of samples sorted by Poland earlier this year, and I am very impressed by the work. I have found only a few errors -- confusion separating some gobiid larvae and labrid larvae which superficially resemble one another. There is a difference in ability among the sorters on an individual basis, thus it is easy to notify the Director of the Sorting Center which of his staff are making errors and the nature of the errors.

Sincerely,

William J. Richards  
Chairman, Ichthyoplankton  
Working Group

Encl.

cc/w/encl: Dr. Sally Richardson, GCRL  
Dr. Richard Shaw, LSU  
Mr. Mark Leiby, FDNR

G S M F C ROUTING

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# DRAFT

- I. Review of the 1982 ichthyoplankton survey activities to improve the following <sup>for</sup> the 1983 survey:
  - A. Methodology. Plankton samples were received in Miami in late September and all attention has been paid to logging in the samples for transfer to the Polish Sorting Center. Consequently time has not been available to review the logs for each station to assess the methodology.
  - B. Data handling. As discussed under item A this has not been reviewed as yet. This will be done during the October-December time frame.
- II. Contact ongoing state programs in the Gulf to see how they can coordinate and intensify sampling effort inshore and offshore.

Once the 1982 <sup>data</sup> have been reviewed, a preliminary document listing all the data and plots of station location will be sent, as an example of the scope of the 1982 survey, to all possible cooperators with a request that they join the 1983 survey. To contact non 1982 cooperators at this time without a visible product is deemed premature.

### III. Species Priority.

At our September meeting the working group noted that all larvae would be identified to the family level. Among families the following priority families would be identified to the lowest taxonomic level possible (generally species level) -- Scombridae, Clupeidae, Serranidae, Istiophoridae, Xiphidae, Carangidae, Sciaenidae, Elopidae, and Lutjanidae. This accounts for the major commercial and recreational groups in the Gulf.

IV. Type of report for the 1983 Ichthyoplankton survey.

A. The nature of the 1982 report was outlined in the working groups September 1982 report. The 1983 report will be modified based on results of the 1982 survey report which will be finalized in May of 1983.

V. Recommend whether the Subcommittee should consider a Fall 1983 ichthyoplankton cruise.

As reported in the September 1982 report, Mexico has expressed a willingness to survey her waters in October 1983. Several states indicated that sciaenid resources were of high importance to them and these are fall spawners. Therefore, the working group strongly recommends a Fall 1983 ichthyoplankton cruise.