

AD HOC COMMITTEE, MSY MENHADEN
MINUTES
January 10-11, 1983
Atlanta, Georgia

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Larry Simpson. He indicated that J. Y. Christmas was to chair the meeting but was ill and could not attend. The tapes of the meeting along with notes will be supplied to Mr. Christmas to aid him in drafting Section 5 of the plan revision.

Jim Nelson brought up to the Ad Hoc Committee his disagreement with the purpose of the meeting today. His impression was that this was to be a meeting only for fishing effort. Simpson and Chapoton indicated their notes of the previous meeting referred to this meeting as a Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) meeting with full discussion of fishing effort.

Jim Nelson also noted that Bill Lunsford planned to attend but was also taken ill.

The "Green Book" indicated a high priority need for a reliable MSY estimate. Walter Nelson noted that one way to get a MSY estimate was to use effort in the calculations. Walter Nelson and Dean Ahrenholz developed an MSY estimate without the use of fishing effort in the calculation.

Jim Nelson strongly presented the position that vessel ton weeks (VTW) was not a good measure of fishing effort. He suggested in the absence of a better measure of effort to use vessel weeks (VW) as is the case on the East coast.

Richard Condrey brought up the question of what will the fishery do if MSY is exceeded. The Committee indicated this was out of the charge

of the Ad Hoc Committee and would require the full task force discussion.

If VTW or VW is presented in the plan then a re-analysis should be done comparing the two and discussing how the units were selected as well as their use in the MSY calculations.

With these general observations completed the Ad Hoc Committee began to address the agenda items (attached).

1. Committee objectives and procedure.

The goal of the committee as presented by Larry Simpson was to come to a consensus on an MSY estimate and statement for use in the plan. This will include treatment of the fishing effort points made by Jim Nelson. The draft statement and numbers will be circulated among the Ad Hoc Committee prior to full task force review. Mr. Christmas will draft this section of the plan (Section 5) with these comments in mind for Ad Hoc Committee review.

2. Definition of MSY.

The section should stress that MSY is an estimate of a long term average. That there is and will continue to be a great deal of fluctuation around the estimate. Richard Condrey suggested checking on the Law of the Sea definition (a point estimate within a range) for guidance. Possibly we might use the term and definition of maximum sustainable average yield (MSAY). Bob Chapoton suggested modifying the definition found on page 18 of the Green Book and omit the information enclosed in parenthesis.

3. (a) Stock(s)

The need for a draft from the NMFS stock assessment workshop was noted. Another letter was suggested to be sent requesting it.

Dean Ahrenholz indicated data shows one single stock. Jim Nelson pointed out that even if there is a single stock (genetic, morphological, taxonomical, etc.) the two areas, east of Mississippi Delta and west of Mississippi Delta are fished as two stocks basically. This could be noted and possibly if future conditions warrant different management strategies may be applied for one area and another strategy for the other.

Richard Condrey noted that a general stock discussion was presented in the Louisiana State University work associated with the Hackberry brine disposal site study. This might be useful to review.

(b) Fecundity

No real new work in this area except 1977 - 1978 Lewis and Rothmayer which Mr. Christmas has.

Richard Condrey had some technical suggestions on spawner/recruit relationships with respect to changes in effective effort due to decrease in school size. Richard will send these in written form to Mr. Christmas.

(c) Growth

The Nelson/Ahrenholz new information or variation in growth in the literature since last plan was developed is found in Nelson and Ahrenholz.

(d) Mortality

The committee basically accepted, after discussion and presentations, the Nelson/Ahrenholz information on mortality (total, natural and fishing mortality).

(e) Environmental relationships

Vince Guillory's work done by the state of Louisiana on different environmental driving forces affecting menhaden has been sent to Mr. Christmas. Vince indicated of the several parameters examined (Mississippi River discharge, salinity, temperature, etc.) he found temperature was the most important driving force.

The group encouraged Vince to continue with the work to get a longer data base for comparisons and possible predictions.

(f) Fishing effort

Jim Nelson strongly presented his position on VTW not being a reliable unit of fishing effort. He noted that in the Green Book each time VTW was used the following sentences described how poor a measurement for fishing effort it was. Noted on page 8, 14, 16 and 9, problems annotations, and b of 3.3.1. Jim presented his personal research on his own vessels in graph form (distributed at the last meeting) which suggests VTW is a poor indicator of effort. He further noted, with Coast Guard concurrence, no relationship between hold capacity and vessels net registered tons. Dean Ahrenholz stated he had done a comparison of VTW and VW as indicators of effort and found statistically VTW explains 17% for one year and 9% for the other year examined of the variance in effort which VW cannot account for. Nelson/Ahrenholz did agree there are other factors which possibly could account for variations in fishing effort. Due to the nature of the fishery no completely satisfactory measure of fishing effort has yet been developed.

The rest of the day was devoted to discussion and explanation of effort. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting reopened at 8:00 a.m. with Richard Condrey presenting the following outline as a point of discussion for the Ad Hoc Committee. He recommended that Section 5 be handled in the following way:

MSY

- I. Nelson/Ahrenholz population model relating stability factors which appear to currently exist.
- II. A. Historic
 1. Surplus production models using nominal effort.
 2. Walter & Dean's approach compared.
- III. Nominal - VW, VTW (Dean's analysis presented graphically)
- IV. Effective effort
 - A. Density-dependent, catchability coefficient (apparent q).
 - B. Improvements (vessel parameters) (operational parameters)
 - C. Density-dependent searching time (simple theoretical considerations and implications)

Jim Nelson still feels the catch information is distorted and therefore false information is implied.

(g) Recruitment

The committee basically agreed with the virtual population analysis (VPA) presented in Nelson/Ahrenholz.

4. Yield Models

The models without effort used in Nelson/Ahrenholz should be presented along with the approaches used in development. The discussion should show the parameters used and how they were developed. The assumptions used in the models should be discussed completely.

5. MSY

Traditional methods of surplus production type models (catch/effort) give an MSY of 563,500 mt/year.

Nelson/Ahrenholz using growth, spawner-recruit relationships and age give a MSY of 544,078 mt/year.

The biological break even point would not be reached until 67% more fishing mortality were applied than is now the case.

The Ad Hoc Committee felt that the plan should state the Advisory Committee will be updated yearly with new data and re-estimates of MSY.

The plan should stress that MSY is a range or average.

Jim Nelson indicated he would like to have a separate MSY for East and West of the Mississippi Delta since different management implications might be made for the two separate areas.

Bob Chapoton suggested this Ad Hoc Committee should review the first draft of this Section of the plan update before full committee reviews it.

There being no further business the Ad Hoc Committee adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry B. Simpson, Staff
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

AD HOC COMMITTEE, MSY MENHADEN

January 10-11, 1983
Atlanta, Georgia

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Doug Vaughn	NMFS	Beaufort, NC
Walter Nelson	NMFS	Pascagoula, MS
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Staff	Ocean Springs, MS
Robert Chapoton	NMFS	Beaufort, NC
Dean Ahrenholz	NMFS	Beaufort, NC
Vince Guillory	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries	Grand Isle, LA
Jim Nelson	Standard Products Co., Inc.	Kilmarnock, VA
Richard Condrey	LSU, Center for Wetland Resources	Baton Rouge, LA
Ben Humphries	Standard Products Co., Inc.	Kilmarnock, VA
V.K. Herring	GSMFC, Staff	Ocean Springs, MS

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
Workshop II
MINUTES
February 2-3, 1983
Airport Hilton, Kenner, LA

Workshop II was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with attendance as shown on attached list. The agenda was approved as distributed. minutes of Workshop I were approved with the following addition:

Page 3, Homework assignment No. 17. Add at beginning: A representative of the NMFS presented information on population dynamics of Gulf menhaden. The information is the result of a summary and analysis of data collected by the NMFS on Gulf Menhaden since 1964.

Notebooks were realigned to the new format and handouts were passed out to those not receiving material written in December.

A discussion ensued relative to the upcoming Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission in Austin. It was determined that the Menhaden Advisory Committee would meet from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 1983, with Menhaden Advisory Committee business being conducted first. Then, the Task Force would continue its efforts until 5:00 p.m. In addition, several members will arrive in Austin on Monday afternoon, and may informally convene that night and Tuesday morning for special topics efforts. Please contact Larry Simpson, Ginny Herring, Bob Chapoton or David Etzold (upon arrival) for time and location.

The majority of the remaining time was spent in reviewing and discussing efforts, section by section, but not necessarily in the following order:

SECTION

1. Title Page. Being designed by Larry Simpson, with possible color alternatives. Will be ready for review sometime in February.
2. Table of Contents. As distributed and will be modified as specific section material is formalized. Christmas and Etzold--April.
3. Summary. To be written (3 & 4 pages) when sections are complete. Christmas and Etzold--April.
4. Introduction. Handout was discussed and accepted with minor changes. Etzold will modify--February.

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5. Description of Stock Comprising the Menhaden Update. Being written up by J. Y. Christmas (tapes and notes from Atlanta meeting plus minutes from MSY Ad Hoc Committee). Walter Nelson is assisting. Upon completion, write-up will be reviewed by MSY Ad Hoc Committee and reissued to the Task Force in February. Minor changes were made to the Atlanta meeting minutes as follows:

Page 3, 2nd paragraph. Change "Ahrenholz/Nelson" to "1977-1978 Lewis and Rothmayer."

Page 3, 4th paragraph. Change to: "The new information or variation in growth in the literature since last plan was developed is found in Nelson and Ahrenholz."

Page 4, 2nd paragraph, 6th sentence. Change to: "Dean Ahrenholz stated he had done a comparison of VTW and VW as indicators of effort and found statistically VTW explains 17% for 1 year and 9% for the other year examined of the variance in effort which VW cannot account for."

Page 6, 1st paragraph. Change "Richard Condrey" to "Bob Chapoton."
6. Description of Habitat. Being written by Vince Guillory with inputs from Borden Wallace and David Etzold--February.
7. Fishery Management Jurisdiction, Laws and Policies, etc. First six pages reviewed and minor changes made as follows:
 - a. Referencing, Section 12
 - b. Changing "Improve" to "Provide", deleting "new"
 - c. Adding "Impact of Board recommendations W.R.T. Legislative approval (or not).
 - d. Gulf Council has not addressed a Menhaden Fishery Management Plan.
 - e. Page 114 (E.1) of the Atlantic Menhaden Plan: Add in Section 14 or wherever appropriate:
"State Land Regulations and Policies:
(1) Texas map and other states, show legend for areas closed to Menhaden.
(2) Louisiana to check on "mullet."
All state agency people to read for changes, Christmas and Etzold--February.
8. Description of Fishing Activities, etc. Minor changes made--D. Etzold.
9. Description of Economic Characteristics. Minor changes made--Etzold and Chapoton. Chapoton to update numbers, including several tables. Etzold to rewrite several sentences.

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10. Description of Businesses, Markets, etc. Minor changes made plus sentence structure improvements. Etzold and Chapoton. Chapoton to determine Gulf Menhaden Production (with industry inputs).
11. Description of Social and Cultural, etc. Delete handout. D. Etzold will write several paragraphs:
 - a. Refer to the study performed in the Atlantic Menhaden Plan.
 - b. Refer to the Research Project need listed in Section 16.
12. Determination of Optimum Yield. Christmas and Etzold--March.
 - a. A draft of the Goal and Objectives was reviewed (members were also requested to review the Green Book, Chapter 4, Goal and Objectives). All members are to submit their preliminary goal and objectives within the next two weeks to Larry Simpson, with the understanding that finalization will be contingent upon completion of Section 5.
 - b. The rest of this section will follow completion of Section 5.
13. Management Measures-General Requirements: These are the National Standards. L. Simpson--February.
14. Specific Management Measures to Attain Management Objectives. An outline was passed out. This section is primarily a summary of certain other sections and will be completed at the appropriate time. Christmas and Etzold--March/April.
15. Spec. and Source of Data, etc. Christmas and Chapoton--March. Primarily encompasses Captain's Daily report.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. and reconvened on Thursday, February 3, 1983, at 8:30 a.m.

16. Research Projects to Support the Gulf Menhaden Program. Much discussion on this section. Focus is on Green Book, Table 5, "Management Action Program Summary." Three new columns were added: Ongoing, Improved and Needed. Each item was reviewed and discussed with agreement that each Task Force member will review the material and submit inputs within the next two to three weeks:
 - a. Add new projects
 - b. Delete existing projects
 - c. Modify "words" as may be required
 - d. Add corresponding descriptive "write-up" of material, using identification number as reference.

Other agreements were:

- a. Use high and medium priority designations only (change low to medium).
- b. Consider B-7 and S-3 as Goals/Objectives.

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- c. D. Etzold will combine 0-1 thru 0-7 into an overall economic project (such as an ongoing economic evaluation in the plan).
 - d. D. Etzold will develop, in tabular form, a "Summary of Research Conducted" from 1977 to date, relative to Table 5.
 - e. Problems section will be deleted.
17. Review and Monitor the Plan. Handout (outline) reviewed. D. Etzold to beef up--February.
18. References. Will be completed in April. Christmas and Etzold.
19. Appendix.
- a. Historical Plan Implementation reviewed. Minor changes to be made to page 6, enumerating projects completed since 1977. D. Etzold--March.
 - b. Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board Charter.
 - c. Menhaden Advisory Board Charter. (D. Etzold to contact Mr. I. B. "Buck" Byrd for verification of latest charter issued).
 - d. Definitions to be developed.

A review was conducted with respect to status and homework assignments for all sections.

It was agreed that an additional workshop would be required, probably in April. Attendees were requested to be prepared to determine the specific dates at the March meeting in Austin.

Discussion of Task Force completion of efforts and Menhaden Advisory Committee and Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board approvals need to be addressed at the March meeting (mechanics of approvals in April or May).

The Workshop adjourned at 11:45 a.m. on February 3, 1983.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Etzold

NOTE: Each of us are requested to very carefully review these minutes with respect to Homework Assignments.

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
Workshop II
February 2-3, 1983
Kenner, LA

LIST OF ATTENDEES

David Etzold	University of Southern Mississippi
Larry Simpson	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc.
Jim Nelson	Standard Products Co., Inc.
Ben Humphreys	Standard Products Co., Inc.
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, SEFC, Beaufort Laboratory
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS, SEFC, Pascagoula Laboratory
Vince Guillory	Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Ray Stevens	Zapata Haynie Corporation
Charles Futch	Florida Dept. Natural Resources
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.
Harry Schafer	Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

MENHADEN WORKSHOP-II

Tentative Agenda

February 2, 3, 1983

New Orleans, LA

- LS 1. Adoption of Agenda (9:00 a.m.)
- LS 2. Approval of Minutes of November Workshop
- LS 3. Realign notebooks to new format
- LS 4. General Comments:
 - a. 9 am - 5 pm: both days, if necessary
 - JY b. Feb. 2 night session(s), on special topics, if required
 - DE c. Consideration of all day meeting on March 16, in Austin, TX
 - d. Other
- ALL 5. Discussion of efforts, section by section: (Sections 1 through 19 - see attachment)
- DE/JY 6. Work to be completed/assignments/schedule
- LS 7. Comments on March Austin meeting
- DE 8. Scheduling - to project completion
- LS 9. Final comments
- LS 10. Adjourn

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, March 14, 1983
Austin, Texas

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The agenda was approved by consensus vote with minor changes (copy attached). The November 18-19, 1982, meeting minutes were approved by consensus vote.

Mr. Thompson reported on the SEAMAP budget (copy attached). He stated that there is a deficit in travel expenses in the amount of \$1000.66. The remaining funds from the development of the Operation Plan will be applied to travel expenses to eliminate this travel deficit. The SEAMAP budget report was accepted by consensus vote.

Dr. McIlwain stated that the Subcommittee had reviewed Dr. Condrey's proposal to develop the SEAMAP Operational Plan. The Subcommittee had several questions concerning the proposal which were presented to Dr. Condrey by memorandum on March 1. Dr. Condrey's responses to the questions are before the Subcommittee for review.

Dr. Condrey presented his views on the SEAMAP Operational Plan. He stated that the Plan should be a highly visible document that could be presented to the legislative bodies to inform them of SEAMAP. The critical part of the plan is in the visual presentation which should consist of a series of figures to outline the SEAMAP structure (goals, objectives, task and events planned within each task) plus other figures which will illustrate who will do these events and when do they occur.

Mrs. Bane, who will assist Dr. Condrey with the Plan, distributed three diagrams: events logic diagram; system elements and function diagram; and a diagram on goals, objectives, and tasks. She requested the Subcommittee and others interested in SEAMAP to review each diagram and return their comments to Dr. Condrey as soon as possible. She states that SEAMAP has five major goals. The Subcommittee needs to consider a sixth goal dealing with environmental surveys. She has included that sixth goal in the Goals, Objectives and Tasks Diagram but the Subcommittee need to consider that goal as a SEAMAP goal.

Dr. McIlwain asked the Subcommittee if they were satisfied with Dr. Condrey's reply to their questions of March 1. If it is agreeable with

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Dr. Condrey and there are no objections, then the Subcommittee will allow Dr. Condrey to proceed with the first phase for development of the Operational Plan.

Dr. McIlwain gave a report on day/night sampling in response to questions raised by the Subcommittee during the November 18-19, 1982, SEAMAP meeting. He stated that additional information on day/night sampling can be found in the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) 1982 Fishery Monitoring and Assessment Completion Report, Project 2-296-AR, P.L. 88-309, Chapter II, entitled Industrial Bottomfish Studies.

Mr. Thompson reported on the SEAMAP Coordinating work group meeting held at GCRL on February 17, 1983. The purpose of this meeting was to begin planning for the 1983 SEAMAP Survey activities. The work group discussed the problems that occurred in 1982 and then charged each work group leader to meet with their work group and plan for the 1983 survey activities. The work group leaders would report their progress to the Subcommittee on March 14.

Dr. Stuntz reported on the status of the SEAMAP Atlas. He stated that the Coordinating work group met March 15-17, 1983 at GCRL to put together the first rough draft of the Atlas. Presently, he is in the process of developing the figures for the Atlas. All of the shrimp and bottomfish data and environmental data are included in the Atlas. The ichthyoplankton data will be included once the identified samples are returned in May from Poland. The Atlas will be distributed before the October 1983 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) meeting.

Dr. Richards reviewed the status of the 1982 ichthyoplankton samples and stated that the identification of the samples are on schedule. Copies of 1982 ichthyoplankton station location are available for distribution.

The Mexicans will not participate in the 1983 Oceanic Ichthyoplankton Survey. The Oregon II will be the only vessel participating in the April/May oceanic ichthyoplankton survey. During the Shrimp and Bottomfish Trawl Survey the OREGON II, SUNCOASTER and the TOMMY MUNRO will collect ichthyoplankton samples. The small state

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vessels will sample their respective waters.

In the fall, Mexico will participate in a fall ichthyoplankton survey within their waters. Hopefully the states and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will assist in covering the Northern Gulf of Mexico. The Fall period should cover the period from October to November.

Dr. Nelson stated that the Oregon II will be involved in the annual fall groundfish survey along the Northern Gulf and will not be able to expand its survey. The Oregon II would be taking ichthyoplankton samples during this survey. Possibly an ichthyoplankton survey could take place in December.

Dr. Richards continued by saying that NMFS will provide the small state vessels with 20 cm bongo nets. Also personnel will be available, one for each vessel, for those states requesting assistance in collecting samples.

Mr. Huff stated that the HERNAN CORTEZ's participation in SEAMAP looks questionable at this time. Approximately 10 K will be needed to repair the mast.

Dr. Richards reviewed the ichthyoplankton accounting procedure developed by the ichthyoplankton work group. He stated that ichthyoplankton materials are shipped back to Miami once they are identified in Poland. The materials are checked and entered into a data log. The work group would like for those people interested in the materials to make application to the ichthyoplankton work group leader. The work group leader would poll the work group to determine if the persons are qualified to work on the material. The material sent to the interested persons would be under the following stipulations:

1. All material would be treated in a professional manner and not be redistributed without prior approval of the work group.
2. Upon conclusion of the study the applicant may either return the material to Miami or forward the material to an approved archive institution.

3. The applicant is encouraged to complete the identification aspects of the work within three months upon receipt of the materials and communicate any change in identification numbers and size of larvae at that time.
4. Applicants or investigators are required to maintain samples in a dark cool room and take special care to prevent dessication of the material.

Within one year of sorting and identification the work group will meet to decide the fate of the material. The decision will be sent to all interested parties who will have three months to appeal the decision. Once the reports or papers have been written and completed the material should either be sent to a college, university or discarded.

Mr. Huff stated that Florida Department of Natural Resources is willing to discuss the housing of the SEAMAP ichthyoplankton material. The Florida Department of Natural Resources has the facility and personnel to take care and house the samples.

Mr. C. E. Bryan presented a report on the shrimp and bottomfish 1983 survey plans. Stations will be inside 45 fathoms from Apalachicola, Florida, to Brownsville, Texas. The NMFS has a charter vessel called the SUNCOASTER which will operate from Apalachicola, Florida, to the Mississippi River. The Mississippi vessel, the TOMMY MUNRO, will operate off Mississippi. The OREGON II will operate west of the river to Brownsville and the WESTERN GULF will operate off Texas. The preliminary stations have been selected. The states will sample their own respective waters. The time period will be from June 15 - July 15.

To solve previous sampling problems the work group would like to set a minimum subsample of 10 kg. Everything within that subsample would be worked up. The work group would also like to propose that a pre-survey meeting be set for May to iron out any problems that might occur. One person from each survey vessel would attend.

Dr. Klima stated that there will be some trawl comparability studies done between the OREGON II, the SUNCOASTER and the WESTERN GULF.

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NMFS would like to attempt to survey off Texas from 0 to 5 fathoms at night with a small vessel. The number of offshore stations are broken down as follows: Texas 119, Louisiana 118, east of the river 52 and Florida 85.

The discussion centered around sampling stations and real-time data. The Subcommittee recommended that every effort be made to distribute real-time data during the 1983 surveys.

Dr. Stuntz presented a report on the environmental 1983 survey. He stated that the 1983 environmental survey will coordinate both with the ichthyoplankton and shrimp and bottomfish surveys as they did in the 1982 surveys. The only change will be an increase in the number of samples per station offshore.

Mr. Diaz reviewed the status of the SEAMAP Marine Directory. The directory was approved by consensus vote with minor changes. The Subcommittee agreed that the directory should be distributed to all SEAMAP participants by the end of April. In addition, a summary table should be put into the GSMFC Annual report.

Dr. McIlwain stated that the Subcommittee report to the TCC will cover the status of the 1983 survey activities, SEAMAP Atlas, SEAMAP Marine Directory, development of the Operational Plan and the SEAMAP workshop.

The Subcommittee discussed the time frame for the next SEAMAP meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting should be April 21 and 22 in New Orleans.

Dr. McIlwain stated that he has taken a new assignment in Washington, D. C. for the next nine months. He will be unable to continue as SEAMAP Chairman and will submit his resignation to the Technical Coordinating Committee Wednesday, March 16. He suggested that the Vice-Chairman, Walter Tatum, take over as Chairman for the remainder of the year. He would ask Dr. Leard from Mississippi to appoint someone to take his place on the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee accepted Dr. McIlwain's resignation and agreed

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that Walter Tatum be Chairman. The Subcommittee elected Gary Matlock as Vice-Chairman.

The motion for adjournment was accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Tom McIlwain, Chairman
SEAMAP Subcommittee

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Monday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Ed Klima	NMFS, Galveston, TX
Neal Baxter	NMFS, Galveston, TX
Steve Shulman	The Fish Boat
Nikki Bane	Louisiana State University, CWR, Baton Rouge, LA
Albert Jones	NMFS, Miami, Florida
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Scott Nichols	NMFS, Miami, FL
Richard Condrey	Louisiana State University, CWR, Baton Rouge, LA
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Walter Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Warren Stuntz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Fred Diaz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Ken Savastano	NMFS, NSTL Station, MS
Tom Leming	NMFS, NSTL Station, MS
Bill Richards	NMFS, Miami, FL
Harold B. Allen	FL Institute of Oceanography, St. Petersburg, FL
Walter M. Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Nat. Resour., Gulf Shores, AL
Karen Foote	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Tom McIlwain	Representative Trent Lott's office, Washington, D.C.
Albert Green	TX Parks and Wildlife, Austin, TX
T. Alan Huff	FL Dept. Natural Resources, St. Petersburg, FL
C. E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Ron Schmied	NMFS/SERO, St. Petersburg, FL
Gil Bane	Louisiana State University, CWR, Baton Rouge, LA

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday, March 14, 1983
1:00 - 5:00 pm

Hyatt Regency Austin
Texas VII
Austin, Texas

- 1:00 p.m. Adoption of Agenda (McIlwain)
- 1:05 p.m. Adoption of November 18-19, 1983 Minutes (McIlwain)
- 1:10 p.m. SEAMAP Budget Report (Thompson)
- 1:20 p.m. Operational Plan Status Report (McIlwain)
- 1:50 p.m. Day/Night Sampling Report (McIlwain)
- 2:05 p.m. Work Group Meeting Report (Thompson)
- 2:10 p.m. SEAMAP Atlas Status Report (Stuntz)
- 2:30 p.m. Proposed 1983 SEAMAP Survey Activities Report
 - o Ichthyoplankton Survey (Richards)
 - o Shrimp and Bottomfish Survey (Bryan)
 - o Environmental Survey (Stuntz)
- 4:00 p.m. Fall Ichthyoplankton Survey (Richards)
 - o Identify funds for vessel support
 - o Time frame
- 4:20 p.m. Ichthyoplankton Accounting Procedure Report (Richards)
- 4:35 p.m. Marine Directory Report - (Diaz)
- 4:55 p.m. T.C.C. Annual Report (McIlwain)
- 5:15 p.m. Other Business
 - o Next Meeting
 - o Change of Chairman

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Walter Zimmerman at 9:20 a.m. He asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. There being none the agenda was adopted.

He then called for adoption of the minutes of the October meeting in Mobile, Alabama. Ralph Rayburn moved and John Mehos seconded that the minutes be adopted. Charlie Lyles then explained that Terry M. Scholar, North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, was to have spoken on the subject of agricultural drain off but he was unable to be present. Further, a member of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department was to have given a status report on the impact of seismic tests on fish and shellfish. He had developed a conflict and was unable to attend. Kris Vehrs, the Washington representative of the Texas Shrimp Association, reported that President Reagan had on Thursday, March 10, declared an Exclusive Economic Zone around the United States and that Senator Ted Stevens had introduced a bill to make the declaration legal. On Friday, March 11, Congressman John Breaux introduced a companion bill in the House. The Breaux Bill was immediately assigned to 4 different committees. It was pointed out that an economic rent disclaimer had been introduced in the Breaux Bill. Economic rent is defined as a charge the government may levy for harvesting the resources and is included in Senator Steven's Bill. Foreign fishing will end in the 200 mile zone by 1986. The Committee recommended that the Commission take a position in favor of a disclaimer on that section of Breaux's Bill which provides for economic rent.

The Committee then took up the matter of National Marine Fisheries Service Budget, which includes Grant-in-Aid money for the state. The closing of the Galveston Laboratory was discussed at some length. A question was raised about the wisdom of leadership in an organization that closes the Galveston Laboratory, the Chief research station for the center of the shrimp industry, while leaving other stations open. A Committee consisting of Ralph Rayburn, Bill Chauvin and Charlie Lyles, was appointed to prepare a letter opposing any budgetary action which

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will close Galveston, reduce the statistics program and other programs of vital interest to the industry or curtail other activities essential to the fishing industry, including habitat protection and pollution. John Mehos moved that the same committee prepare a review of both appropriative and substantive issues discussed and submit this in letter form to both Dr. John Byrne and Bill Gordon. Motion passed. Sea Grant was included in the activities supported by the Industry Advisory Committee.

In addition a motion was made, seconded and passed to support the budget of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Committee then discussed H. R. 1313 and H. R. 442, two bills which would exempt vessel owners with less than 10 crew members per vessel from paying the FUTA tax. After considerable discussion it was decided to support these bills provided they do not jeopardize the social security exemption.

There being no further business the Committee adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter Zimmerman, Chairman
Industry Advisory Committee

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association, Austin, TX
Linda Lerway	Texas Shrimp Association, Austin, TX
Walter W. Zimmerman	Texas Gulf Trawlers, Port Isabel, TX
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Julius Collins	Texas Shrimp Association, Brownsville, TX
Willis H. Clark	Sea Grant, TX A & M Univ., College Station, TX
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC, Lockport, LA
Julius Collins	Texas Shrimp Association, Brownsville, TX
Willis H. Clark	Sea Grant, TX A & M Univ., College Station, TX
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC Commissioner, Lockport, LA
Steve Shulman	The Fish Boat, Covington, LA
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc, Bon Secour, AL
W. D. Chauvin	American Shrimp Cannery & Proc. Assn., New Orleans, LA
Kris Vehrs	Texas Shrimp Association, Washington, D. C.
John Mehos	Liberty Fish & Oyster Company, Galveston, TX
M. J. Borduax	Texas Shrimp Association, Brownsville, TX
Floyd A. Nudi	U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Galveston, TX
Roy Perez	U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Galveston, TX
Guy Pete	Texas Shrimp Association, Brownsville, TX
Harold Allen	FL Institute of Oceanography, St. Petersburg, FL
C. E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
J. A. Burgbacher	Shell Offshore, Inc., New Orleans, LA

Shrimp Landings, Gulf States, 1950-1983
(Thousands of Pounds Heads On, and Thousands of Dollars)

	Florida West Coast		Alabama		Mississippi		Louisiana		Texas		Total	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1950	13,639	3,692	5,007	1,107	16,665	3,713	70,630	14,696	45,812	9,904	151,753	33,112
1951	29,756	8,009	6,356	1,268	15,029	2,906	78,164	17,587	64,346	14,366	193,651	44,136
1952	37,130	11,812	6,208	1,521	14,050	3,330	75,854	15,722	65,026	15,785	198,268	48,170
1953	52,804	19,009	5,806	1,800	13,869	3,746	81,589	16,427	70,435	25,354	224,503	66,336
1954	45,800	13,164	6,226	1,039	14,160	2,596	77,709	15,451	93,258	21,402	237,153	53,652
1955	48,598	14,324	6,676	1,349	16,625	3,076	68,986	13,745	71,517	21,971	212,402	54,465
1956	49,115	17,581	7,668	2,223	14,818	3,729	56,886	15,316	65,134	23,650	193,621	62,499
1957	41,921	16,460	6,035	1,871	11,755	3,190	31,917	9,660	76,825	32,107	168,453	63,288
1958	45,606	16,312	5,308	1,984	7,724	2,830	39,760	13,080	74,956	29,665	173,354	63,871
1959	32,252	9,752	8,018	1,991	12,636	2,609	56,036	12,803	84,561	23,193	193,503	50,348
1960	44,464	12,155	7,169	2,090	11,031	2,899	61,758	15,881	81,303	24,606	205,725	57,631
1961	36,069	11,094	3,525	1,154	4,408	1,281	31,027	8,913	58,766	21,208	133,795	43,650
1962	32,146	14,556	3,748	1,647	6,104	2,220	43,585	14,985	56,143	27,149	141,726	60,557
1963	34,941	12,256	7,760	2,419	9,375	2,484	80,809	19,789	70,231	26,591	203,116	63,539
1964	39,966	13,322	7,215	2,630	6,416	1,805	59,382	18,794	66,053	26,144	179,032	62,695
1965	37,759	13,905	9,624	3,654	8,233	2,523	62,593	19,584	77,028	31,241	195,237	70,907
1966	28,879	12,427	10,608	4,920	7,560	2,751	62,269	24,388	69,907	38,485	179,223	82,971
1967	23,449	10,476	14,456	6,049	9,625	3,122	75,317	24,573	102,876	46,355	225,723	90,575
1968	27,277	12,695	15,450	7,964	10,193	3,677	67,768	25,623	83,336	45,870	204,024	95,829
1969	22,964	12,021	14,976	8,788	8,906	4,011	82,881	33,356	70,695	42,884	200,422	101,060
1970	26,564	13,108	15,031	8,040	9,604	3,810	90,939	34,612	88,327	48,614	230,465	108,184
1971	21,688	12,985	16,713	11,451	9,589	4,362	92,476	43,284	86,905	64,191	227,371	136,273
1972	22,828	17,309	17,549	14,661	7,951	4,966	83,032	47,064	97,578	80,099	228,938	164,099
1973	26,140	22,601	12,018	14,165	3,681	3,698	58,646	44,511	81,721	86,879	182,206	171,854
1974	28,462	21,445	14,073	13,490	5,416	3,225	59,581	32,202	78,676	67,679	186,208	138,041
1975	28,250	27,799	14,056	17,843	4,045	3,825	53,134	40,968	70,598	87,902	170,083	178,337
1976	26,812	36,842	18,690	30,393	7,551	8,418	82,355	79,688	74,759	119,881	210,167	275,222
*1977	34,851	39,972	25,020	33,478	10,539	10,079	104,018	87,213	91,475	126,043	265,903	296,785
*1978	29,876	35,552	21,133	32,748	8,286	9,297	104,385	100,848	84,647	141,145	248,327	319,590
*1979	28,360	47,134	21,933	46,730	8,459	15,381	80,184	115,282	67,628	153,115	206,564	377,642
*1980	24,474	32,550	15,100	22,460	5,900	7,675	88,700	99,345	74,106	140,047	208,280	302,077
*1981	33,800	52,800	20,802	38,096	7,647	13,808	110,211	131,466	95,730	165,230	268,190	401,400
*1982	21,732	46,379	16,797	41,400	10,172	18,889	90,530	143,669	70,695	175,411	209,926	425,748
1983												

*Prelimi



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

P.O. Box 189
DAUPHIN ISLAND, ALABAMA 36528

GEORGE C. WALLACE
GOVERNOR

JOHN W. HODNETT
COMMISSIONER

HUGH A. SWINGLE, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF MARINE RESOURCES

MINUTES

Law Enforcement Committee
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Austin, Texas
March 15, 1983

In accordance with the rule adopted by the Committee that the host state committee member would act as chairman, Joe Brown (Fl.) was designated chairman for the next meeting to be held in October, 1983.

The Committee expressed concern over the fact that Jerry Gollott, Chief of Law Enforcement, Mississippi Bureau of Marine Resources, did not attend the meeting because of his being unable to obtain out-of-state travel permission. Jerry Waller, ADCNMRD, also had some difficulty. It was suggested that perhaps GSMFC should attempt to have each state's appropriation to the Commission increased so that travel expenses of the L.E.C. members could be paid.

Pat Howell, State/Federal Coordinator, NMFS, was unable to attend the meeting but Tom Maher, NMFS, advised that T.I. computers for Alabama and Mississippi are on order and these members will be kept up-to-date as the situation progresses. He also advised that Ms. Howell would contact the L.E.C. members for input as to when and where a computer training program should be held.

Joe Brown (Fl.) discussed the investigative section of the Florida Marine Patrol. His presentation included the organizational structure, types and volume of cases worked, and results. Problems concerning undercover operations were also discussed but these had to be brief because of the presence of The Fish Boat magazine reporter. In-depth discussion of cooperative undercover efforts will be the topic at a later closed session.

Charles Clark (La.) discussed the problem of identifying commercial trucks hauling fish intrastate and interstate. He stated that I.C.C. laws supercede any law/regulation the state(s) could pass concerning interstate trucking requirements. Maj. Clark suggested that an officer stationed periodically at truck weighing scales could be an effective enforcement method of controlling illegal shipments of fish.

William Walker (Tx.) briefly discussed the bill being presented to the current Texas legislature concerning the marking of trucks hauling fish. It is still unclear as to how this will be accomplished. Part of the problem will have to be addressed by further regulations.

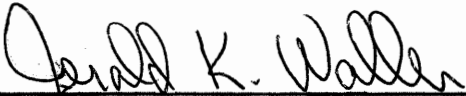
Maj. Clark stated that hopefully the recreational and commercial fishermen will work out their problems concerning the harvest of Louisiana's speckled trout and redfish population in this year's legislature. Some of the problems concerning the interstate transportation and landing of illegally caught specks and redfish were discussed but again were brief because of the reporter's presence.

Ray Montet (La.) discussed Louisiana's cost control method of budgeting. He stated that this method had been instituted in recent years and was proving extremely effective in the management of the enforcement budget. Each of the eight regional supervisors are responsible for the money allocated to their region. This keeps them constantly aware of the need for controlling expenditures. In addition, the supervisors keep the field agents aware of where they stand on a monthly basis.

A letter was drafted by Clark (La.) and approved for the L.E.C. chairman's (Waller, Al.) signature again expressing concern over the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Regulatory Measures Committee's failure to have a meeting of the Law Enforcement Advisory Subpanel since 1981. The Committee feels that we have definite objectives and suggestions in the field of enforcement. Regulatory measures incapable of being enforced are a waste of money and time and a nightmare to those charged with enforcement of the measures. The Committee is of the opinion that a meeting of the L.E.A.S. would be more practical and beneficial in the presentation of matters pertaining to the effectiveness of draft regulations and other possible enforcement problems than individual written comments would.

Mr. Mike Hogan, legislator from Louisiana, briefly addressed the Committee.

The Committee was advised to submit suggestions for the next agenda as soon as possible to Joe Brown.



MAJOR JERALD K. WALLER
Chief Enforcement Officer

ATTENDEES
Law Enforcement Committee
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Austin, Texas
March 15, 1983

Jerry Waller	Al. Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Marine Resources Div. (ADCNRMRD)
Ray Montet	La. Wildlife & Fisheries
Billy Walker	Tx. Parks & Wildlife
Joe Brown	Fl. Marine Patrol
Charlie Clark	La. Wildlife & Fisheries
David L. Hall	U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Southeastern States, 1010 Gause Blvd., Slidell, La. 70458
Tom Maher	N.M.F.S.
Steve Shulman	The Fish Boat (magazine)
Chester L. Burdett	Director of Law Enforcement Tx. Parks & Wildlife
Capt. Stanley Brooks	Tx. Parks & Wildlife
Mike Hogan	State Representative, Louisiana
John Roussel	Biologist, La. Wildlife & Fisheries
Tim Morrison	Biologist, La. Wildlife & Fisheries

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 15, 1983

Austin, Texas

Mr. Walter Tatum, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. The agenda was adopted with the following additions by motion of Walter Tatum and seconded by Gary Matlock:

1. Movie on Tenneco Reef off Pensacola, Florida.
2. Discussion of a National Artificial Reef Policy Act Resolution.
3. Discussion of Resolution concerning Utilization of Commercial Shrimping Vessels and Personnel as Recreational Charter Fishing Operations During Noncommercial Fishing Periods.

The minutes of the fall meeting in Mobile, Alabama, were reviewed and approved with no changes. Motion by Jim Barrett, seconded by Gary Matlock.

The letter from Sport Fishing Institute dated 12/23/82 in regards to a project proposal entitled, "An Assessment of Economic Activity Associated with Marine Recreational Fishing and an Analysis Associated with Marine Recreational Fishing and an Analysis of Development Opportunities in Marine Recreational Fishing," submitted by Sport Fishing Institute for Saltonstall/Kennedy (S/K) funding was discussed. Mr. Ron Schmied reported on the project. The S/K project consists of three phases to be completed in one year. Phase I is an updated assessment of the economic activity associated with marine recreational fishing. Centaur Associates, Inc., who published a similar study in 1976, will do the update. Phase II will look at the various opportunities and constraints to the development of the recreational fisheries around the country. They are generating an overview of the recreational industry to see the major extent and pattern of recreational fishing in the regions. This is to identify areas and fisheries which present the greatest potential for further recreational fishing development. Phase III will evaluate the potential of promoting recreational fishing opportunities to foreign markets. Their idea is to develop a brochure, in cooperation with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration, which will ultimately be translated into five languages which will inform foreign visitors of the sport fishing opportunities available in the United States.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Two

There was discussion on the three phases of the project. Mr. Tatum was concerned about how Phase III may affect our current management in our coastal fisheries with a large or unknown increase in the recreational fishery by foreigners. It was agreed that Mr. Tatum would compose a letter for the Chairman of the Commission to sign in support of the project; however, stating our caution of encouraging increased participation by anybody since this would increase the already high level of participation. Ron Schmied made a motion that the letter be prepared, Jim Barrett seconded. (Copy of letter attached).

Ron Schmied presented to the Committee a film on the Tennaco Reef off Pensacola, Florida. The film showed how an obsolete oil rig was prepared to make it suitable to use as an artificial reef, how it was dismantled and moved to the new location off Pensacola, Florida. In the discussion of artificial reefs that followed the film, the problem of marking reefs was brought up. There seems to be a problem with keeping buoys in place because of weather, people removing them to keep others from knowing where the reefs are and also the high cost of maintenance.

The next item on the agenda was the speech prepared by Charles H. Lyles to be presented at the Eighth Annual Marine Recreational Fisheries Symposium in San Diego, California, April 26-27, 1983. The Committee suggested no changes.

The NMFS draft Program Development Plan (PDP) for Marine Recreation Fisheries in the Southeast Region was reviewed by the Committee. Ron Schmied explained the Plan to the Committee. The document reflects the combined thoughts of the Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Center, the purpose of which is to set forth the major problems confronting marine recreational fisheries in the Southeast and to describe NMFS' ongoing and planned activities designed to address identified problems. This is just the beginning of an extensive effort to obtain comments and input in order to finalize the PDP. In May they plan to have a major forum composed of people from the region to discuss the document. Once all the comments have been received and incorporated

they hope to have a final document, which will be a less technical summary, ready for distribution by the end of their fiscal year (September). General comments and suggestions on the Plan were made, responses were favorable for the document.

At this time a letter from Charles H. Lyles requesting submission of priority projects for use of programmatic funds that may be available for state/federal projects was reviewed. No suggestions were made.

The goals of the Committee were then discussed. Goal I stands as written in the October 1982 minutes. Upon motion by Gary Matlock and seconded by Jim Barrett, Goal II was amended to read as follows:

GOAL II

Promote the collection of statistically sound information on the multidisciplinary aspects of marine recreational fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico.

Gary Matlock made a motion and Jim Barrett seconded that the following recommended activities to achieve Goal II be added:

RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE GOAL II

1. Promote the identification of minimum data needs (participation, catch, social and economic) and acceptable levels of reliability.
2. Identify, explore and where appropriate, encourage cooperative efforts to acquire needed data.

The Committee adopted a third goal on motion by Jim Barrett, seconded by Gary Matlock:

GOAL III

To provide a forum for continuing discussion of problems, issues, and opportunities relating to the conservation, management and development of marine recreational fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico area.

RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES FOR GOAL III

1. Compile and maintain a prioritized listing of issues, problems and opportunities.
2. Identify strategies for cooperative action to resolve problems and/or seize upon opportunities in order to provide for the

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Four

conservation, management and development of marine recreational fisheries.

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

A resolution for the Utilization of Commercial Shrimping Vessels and Personnel as Recreational Charter Fishing Operations during Noncommercial Fishing Periods was presented by Gary Matlock for adoption (copy attached). It was resolved that if approved a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the various fishery associations in the Gulf of Mexico. The Chairman called for a vote on the resolution. The vote was tied. As a matter of record, Jim Barrett from the state of Florida voted against the resolution on the basis that with the economic situation and the increase in the number of boats available for charter in the state of Florida, it has become a problem to those people who form the calvary of the charter boat operation in the years past. Ron Schmied agreed with the motives of the resolution but felt that it might be perceived as supporting introduction of even more competition in an already competitive situation and therefore abstained. Chairman Tatum felt that the strategy of the resolution was covered in some the goals adopted by the Committee which could be moved on to help resolve the sport/commercial issue and therefore voted against the resolution thereby breaking the tie vote and defeating the motion.

A resolution to adopt and support a National Artificial Reef Policy Act was presented by Jim Barrett. The resolution was agreed upon for presentation to the Commission for adoption (copy attached).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Tatum, Chairman
Recreational Fisheries Committee

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Anita S. Grant	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Larry McEachron	TX Parks & Wildlife, Rockport, TX
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Harold B. Allen	FL Institute of Oceanography, St. Petersburg, FL
John Burgbacher	Shell Offshore, Inc., New Orleans, LA
Harry Schaefer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Ron Schmied	NMFS/SERO, St. Petersburg, FL
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Walter Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Gulf Shores, AL
Floyd A. Nudi	U.S. Fisheries & Wildlife Service, Galveston, TX
Roy Perez	U.S. Fisheries & Wildlife Service, Galveston, TX
Tim Morrison	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
B. G. Thompson	NMFS, Washington, D. C.
Jerry Waller	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Dauphin Island, AL
Scott Nichols	NMFS, Miami, Florida
Ray Montet	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
John E. Roussel	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
John Miloy	TX Coastal & Marine Council
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc., Bon Secour, AL
Jane Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc., Bon Secour, AL

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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

April 15, 1983

Mr. Gilbert C. Radonski
Executive Vice President
Sport Fishing Institute
608 Thirteenth St., N.W.
Suite 801
Washington, D. C. 20005

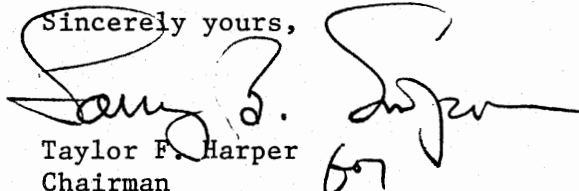
Dear Gil:

I appreciate receipt of your letter announcing that the Sport Fishing Institute had received a Saltonstall/Kennedy Grant to conduct a 3-phase study of the economic impact on marine recreational fisheries in the United States. I took the liberty of submitting your letter to our recently formed Recreational Fisheries Committee, a committee of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, who provided the following comments concerning your study:

"Phase I and Phase II of the study identifies areas of economic participation and fishery expansion potential, respectively, information of which is badly needed by fishery managers in the Gulf area. Phase III deals with the possible promotion of marine recreational fishing in the United States to foreign markets as an enhancement mechanism for increasing foreign tourism in this country. We urge extreme caution with actions taken by Sport Fishing Institute on Phase III because of current increasing use trends from our domestic recreational fishermen possibly adding to existing problems currently being found by fishery administrators along the Gulf coast."

Again, I am pleased with your project and look forward to the published report upon its completion.

Sincerely yours,


Taylor F. Harper
Chairman

TFH/WT/ag

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

An organizational meeting of the Statistical Subcommittee of the Technical Coordinating Committee was held Tuesday afternoon, March 15, 1983. Walter Tatum called the meeting to order. The first order of business was election of a chairman. Claude Boudreaux, representing Louisiana, was elected Chairman; Frank Kennedy, representing Florida, was elected Vice-Chairman. The other members present were Walter Tatum representing Alabama; Herb Prytherch, representing National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); and Al Green, representing Texas. No Mississippi representative was present.

The Subcommittee examined the proposed agenda and adopted it. Each state was requested to give a general progress report on its use of the Apple/Burroughs system.

Frank Kennedy stated that Florida signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in August, 1982 and a Cooperative Agreement in December, 1982. Three people are working under the Cooperative Agreement: one data entry person, one port agent for the Fort Myers area, and one Fishery Biologist who specializes in gathering headboat and other "recreation for hire" statistics. In succeeding agreements, Florida will expand its efforts, working to the point where ten state port agents will completely take over the gathering of statistics from NMFS. Florida will enter the data collected onto its own computer system, then transfer this data to the Burroughs system. Some accommodations must be made to insure that Florida does not end up with different data entry procedures for its East and West coasts.

Al Green stated that Texas has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NMFS. Texas currently collects all of its commercial landings, except for shrimp. Texas collects recreational boat fishing data, NMFS collects pier fishing data; these data are then exchanged between the two organizations. Texas also uses its own computer system to store its data; it sends tapes of this data to NMFS.

Walter Tatum stated that, under a Statistical Cooperative Agreement, Alabama supplies two port agents to complement the effort of the two NMFS port agents working in Alabama. A data entry person will

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Two

be hired soon.

Claude Boudreaux stated that Louisiana has signed a MOU with NMFS and has begun negotiations to obtain an Apple terminal. Louisiana has not signed a Cooperative Statistical Agreement because a reasonable effort to enhance the gathering of Louisiana statistics will require a relatively large complement of personnel and Louisiana cannot currently increase its head count to hire these people. There is the possibility that Louisiana may be able to hire the port agents necessary in the future as the result of a redbfish-speckled trout initiative. This initiative may result in a new section being formed, part of which would be a fishery statistics gathering unit. In 1983, Louisiana will attempt to obtain a confidentiality statute which tracks federal requirements.

Tom McIlwain stated that Mississippi had obtained the Apple terminal and was making progress in familiarization with its capabilities.

It was determined that none of the states had actually accessed the Burroughs system. Herb Prytherch stated that NMFS expects to distribute interactive data management programs to the states soon. The states will then be able to place their data on discs and mail them to NMFS. The final phase of hookup of the Apple terminal to the Burroughs system will occur within 90 days; at that time the Telenet communication system will become operational.

Al Jones of NMFS discussed the funding outlook for the statistics program. When the statistical initiative was proposed 4-5 years ago it was felt that \$2.5 million would be required to completely fund the activities of the initiative. The initiative was first funded two years ago at \$1.638 million. Much of these funds in the first year were absorbed by start up costs:

- 1) developing the Telenet communications system
- 2) purchasing and distributing the Apple terminals
- 3) setting up the Burroughs system

The second year was funded at about \$1.5 million. Of this amount 1/3 will be utilized for NMFS activities related to the statistical initiative; the remaining 2/3 will be distributed to the states of the

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Three

Southeast Region via various Cooperative Statistical Agreements. The level of funding is expected to remain at this level for the next few years; it may increase if sufficient need is shown. The stability of funding depends on Congressional appropriations.

Some discussion took place concerning confidentiality of statistics. Buck Byrd stated the problem may not be as difficult as first envisioned. States collecting data under state law will have no problems. States which collect data and store it on their own computer system before transmitting it to NMFS will have no problems.

In other topics discussed, Herb Prytherch stated that the report on the 1980 National Recreational Survey is in the final stages; the 1981 data will be available in the next few months. Jack Brawner stated that a draft of a policy document for the State/Federal Cooperative Statistics program will soon be distributed to interested parties.

The following actions were taken by the Subcommittee:

- 1) The Chairman will act as liaison between members of the Subcommittee. The members will funnel information to him concerning problems, solutions, and major accomplishments.
- 2) The Subcommittee has tentatively scheduled a workshop for operations people of the various states in September. This meeting will occur at the Southeast Center. Its purpose will be to acquaint the operators with the various programs and options available to them when using the Apple Terminal to access the Burroughs system, and to provide them with hands on experience. It is proposed that the various states and NMFS will absorb the costs for this meeting individually.
- 3) The Subcommittee will develop a project proposed to present to the Gulf States Federal Fisheries Management Board. The purpose of this project will be to provide travel funds for two meetings of subcommittee members and operations personnel to discuss specific procedures and problems involved in placing and accessing data onto the Burroughs System via the Apple terminals.

Respectfully submitted,

Claude Boudreaux, Chairman
Statistical Subcommittee

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Walter M. Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Gulf Shores, AL
Albert M. Green	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Frank S. Kennedy	FL Dept. Natural Resources, St. Petersburg, FL
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Albert C. Jones	NMFS, Miami, FL
Philip Bowman	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Scott Nichols	NMFS, Miami, FL
Orman Farley	NMFS, Galveston, TX
Charles Caillouet	NOAA/NMFS, Galveston, TX
Orville Allen	NMFS, New Orleans, LA
Jack Brawner	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
David L. Pritchard	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ernie Snell	NMFS, Miami, FL
Karen Foote	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Tom McIlwain	Representative Trent Lott's office, Washington, D.C.
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Kim Newlin	NMFS Statistics, Miami, FL
Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

Mr. Harry Schafer, Chairman, presiding. Mr. Schafer called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. With the addition of discussion of 50 K programmatic funds for fiscal year 1984 the agenda was adopted without objection. The minutes of the last meeting in Mobile were adopted without correction.

Dr. David Etzold reported on the status of the Plan update. He indicated the Task Force is about 60% complete. He noted that Mr. Jim Nelson has retired from his company and work with this Advisory Committee. The Committee unanimously agreed to have the Commission send a letter of appreciation to Jim from the Commission and this Committee.

Mr. Borden Wallace was to obtain 20 copies from National Fisheries Institute (NFI) of a current work on the Economics of the Menhaden Fishery for reference or possible use in the plan update. The Commission will distribute the copies to the Committee with the exception of most of the Industry members.

A discussion developed over the mechanism for final approval of the Plan update. The final draft should be ready in midsummer and the Gulf State/Federal Fisheries Management Board will not meet again until October. Since this body is the final approval authority for the Plan, a mail ballot for approval will be recommended for the Board's use in this instance. There is a slight possibility for a special call meeting of the Board in reference to programmatic funds for fiscal year 1984. If this does occur the staff of the Commission will make every effort to coordinate this meeting at the same time needed for final Plan approval so as to accomplish both actions at the same meeting.

The next meeting of the Task Force is tentatively set for May 25 and 26, 1983 in the New Orleans Airport area.

Chairman Schafer was requested to forward the Menhaden Committee's programmatic requests, if any, by April 30 to the Commission office. He asked the Menhaden Advisory Committee to send information on the projects they need to him before the April 30 date.

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Two

The Committee will recommend Ben Humphreys to the Board to replace Jim Nelson on the Menhaden Advisory Committee and the Task Force for Plan update.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Schafer, Chairman
Menhaden Advisory Committee

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

David Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS	Hattiesburg, MS
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Hugh Swingle	AL Dept. Cons. & Natur. Res.	Gulf Shores, AL
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks and Wildlife	Austin, TX
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, SEFC	Beaufort, NC
Richard Condrey	Louisiana State University	Baton Rouge, LA
Vince Guillory	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Grand Isle, LA
Larry B. Simpson	G.S.M.F.C.	Ocean Springs, MS
Larry McEachron	Texas Parks and Wildlife	Rockport, TX
Robert Williams	NMFS	Washington, D. C.
Dick Schaefer	NMFS	Washington, D. C.
Jack T. Styron	Wallace Menhaden Products	Mandeville, LA
Charles Caillouet	NOAA, NMFS	Galveston, TX
W. C. Lunsford, Jr.	Zapata Haynie Corporation	Timonium, MD
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.	Port Monmouth, NJ
Corky Perret	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Baton Rouge, LA
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products	New Orleans, LA
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.	Empire, LA
Ted Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Ben Humphreys	Standard Products, Inc.	Kilmarnock, VA
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab	Ocean Springs, MS

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
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LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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

March 30, 1983

Mr. James J. Nelson, Sr.
Standard Products Co., Inc.
P. O. Box 1389
Kilmarnock, Virginia 22482

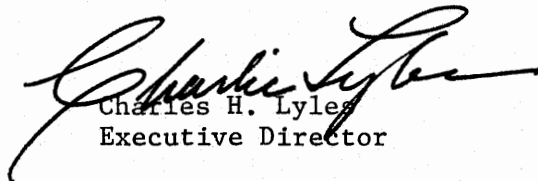
Dear Jim:

The Menhaden Advisory Committee and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission would like to express to you their sincere appreciation for your service over the past years. Both groups are well aware of your ability, knowledge of your industry, wit and wisdom.

Jim, we all will miss you; however, we wish you nothing but the best in your well deserved retirement.

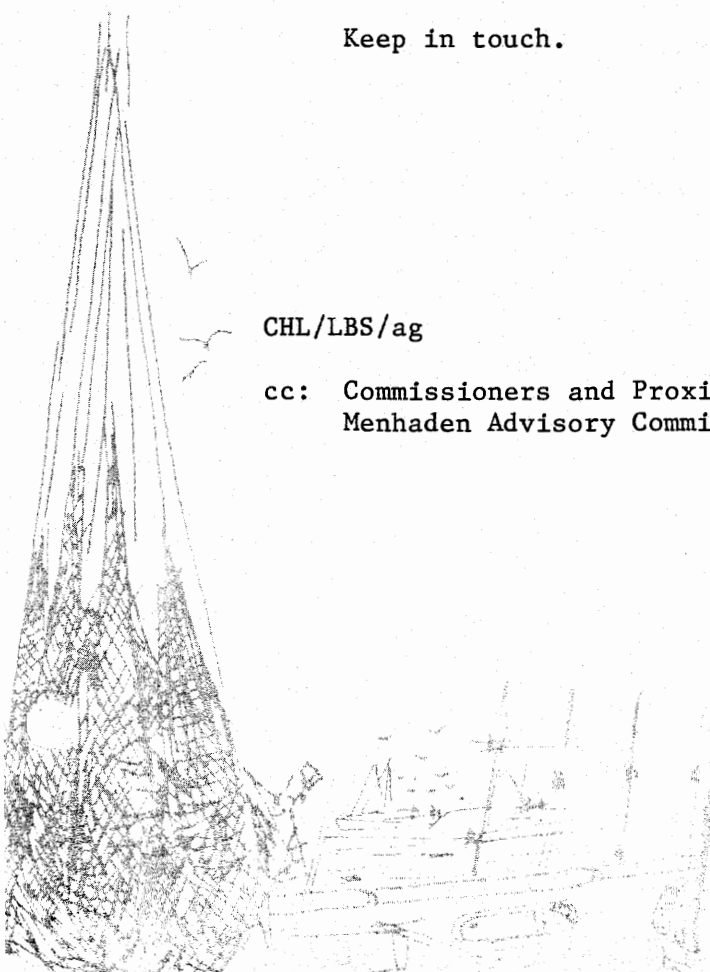
Keep in touch.

Very truly yours,


Charles H. Lyles
Executive Director

CHL/LBS/ag

cc: Commissioners and Proxies
Menhaden Advisory Committee



GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 16, 1983
Austin, Texas

Chairman Leroy Wieting called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The agenda was adopted with the following additions. Charles H. Lyles stated that traditionally, there has been programmatic funds available on alternating years for use on state/federal projects and on this basis he had sent a letter to all committee chairmen requesting that they meet with their committee and discuss priority projects for use of these funds. He requested that this item be discussed under other business. Tom McIlwain indicated that he would be reporting to the Board for the Blue Crab Subcommittee. There being no further changes or additions to the agenda it was adopted as amended.

Chairman Wieting requested that all proxies be seated. They are as follows:

Robert Kemp	proxy	Charles Travis
Hugh Swingle	proxy	John W. Hodnett
Ed Joyce	proxy	Elton Gissendanner
Ted B. Ford	proxy	Jesse J. Guidry

Chairman Wieting asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the October 1982 minutes. There being none, Taylor Harper motioned to adopt the minutes, seconded by Hugh Swingle. The motion carried.

Charles H. Lyles reported on Project #SF-5 ("Data Accumulation, Planning and Administration for Interjurisdiction Management of Marine Fishery Resources in the Territorial Sea of the Gulf of Mexico, 1982"). He stated that all project segment completion reports have been accomplished and that the reports had been sent to each Board member prior to the meeting. Taylor Harper motioned that all three reports be approved as presented, seconded by Hugh Swingle. The motion carried.

Ginny Herring reported on Project #SF-14 ("Data Accumulation, Planning and Administration for Interjurisdiction Management of Marine Fishery Resources in the Territorial Sea of the Gulf of Mexico, 1983"). She stated that all project objectives and responsibilities are being accomplished at this time but it was not anticipated that the funds available would be adequate to completely support the program. She

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Page Two

added that this situation was not unusual and that the Commission would continue to support the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board Program with the limited funds available. (Financial Statement attached).

Chairman Wieting called on David Etzold to report on the status of the Menhaden Management Plan update. Dr. Etzold said that they were on schedule at this time and asked Harry Schafer to report on requests that the Task Force had made to the Menhaden Advisory Committee. Mr. Schafer stated that a method needed to be developed in order for the Task Force to receive adoption from the Board of the final draft Management Plan before it was returned to the Commission office for printing. He suggested a mail ballot be adopted but agreed that if the Commission found it necessary to call a special meeting to handle other matters (FY84 funds) that it could be handled at such a meeting.

Larry Simpson briefed the Board on the background of funding for the Menhaden Task Force and reported on the financial status of these funds (Financial Statements attached).

Tom McIlwain gave a brief report on the SEAMAP activities. He stated that SEAMAP activity was moving ahead rapidly. Plans are being made for a 1983 survey of shrimp and bottomfish, oceanic ichthyoplankton and environmental studies. They are trying to initiate a Fall oceanic ichthyoplankton sampling program in the Gulf, and he stated that Mexico is very interested in participating in that activity. Louisiana State University, Center for Wetland Resources, is under subcontract to prepare a SEAMAP Operational Plan. He stated that a more detailed report had been given earlier that day to the Technical Coordinating Committee. Dr. McIlwain's report was accepted as presented.

Harry Schafer reported that the Menhaden Advisory Committee met and that they had several requests to make of the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board in addition to development of a method to adopt the final draft of the Menhaden Management Plan update. Additional requests were that the Board send a letter to Mr. Jim Nelson,

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Page Three

Standard Products Co., Inc., in appreciation for his work with the Menhaden Advisory Committee because of his retirement, and that the board seat Mr. Ben Humphreys on the Menhaden Advisory Committee to replace Mr. Nelson. He also stated that the committee would submit a list of priority projects to the Board for their consideration prior to the April 30, deadline. The Board by acclamation accepted the committee's recommendations to use the method of a mail ballot or call meeting to accept the final draft of the Menhaden Management Plan, to send a letter of appreciation to Jim Nelson and to seat Ben Humphreys on the Menhaden Advisory Committee.

Tom McIlwain reported that the Blue Crab Subcommittee had been busy reviewing and completing the Blue Crab Profile for the Gulf of Mexico and had investigated the study on Blue Crab Larvae from the northern Gulf of Mexico. He stated that the Subcommittee requested that the Board consider funding for publication costs of the Blue Crab Profile and a study investigating larval transport along the Gulf. Detailed proposals will be submitted to the Board prior to the April 30, deadline.

Hugh Swingle asked if it was possible to apply for the State-Federal funds for FY84 without writing exactly what projects would be accomplished, but instead keep it general, allowing the various committees more time to prepare proposals to be submitted. Buck Byrd answered that this would be possible but suggested that the Board include a list of priority projects within the application document. These priorities could be general statements and would not need to be detailed proposals but would give information as to what the current wishes of the Board are. Ed Joyce said this was a good idea and that it not only would allow the committees to work on proposals but it may permit more funds to be allocated for travel to necessary committee meetings. Larry Simpson discussed the fact that limited funds were allocated annually under a continuing State-Federal administrative support contract for travel to support various State-Federal committees

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Page Four

and State-Federal activities. He stated that these funds were limited and that increases had been requested annually, and that additional funds have not been made available.

Chairman Leroy Wieting invited all participants to attend a session of the Texas Legislature. He was pleased to be part of the Texas delegation hosting the meeting. Robert Kemp also expressed his pleasure at having the Commission meeting in Austin.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Leroy Wieting, Chairman
Gulf State-Federal Fisheries
Management Board

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
Wednesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

V. K. Herring	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Hugh A. Swingle	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Dauphin Island, AL
Bob Kemp	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Sam Theriot	LA State Representative, Abbeville, LA
Taylor Harper	AL State Representative, Grand Bay, AL
I. B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Leroy Wieting	TX State Representative, Portland, TX
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS, Pascagouls, MS
Willis H. Clark	Sea Grant, TX A & M University, College Station, TX
Steven Shulman	The Fish Boat
Robert J. Williams	NMFS, Washington, D. C.
W. H. Stevenson	NOAA/NMFS, Washington, D. C.
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Timothy Morrison	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Lloyd Regier	NMFS, Charlotte, SC
Harold B. Allen	FL Institute of Oceanography, St. Petersburg, FL
Anita S. Grant	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
John Miloy	TX Coastal & Marine Council
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc., Bon Secour, AL
Ed Joyce	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Walter Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Gulf Shores, AL
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Richard Condrey	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Mike Hogan	LA State Representative, Lake Charles, LA

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DATE: October 1, 1982 - February 28, 1983

"Data Accumulation, Planning and Administration for
Interjurisdictional Management of Marine Fishery Resources in the
Territorial Sea of the Gulf of Mexico"

Cooperative Agreement #SF-14-1

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL EXPENSES</u>
Personnel	4,000	2,030.00
Travel	6,500	2,253.59
Publication Cost	3,500	5,103.50
Office Supplies	600	363.78
Postage	400	400.00
Telephone	500	208.15
Meeting Cost	1,000	1,119.73
Copy Expenses	<u>-0-</u>	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL	\$16,500	\$11,578.75

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DATE: October 1, 1983 - February 28, 1983

"A Contract to Revise, Publish and Distribute
the Regional Management Plan for the Menhaden Fishery
of the Gulf of Mexico"

Contract #NA82-GA-C-00045

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL EXPENSES</u>
Printing	5,000	171.45
Consultants	<u>7,000</u>	<u>1,750.00</u>
TOTAL	\$12,000	\$1,921.45

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DATE: October 1, 1983 - February 28, 1983

"Menhaden Fishery Update"

COMMISSION FUNDS

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL EXPENSES</u>
Personnel	5,800	2,859.00
Travel	5,000	3,148.01
Administration	2,200	-0-
Copy Expense	-0-	100.00
Meeting Cost	-0-	475.06
Office Supplies	-0-	64.00
Telephone	-0-	9.90
TOTAL	\$13,000	\$6,655.97

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

Twenty-one persons attended, either full or part-time. The session began at 2:00 p.m. and concluded at 4:45 p.m. All sections were received and discussed as required.

The next Workshop (III) will convene in New Orleans on May 25 and 26, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Larry Simpson will notify members of hotel arrangements.

All Task Force members are urged to review all material and send inputs to Gulf States Marine Fisheries Service (GSMFC) as soon as possible.

Comments on each Section are as follows:

SECTION

1. Cover -- to be green with menhaden in the background.
2. Table of Contents -- changes being made.
3. Summary -- to be written prior to Workshop III.
4. Basic Material Complete -- being final written by D. Etzold.
5. Essentially approved by Ad Hoc Subcommittee. Released to Task Force. Each member to review and make comments to GSMFC by April 11.
6. Written by Vince Guillory. Task Force to review and make comments to GSMFC by April 4.
7. Task Force to make comments to GSMFC by April 4.
8. J. Y. Christmas/Bob Chapoton to write and submit to Task Force by April 18.
9. J. Y. Christmas/Bob Chapoton/D. Etzold/Bordon Wallace/Ben Humphreys to make inputs to this section, including reviewing Pennsylvania State University and National Marine Fisheries Service economic profile document. Section to be rewritten by April 25.
10. To be rewritten by D. Etzold by April 11.

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
MINUTES
Page Two

11. To be rewritten by D. Etzold by April 11.
12. Goal and objectives adopted as distributed. Rest of section to be written by J. Y. Christmas by April 18.
13. Draft completed.
14. To be written by J. Y. Christmas/D. Etzold by April 25.
15. To be written by J. Y. Christmas/Bob Chapoton by April 11.
16. D. Etzold to rewrite and issue Vince Guillory's input by April 11.
17. E. Etzold to write by April 11.
18. References to be finalized at completion of text writing.
19. Appendices to be put in proper format.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Etzold

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
Tuesday, March 15, 1983
Austin, Texas

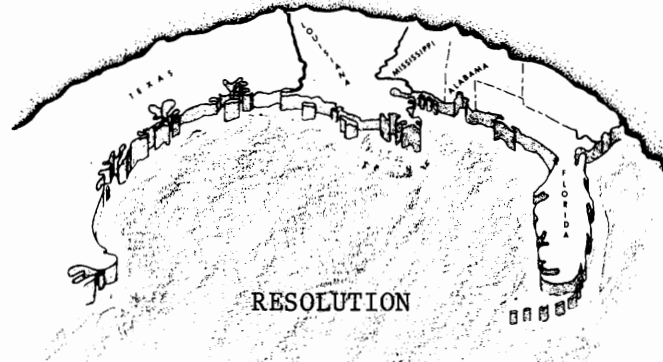
LIST OF ATTENDEES

David Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS	Hattiesburg, MS
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Hugh Swingle	AL Dept. Cons. & Natur. Res.	Gulf Shores, AL
Gary Matlock	Texas Parks and Wildlife	Austin, TX
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, SEFC	Beaufort, NC
Richard Condrey	Louisiana State University	Baton Rouge, LA
Vince Guillory	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Grand Isle, LA
Larry B. Simpson	G.S.M.F.C.	Ocean Springs, MS
Larry McEachron	Texas Parks and Wildlife	Rockport, TX
Robert Williams	NMFS	Washington, D. C.
Dick Schaefer	NMFS	Washington, D. C.
Jack T. Styron	Wallace Menhaden Products	Mandeville, LA
Charles Caillouet	NOAA, NMFS	Galveston, TX
W. C. Lunsford, Jr.	Zapata Haynie Corporation	Timonium, MD
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc.	Port Monmouth, NJ
Corky Perret	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	Baton Rouge, LA
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products	New Orleans, LA
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc.	Empire, LA
Ted Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fish.	New Orleans, LA
Ben Humphreys	Standard Products, Inc.	Kilmarnock, VA
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab	Ocean Springs, MS

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

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A National Artificial Reef Policy

WHEREAS, the creation of artificial reef habitat for the purpose of creating or improving spawning substrates, increasing production, and causing the aggregation of fishes through the use of oil and gas exploration and/or production platforms in marine waters, has been proven to be beneficial to recreational and commercial fishermen and recreational divers; and

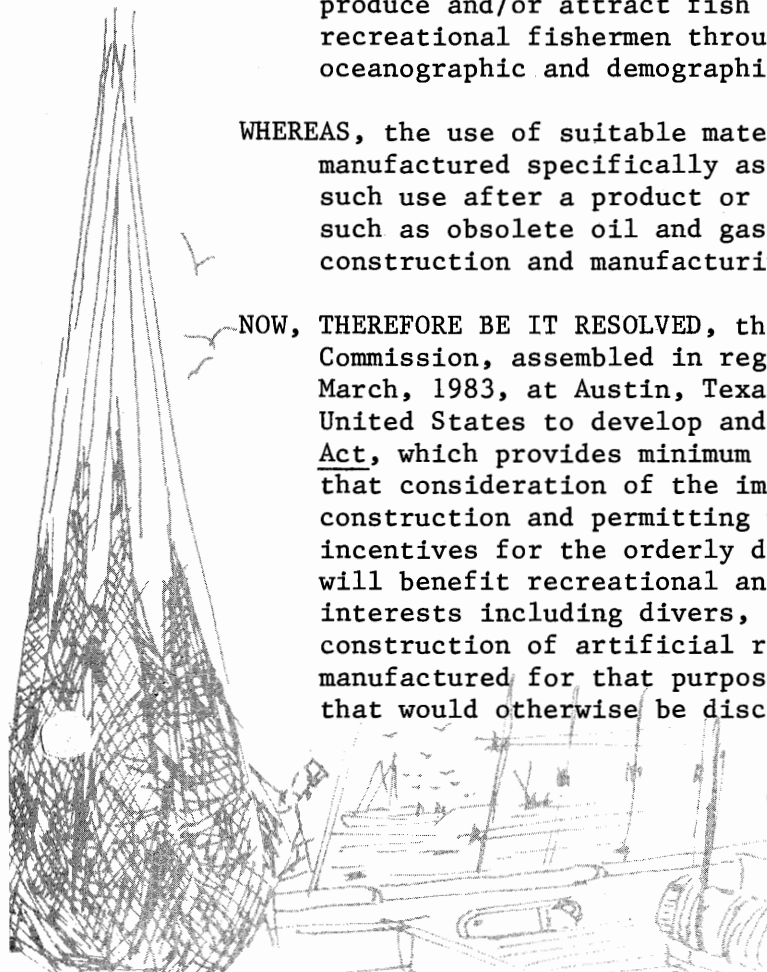
WHEREAS, the indiscriminate siting or inadvertent dislocation of these materials can create attractive nuisances, navigation hazards or impediments to nonstationary commercial fishing gear; and

WHEREAS, technology does exist which will permit state and federal agencies responsible for marine environments to properly identify potential artificial reef sites and to specify the design and materials that will produce and/or attract fish communities of benefit to commercial and/or recreational fishermen through interpretation of fishery biology, oceanographic and demographic information; and

WHEREAS, the use of suitable materials for artificial reef substrate, whether manufactured specifically as artificial reef substrate or adapted for such use after a product or structure has outlived its original purpose, such as obsolete oil and gas platforms, discarded inert and non-toxic construction and manufacturing by-products, is to be encouraged.

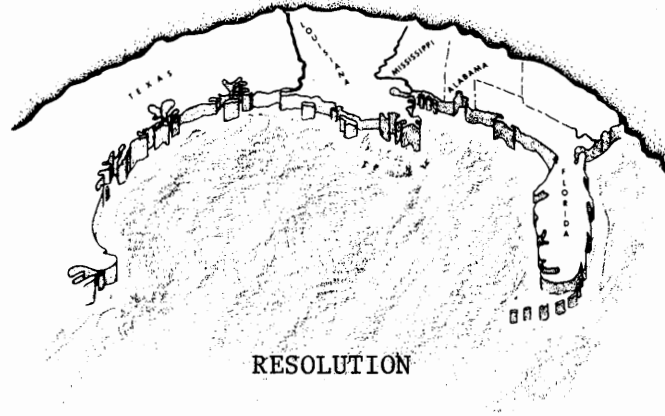
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in regular Semi-Annual Meeting this 16th day of March, 1983, at Austin, Texas, herewith petition the Congress of the United States to develop and enact a National Artificial Reef Policy Act, which provides minimum reef construction standards and provides that consideration of the impact on other fisheries be considered in the construction and permitting process that provides guidance and financial incentives for the orderly development of an artificial program that will benefit recreational and commercial fishing and other recreational interests including divers, through proper site selection design and construction of artificial reef habitat whether specifically manufactured for that purpose or through the use of suitable materials that would otherwise be discarded or destroyed at a net loss to society.

Taylor F. Harper, Chairman
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission



Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Utilization of Commercial Shrimping Vessels and Personnel as Recreational Charter Fishing Operations During Noncommercial Fishing Periods

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission is charged with promoting better utilization of the fisheries of the seaboard of the Gulf of Mexico, and

WHEREAS, the recreational fishing industry is a major component of marine fisheries with some 12.3 million people fishing approximately 147.0 million days and spending \$2.4 billion,

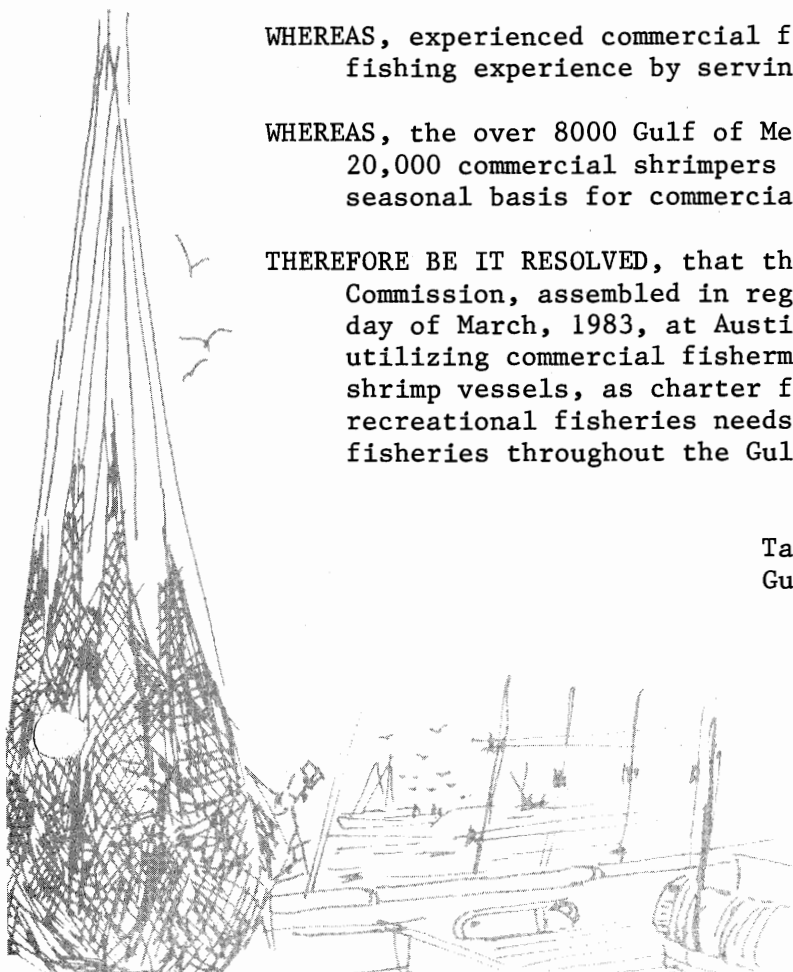
WHEREAS, the success of the marine recreational fisheries is dependent upon a successful fishing experience, and

WHEREAS, experienced commercial fishermen can enhance the recreational fishing experience by serving as fish guides, and

WHEREAS, the over 8000 Gulf of Mexico shrimp vessels which employ over 20,000 commercial shrimpers are predominantly utilized on a seasonal basis for commercial shrimping,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in regular Semi-Annual Meeting this 16th day of March, 1983, at Austin, Texas, supports the concept of utilizing commercial fishermen and fishing vessels, including shrimp vessels, as charter fishing operations to serve the marine recreational fisheries needs and insure the stability of marine fisheries throughout the Gulf of Mexico.

Taylor F. Harper, Chairman
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission



TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 16, 1983
Austin, Texas

Dr. Ted B. Ford, Chairman, presiding. Dr. Ford opened the meeting at 9:10 a.m. and declared a quorum with all five Gulf States and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) represented.

The agenda was adopted by motion of Tom Moore and seconded by Hugh Swingle with the following additions.

1. Jack Brawner - Special Presentation
2. Terry Leary - Red Drum Profile Status Report
3. Tom Linton - To Present Seismic Discussion

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted without objection and without corrections.

Jack Brawner made a special presentation to Dr. Ford in recognition of his help to secure needed legislation. This legislation was to allow general law enforcement authority to enforce all U.S. Laws encountered by State and Federal enforcement officers in their line of duty.

Dr. David Etzold gave a status report on the continued monitoring of the freshwater introduction into Louisiana marshes by the Corps of Engineers. The Corps has two general study areas: I - Louisiana Coastal Area, II - Mississippi and Louisiana Estuarine Study Areas. Under Study Area I, two sites are addressed:

- A. West of the River
Davis Pond 10,650 C.F.S. expected to be on line 1988
- B. East of the River
Caernaervon 66,000 C.F.S. expected to be on line 1988

Study Area II has two areas under study:

- A. River Bend (near Violet)
45-60,000 C.F.S. every other year. This site is questionable if it will be retained.
- B. Bonnet Carre
30,000 C.F.S. construction planned for 1993.

Dr. Ford acknowledged Richard Berry as Acting Center Director and member of the T.C.C. by virtue of his office.

Terry Leary of the Gulf Council gave a brief status report on the Red Drum Profile update by the Council and Commission. The profile will

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Two

be reviewed by the Advisory Panel (AP) and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) next week in Tampa. The full Council will review the profile in April and the completed draft with all comments incorporated will be sent to the T.C.C. and Commission for review and comment as needed.

Buck Byrd reported on his Grant-in-Aid Workshop indicating contracts and agreements were functioning well, the only problems are long delays in the Department of Commerce and legal reviews necessary now to effect federal funding of grant projects.

Dr. Tom McIlwain, reported on the actions of the SEAMAP Subcommittee. He indicated the cooperative summer cruises for ichthyoplankton, shrimp and bottomfish and environmental data will be of similar nature as 1982, although there will be some modifications and improvements. The Atlas of 1982 SEAMAP data will be distributed in April. The Marine Directory of groups and work done in the Gulf will also be distributed in April.

Work has been initiated on the operational plan describing full function of the SEAMAP initiative. Louisiana State University and Dr. Richard Condrey will be developing the Operational Plan. A workshop on gear calibration chaired by John W. Watson will be held at this meeting. Proceedings are planned to be published at a later date. Lastly, Dr. McIlwain submitted his resignation as Chairman and member of the Subcommittee. He has taken a temporary assignment in Washington, D.C. which prevents his continued participation. Mr. Walter Tatum of Alabama will serve as Chairman and Mr. Gary Matlock of Texas will serve as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Richard Waller of the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory will represent Mississippi as Dr. McIlwain's replacement on the Subcommittee.

The newly composed Statistical Subcommittee was reported on by the Chairman, Mr. Claude Boudreaux of Louisiana. He indicated Mr. Stu Kennedy of Florida was elected as Vice-Chairman. They had an intensive working agenda for organization. The Subcommittee, along with their terminal operators, plan to meet with Southeast Center personnel in

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Three

September to coordinate state actions with each other and the federal statistical personnel. This travel would be funded by each of their respective states. They also plan to submit a proposal to obtain some of the 50 K programmatic funds scheduled for use in FY 1984 under the State/Federal Program. The proposal will be for travel funds for two more meetings in late winter and spring to coordinate the terminal operators and NMFS actions.

The Blue Crab Subcommittee Report was given by Dr. McIlwain for Mrs. Harriet Perry. He stated the work on the Profile and the final reports had been completed and sent to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) office along with State/Federal Board members. The larvae rearing work has been completed and final reports sent to the GSMFC office along with State/Federal Board members.

Mr. Wil Seidel gave a presentation on the work he has been doing concerning energy use and analysis in the Shrimp industry. This was a joint project of NMFS, Sea Grant and the Gulf and South Atlantic Development Foundation. Analyses were done on such things as size and horsepower of the vessels, net design, amounts of fuel consumed while fishing and searching, fuel consumption at various speeds, and etc.

Tom Leming reported to the T.C.C. on satellite applications in fisheries work. Most of his work concerned last year's SEAMAP sampling. He expanded on the hypoxia (low oxygen) area off Louisiana last summer. It was suggested that if this condition is detected next year, that NMFS utilize the weather broadcasts for the area to spread the information. This would save time, fuel, money, etc., that would have been expended fruitlessly.

Tom Linton reported on seismic exploration affects on fish and shellfish off Texas. They have a contract and matching funds from Texas A & M to do the work. They will analyze the existing rules and regulations concerning this type exploration. They will analyze all the sound producing means used in oil and gas exploration for their affects on fish and shellfish samples. A Steering Committee from Texas will help guide their work. Work will be limited to Texas waters.

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page Four

Under other business a motion was made by Hugh Swingle and seconded by Ed Joyce to have a resolution in support of level funding for P. L. 88-309 and P. L. 89-304. This resolution includes the statistical program and council funding. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted B. Ford, Chairman
Technical Coordinating Committee

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 16, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Edwin A Joyce, Jr.	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
J. Alan Huff	FL Dept. Natural Resources, St. Petersburg, FL
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Hugh A. Swingle	AL Dept. Conserv. & Nat. Resour., Dauphin Island, AL
Walter Tatum	AL Dept. Conserv. & Nat. Resour., Dauphin Island, AL
Dick Berry	Southeast Fisheries Center, Miami, FL
Tom McIlwain	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
C. E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Tom D. Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Tom Leming	NMFS, NSTL Station, MS
Terry Leary	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, Tampa FL
Wil Seidel	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Maury Ferguson	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Stu Kennedy	FL Dept. Natural Resources, St. Petersburg, FL
John Miloy	TX Coastal & Marine Council
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
John E. Roussel	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Philip Bowman	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Bourg, LA
Vince Guillory	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Grand Isle, LA
Sam Theriot	LA House of Representatives, Abbeville, LA
Timothy Morrison	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Scott Nichols	NMFS, Miami, FL
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
Karen Jo Foote	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Warren E. Stuntz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 16, 1983
List of Attendees, cont'd.

David J. Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS, Hattiesburg, MS
Robert J. Williams	NMFS, Washington, DC
Dick Schaefer	NMFS, Washington, DC
Charles Caillouet	NOAA/NMFS, Galveston, TX
Willis H. Clark	Sea Grant, TX A & M, College Station, TX
Fred R. Diaz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Roy Perez	U.S.F.W.S., Corpus Christi, TX
Floyd Nudi	U.S.F.W.S., Houston, TX
Steve Shulman	The Fish Boat
Ed Klíma	NMFS, Galveston, TX
Jack Brawner	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
I. B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Tom Linton	Texas A & M University, College Station, TX
Leland E. Roberts	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Corky Perret	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
John Burgbachor	Shell Offshore, Inc., New Orleans, LA
Jack T. Styron	Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA
Wm. C. Lunsford, Jr.	Zapata Haynie Corporation, Timonium, Maryland
Harold B. Allen	FL Institute for Oceanography, St. Petersburg, FL
Lloyd W. Regier	NMFS, Charleston, SC
John Mehos	Liberty Fish & Oyster Co., Galveston, TX
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

16 March 1983

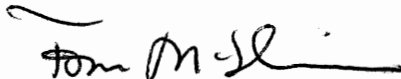
Dr. T. B. Ford, Chairman
Technical Coordinating Committee
33rd Annual Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Austin, TX

Dear Dr. Ford:

Please accept my resignation as Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee. I have taken on a temporary assignment in Washington, D.C. and am unable to continue on as Chairman.

I wish to thank the members of the SEAMAP Subcommittee and the work group members for their support during the formative years of this most important activity. I would especially like to thank the members of the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Gulf State Marine Fisheries Commission for their vision in seeing the need for such an activity and following through in the establishment of the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Thomas D. McIlwain
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory

TDM/sw

SEAMAP 1983
Report to the Technical Coordinating Committee
March 16, 1983

This report is the third in a series of annual reports to the Technical Coordinating Committee (T.C.C.) on SEAMAP. The first report (March 1982) dealt with SEAMAP organization, objective, goals, plans for SEAMAP activities and survey activities for 1982. The second report (October 1982) reviewed the accomplishments of the 1982 SEAMAP survey activities, proposed SEAMAP activities and survey activities for 1983. This report will present the status of the 1983 SEAMAP survey activities, Operational Plan, Atlas, Workshop and Marine Directory.

1983 SEAMAP Survey Activities

During the October 1982 Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting the Subcommittee recommended and the T.C.C. approved the continuation of SEAMAP and its survey activities (Ichthyoplankton, shrimp and bottomfish and environmental) for 1983 in the Gulf. In November 1982 the Subcommittee met in New Orleans and requested the work group leaders to begin planning for the 1983 survey activities. The work group leaders met in February 1983 and discussed problems that occurred during the 1982 surveys and began planning 1983 survey activities. All of the survey details (vessel time frames and station locations) are incomplete at this time, but the following will explain some of the proposed 1983 survey activities.

The Oceanic Ichthyoplankton Survey will occur from April 21 to May 24 for the waters in the Gulf outside the 100 fathom curve to the U. S. Fishery Conservation Zone. The systematic grid type of survey design will be used with stations every half degree increments. Ichthyoplankton samples will be taken with bongo and neuston nets at

each station. The NMFS vessel, Oregon II, will be the only large vessel operating offshore while smaller state vessels will collect ichthyoplankton samples in their respective waters. Environmental data will be collected during the survey. Plankton samples will be shipped to Miami to be identified and the results sent to the states within 10 months of the survey.

In the November SEAMAP meeting the ichthyoplankton workgroup recommended and the Subcommittee agreed to a fall ichthyoplankton survey in the Gulf. Mexico is interested in participating. Vessel support and time frames are incomplete at this time.

The Shrimp and Bottomfish Trawl Survey will be from June 1 to July 15 from Cedar Keys, Florida, to Brownsville, Texas. The survey will move east to west with the latter part of the survey in coordination with the Texas Closure. Stations will be randomly selected in one-fathom increments along the coast inside 45 fathoms. A National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) charter vessel, Suncoaster, will operate off Florida to Louisiana. The Mississippi vessel Tommy Munro will operate off Mississippi and Alabama, the NMFS, Oregon II, will operate off Mississippi to Brownsville, Texas, and the Texas vessel, Western Gulf, will operate off Texas. All the other states will trawl inside five fathoms of their respective states. One day will be set aside to do trawl comparability studies between the large offshore vessels. During the trawl survey, ichthyoplankton and environmental samples will be collected.

SEAMAP Operational Plan

In October 1982 the Subcommittee recommended, and the T.C.C. agreed, that a SEAMAP Operational Plan should be developed. The Plan

would enable the SEAMAP program to evolve from its current status to one which will more fully satisfy shared data collection, management, and dissemination needs of state, university and federal program participants.

The Subcommittee developed and distributed an operational plan outline requesting proposals to be submitted to the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee accepted a proposal of \$26,252 from Dr. Richard Condrey, Center for Wetland Resources, Louisiana State University, to develop the Plan pending funding support.

Proposed funding support for development of the the SEAMAP Operational Plan was requested as follows:

- o The Southeast Fisheries Center, Mississippi Laboratories, has committed 15 K for the development of the plan.
- o The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife Conservation, on January 18, has approved a request of 5 K in supplemental funding for SEAMAP.
- o On February 3, funding of 15 K for the SEAMAP Operational Plan was approved by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Funds will be made available to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission if Council funding requests are approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington Office.

The remaining funds (\$26,252 - \$35,000 = \$8,748) will be used by the Subcommittee for travel to assist the contractor in developing the Plan.

1982 SEAMAP Atlas

In meeting one of the SEAMAP goals of dissemination of SEAMAP data, the Subcommittee has requested the coordinating work group to develop a SEAMAP Atlas. The Atlas would be a reference copy for 1982 SEAMAP data

to inform state, federal and universities as to the type of data available, how and when collected.

The coordinating work group met in February at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory to develop the Atlas. The first rough draft has been written and will be sent out for review to the Subcommittee in April. The finished copy of the Atlas will be distributed before October 1983.

SEAMAP Workshop

In March of 1982 the Subcommittee recommended, and the T.C.C. agreed, to hold a workshop on gear calibration. The workshop will be held Thursday, March 17, 1983, during the Annual Spring meeting of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

The workshop is entitled "SEAMAP Shrimp and Bottomfish Sampling Gear Workshop." Mr. John W. Watson, Jr., will chair the workshop which will be limited to descriptions of sampling gears and vessels, comparative data between gear types and sizes, and techniques and methodology to calibrate sampling gears and determine catchability coefficients. The objective of the workshop will be to develop requirements and information necessary to effectively determine calibration factors necessary to compare results obtained from different sampling gears and where appropriate recommend standardization.

SEAMAP Marine Directory

In March of 1982 the Subcommittee recommended, and the T.C.C. agreed, that the Subcommittee should develop a SEAMAP Marine Directory. The Directory would include for the year 1983 a list of vessel activities and a description of planned research activities for state,

federal and university agencies in the Gulf. The Directory is designed to prevent redundant and wasteful data collection in the Gulf of Mexico.

Mr. Fred Diaz of the Southeast Fisheries Center, Mississippi Laboratories, has contacted a number of state, federal and university agencies in the Gulf and has completed the first draft copy of the Directory. Once approved by the Subcommittee, copies will be sent to those participating agencies. Copies of the Directory can be obtained from the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission office in May.

Again the SEAMAP Subcommittee is attempting to coordinate two major survey activities in the Gulf for 1983 and complete other SEAMAP activities under the SEAMAP program. Without the outstanding cooperation and the contribution of in-kind support from the states, universities and federal marine agencies this program called SEAMAP would not have survived into 1983. We, the SEAMAP Subcommittee, would like to thank the TCC, those marine agencies and people who participated in SEAMAP for 1983 for their contribution and assistance to make this program possible.

Submitted by,

Dr. Thomas D. McIlwain
SEAMAP Chairman

EXECUTIVE SESSION
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 16, 1983
Austin, Texas

Chairman Taylor Harper called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
The following proxies were seated:

Robert Kemp	proxy	Charles Travis
Ted B. Ford	proxy	Jesse Guidry
J. Y. Christmas	proxy	Ted Millette
Jim Barrett	proxy	Clyde Richbourg
Ed Joyce	proxy	Elton Gissendanner

The following additions were made to the agenda prior to adoption:
discussion of Saltonstall-Kennedy project being conducted by the Sport
Fishing Institute regarding the use of shrimp boats as charter boats
during off season; an administrative request; acknowledgement of an
award presented to Ted. B. Ford; dates for future meetings; and, request
for a private session to be held immediately following adjournment.

The minutes of the October 1982 meeting were adopted as presented.

Ted Ford preceded his report on the Technical Coordinating
Committee (TCC) by sharing with the Commissioners a plaque presented to
him by the Southeast Region, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in
recognition of his outstanding individual contribution to the
development of the NMFS State-Federal enforcement legislation. He
reported that the TCC had met earlier that day and he briefly discussed
the topics covered which included the status on controlled freshwater
introduction to the Louisiana marshes; a brief report from Teary Leary
on the red drum profile update currently being done by the Council and
Commission; a report from Buck Byrd on the Grant-in-Aid Workshop; Tom
McIlwain gave an update on the SEAMAP Subcommittee; Claude Boudreaux,
new Chairman for the TCC Statistical Subcommittee reported on the
committees plans to meet with NMFS personnel to coordinate statistical
activities; Tom McIlwain reported on the activities of the Blue Crab
Subcommittee; Wil Seidel gave a presentation on work being done
concerning energy use and analysis in the shrimp industry; Tom Leming
updated the TCC on satellite applications in fisheries; and Tom Linton
reported on seismic exploration affects on fish and shellfish off the
coast of Texas. The TCC recommended that the Commission support level

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funding for P.L. 88-309 and P.L. 89-304. This recommendation would include funding for statistical programs and the regional councils. Ted Ford motioned the Commission accept the TCC's recommendation and draft a resolution, seconded by Bob Kemp. The motion carried.

Chairman Harper recognized special guests that were in attendance. They were William Stevenson, NMFS, Washington, D.C.; Richard Schaefer, NMFS, Washington, D.C.; Jack Brawner, NMFS, St. Petersburg, Florida; and Representative Mike Hogan, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Charles H. Lyles reported on the Industry Advisory Committee. Topics discussed included discussion by Kris Vehrs regarding President Reagan declaring an Exclusive Economic Zone around the United States; NMFS budget reductions; and, H.R. 1313 and H.R. 422, two bills which would exempt vessel owners with less than 10 crew members per vessel from paying Federal Unemployment Taxes. A committee was established to prepare a letter opposing any budgetary action which will close Galveston Laboratory, reduce the statistics program and other programs of vital interest to the industry or curtail other activities essential to the fishing industry, including habitat protection and pollution. The Commissioners discussed the problem of unemployment taxes in the fishing industry. Chairman Harper stated that Walter Zimmerman, chairman of the Industry Advisory Committee, was not present, but that if he wanted to add to the report upon his arrival to the meeting, time would be made available.

Walter Tatum reported on the Recreational Fisheries Committee. Topics discussed were the goals of the committee; a current Sport Fishing Institute project dealing with economic impact on marine recreational fisheries in the U.S.; Charles H. Lyles' presentation to the Marine Recreational Fisheries Symposium in April 1983; and, a resolution regarding petitioning the Congress of the United States to develop and enact a National Artificial Reef Policy Act. Hugh Swingle made the motion to endorse the economic feasibility of using shrimp boats in off-season for charter boats, seconded by John Ray Nelson. The motion carried. There was considerable discussion regarding the need

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for a national artificial reef policy. John Ray Nelson showed concern over how "fishing spots" are picked for reef development. He mentioned that Alabama had all but lost their entire coast to artificial reefs. He further stated that while some commercial fishermen benefited from artificial reefs the shrimpers are in fact hurt. Specific problems with the resolution included questioning of language such as "...discarded inert and non-toxic...by-products, is to be encouraged" and "...financial incentives...", he feared this could open the door for any kind of dumping to occur. Leroy Kiffe showed concern with artificial reefs shifting and harming shrimping grounds. There was considerable discussion both pro and con on the the issue. Jim Barret motioned to accept the resolution as presented, seconded by Robert Kemp. The motion carried, with John Ray Nelson and Leroy Kiffe voting against the motion. The Commissioners agreed by acclamation to endorse a study by the Sport Fishing Institute dealing with development of recreational fishing and the economic impact of marine recreational fisheries in the United States.

Leroy Wieting reported that the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board had met just prior to this session and therefore he would not go into great detail. He reported that among other topics discussed the Board approved three completion reports under existing State-Federal programs.

Buck Byrd reported on his Grant-in-Aid Workshop and also gave a report for NMFS, Southeast Regional Office. He recognized that funding problems existed and stated that cooperation in the State-Federal program was high, and that trust was a major factor. He reported that high priority goals and objectives were moving forward even within the tight budget restraints. He spoke of the State Directors meeting (April 19, 1983). He stated that one of the reasons that the State-Federal program continues to be successful is because of the real cooperation that they have received from Richard Berry. He said that Mr. Berry is really interested in working with the State-Federal Program. Mr. Byrd stated that Jack Brawner and Richard Berry work well together and both

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Page Four

see the State-Federal program going well with great state cooperation. He says he feels good about the State-Federal relationship and will continue to work to enhance the program. He continued with discussion about how Jack Brawner has reorganized the Southeast Regional Office into three departments available to the states. These three offices are habitat conservation, fishery management and fisheries development. Anyone wanting the names of the new department chiefs can look it up in the NEWSBREAKER, also newly initiated by Jack Brawner.

Taylor Harper recognized Walter Zimmerman as arriving at the meeting. Walter had nothing further to add to the Industry Advisory Committee report.

Charles H. Lyles gave a brief legislative update. He reviewed past and current problems with funding of P.L. 88-309 and P.L. 89-304. He stated that changes within congressional committees is making dealing with these problems difficult. He gave status reports on the following legislation: Exclusive Economic Zone (S.2997); Fisherman's Contingency Fund; D-J Expansion Fund; and various state legislation. Other topics discussed in his report were the MAFAC meeting in November 1982 and May 1983; Commission financial status (Financial Statement attached); congressional appreciation reception, which will be delayed until finances are in better shape; and, future meetings. There was discussion initiated by Sam Theriot as to moving the October 1983 meeting ahead one week. It was motioned by Leroy Wieting that the Commission staff take action to move the meeting ahead by one week if possible, seconded by Sam Theriot. The motion carried. It was agreed by acclamation to change the March and October 1984 meeting sites so that the Commission can convene in New Orleans during the Worlds Fair, this would make the March 1984 meeting site in Mississippi.

Larry B. Simpson gave a brief report on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and a status report on the Red Drum Profile. He also submitted an administrative request covering the hiring of a temporary full-time clerical person for six months and expanding the displaywriter system to include an additional unit. He explained that funds could be

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found within the existing Commission budget and that there was a definite necessity for increasing the staff. Upon a prior recommendation from Charles Lyles, Joe Allen motioned that Anita S. Grant be given a \$500 annual raise, seconded by Leroy Wieting. The motion carried. John Ray Nelson motioned that the Commission be authorized to hire additional personnel within the requested amount, seconded by Hugh Swingle. The motion carried. Leroy Wieting motioned that the Commission be authorized to purchase an additional unit to their existing displaywriter, seconded by Joe Allen. The motion carried.

Taylor Harper initiated a discussion regarding speckled trout and red fish being considered gamefish. He asked if there were any recent studies done that would tell the impact on: 1) employment of the commercial fishermen; 2) price of the fish in the market; and, 3) is it worth it or just a pacifier for rich sport fishermen. Sam Theriot said that the Louisiana Restaurateur Association had done a study. Bob Kemp said that in Texas it has been law for about 1½ years and it would probably be another 1½ or 2 years before data on the impacts could be published. Bob Kemp said that an economic impact statement had been prepared for the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and that it could be made available to the states.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor F. Harper, Chairman
Gulf States Marine Fisheries
Commission

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Wednesday, March 16, 1983
Austin, Texas

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ginny Herring	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Charles H. Lyles	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Hugh Swingle	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Dauphin Island, AL
Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Jim Barrett	FL Dept. Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
J. Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Bob Kemp	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC Commissioner, Lockport, LA
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc., Bon Secour, AL
Sam Theriot	LA State Representative, Abbeville, LA
Leroy Wieting	TX State Representative, Portland, TX
Taylor Harper	AL State Representative, Grand Bay, AL
Walter M. Tatum	AL Dept. Cons. & Natu. Resources, Gulf Shores, AL
Robert J. Williams	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Willis H. Clark	Sea Grant, TX A & M University, College Station, TX
I. B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Jack Brawner	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Perry A. Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Anita S. Grant	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Joe Allen	FL State Representative, Key West, FL
Walter Zimmerman	Marine Mart Inc., Port Isabel, TX
Tom Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

DATE: October 1, 1982 - February 28, 1983

BEGINNING CASH BALANCE:

Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
Operating Funds	65,595.95

\$ 65,620.95

ADD CASH RECEIPTS:

10/82	-Annual contribution - Alabama	11,250.00
11/82	-Annual contribution - Florida	22,500.00
11/82	-Annual contribution - Texas	15,000.00
1/83	-Reimbursement under FY82 Council Support Cooperative Agreement	7,188.87
1/83	-Reimbursement under FY82 S/F Administrative Support Agreement	31,723.22
10/1/83	-N.O.W. Account interest earned	1,481.05
2/28/83	-Other interest earned	<u>1,172.14</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS

\$155,936.23

\$155,936.23

LESS CASH DISBURSEMENTS:

-S/F Administrative Support-FY82 (Cooperative Agreement #SF-5)	\$ 1,873.99
-S/F Administrative Support-FY83 (Cooperative Agreement #SF-14-1)	11,578.75
-Council Support-FY83 (Cooperative Agreement #CL-2-1)	8,122.98
-SEAMAP FY83 (Coop. Agree. #SF-15-1)	9,617.50
-Menhaden Plan Update (Contract #NA82-GA-C-00045)	1,921.45

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Salaries	17,152.18
Benefits (insurance)	3,132.31
Payroll taxes	2,226.02
Office Supplies	661.62
Postage	100.00
Professional services	1,515.00
Telephone	3,112.03
Travel	5,056.50
Office Equipment	294.91
Office Equipment Rental	111.00
Copy Expense	1,158.30
Printing Expense	49.10
Meeting Cost	2,220.81
Subscriptions/Dues	237.00
Automobile (gas/repairs)	489.31
Insurance (bond/automobile)	1,045.00
Maintenance (office equip.)	2,152.78
Petty Cash	100.66
Commission Courtesies	129.23
Menhaden Plan Update	<u>6,655.97</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$80,714.40

*ENDING CASH BALANCE:

Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
Regular Account	1,616.80
Special Account	<u>73,580.03</u>

\$ 75,221.83

Balance has been reconciled to the bank statements.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES

Thursday/Friday, April 21-22, 1983
Airport Hilton
New Orleans, Louisiana

Mr. Walter Tatum, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:20 pm. He introduced Mr. Richard Waller from Mississippi who has replaced Dr. Tom McIlwain on the Subcommittee. He also presented a letter of proxy from Mr. Barney Barrett of Louisiana for Ms. Karen Jo Foote. Both the agenda (copy attached) and the March 14, 1983, meeting minutes were approved by the Subcommittee.

Mr. Tatum stated that the first phase outline of the SEAMAP Operational Plan will be due on April 28th. The outline will be distributed to Subcommittee for their review. Once reviewed, the Subcommittee will decide, by conference phone call, whether to approve the first phase and request the contractor, Dr. Richard Condrey, to proceed with the second phase of the Plan.

Dr. Condrey distributed a SEAMAP Operational Plan, Phase I: Situation Audit and SEAMAP Option: Policies and Objectives document. He requested the Subcommittee to review each document overnight so he can receive additional guidance in the morning for the development of the Plan.

Ms. Nicki Bane distributed a handout titled "SEAMAP Research Priority Index". She stated that most of the Subcommittee has prioritized their agency objectives. She will summarize these objectives and present them to the Subcommittee the next day. She indicated that if the SEAMAP Operational Plan is to have some goals and objectives stated, then the Subcommittee has to determine some common priorities.

Mr. Richard Brown, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Miami, Laboratory, gave a report prepared by Dr. Bill Richards on the status of the 1982 ichthyoplankton samples, the 1983 SEAMAP ichthyoplankton survey and the plans for the 1983 fall survey (copy attached).

Mr. C.E. Bryan reported on the status of the 1983 shrimp and bottomfish survey. He stated that his report is preliminary and subject to revision. Presently, the total number of samples sites are 332. The sampling period is from June 1 to July 14 - Apalachicola, Florida, to

Brownsville, Texas. East of the River to Cape San Blas, Florida, there are 95 sample sites, West of the River to the Texas-Louisiana border there are 118 sample sites and off Texas there are 119 sample sites. The research vessels OREGON II, NMFS; WESTERN GULF, Texas Parks and Wildlife; TOMMY MUNRO, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory; and the SUNCOASTER, NMFS charter vessel will operate offshore. The states will trawl their respective waters. The vessels will follow the following preliminary schedule:

OREGON II-	East of River	- June 1 to 10
	Louisiana	- June 13 to 21
	Texas	- June 29 to July 14
SUNCOASTER	Louisiana East	- June 13 to 22
	Pensacola to	
	Cape San Blas	- June 25 to July 3
WESTERN GULF	Texas	- June 20 to July 14
TOMMY MUNRO	Mississippi	- June 8 to 9

The state inshore vessels will attempt to make their sampling schedule such that inshore and offshore trawling can be done within the same time frame. The OREGON II will coordinate with each offshore vessel to do gear calibration stations. The OREGON II will do gear calibration trawls with the WESTERN GULF on July 14, TOMMY MUNRO on June 8, and SUNCOASTER on June 20.

The shrimp and bottomfish work group has recommended that either a meeting be set up between all participants to inform them of sampling techniques and general equipment needs or have one person visit each participating agency. NMFS has volunteered the services of Mr. Fred Diaz to visit all the agencies for coordinating sampling techniques and gear needs.

Mr. Gary Matlock motioned that the Subcommittee accept the work group recommendation that Mr. Diaz contact each participating agency so sampling techniques can be standardized.

The Subcommittee approved Mr. Matlock's motion by consensus.

The Subcommittee discussed Florida's proposal to archive and house SEAMAP ichthyoplankton samples. The data from the samples could be put

on tape for distribution to SEAMAP participants. None of the other states, with the exception of Florida or NMFS, has the capability for housing or archiving ichthyoplankton samples on a long term basis. Florida has agreed to archive and house the 1982 SEAMAP ichthyoplankton samples but will require funding support to archive the 1983 samples. Florida is presently in the process of trying to obtain a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to aid in curation of vertebrate and invertebrate samples.

The Subcommittee agreed by consensus to accept Florida's proposal to archive the 1982 SEAMAP ichthyoplankton samples. The archiving of ichthyoplankton and procedure for distribution should be in the Operational Plan. In addition, the Subcommittee will write a letter to the State of Florida, thanking them for their contribution to archive and house the samples. A copy of that letter would go to the NSF to enhance funding support for the State of Florida.

Mr. Tatum stated that several questions were raised during the last SEAMAP meeting concerning the shrimp and bottomfish sampling design. The Subcommittee requested that Dr. Scott Nichols, Southeast Fisheries Center (SEFC) present a document on sampling design and appear before the Subcommittee today to answer questions.

The Subcommittee asked Dr. Nichols several questions concerning contents of the document entitled "Development of the June-July Texas Closure/Stock Assessment Sampling Program for Brown Shrimp". At the end of the question and answer session the Subcommittee agreed that the document, or a revised version should go into the SEAMAP Atlas.

Dr. Warren Stuntz, reported on the status of the 1983 environmental survey. He stated that the survey will be similar to the 1982 survey with minor changes in sampling and data forms. He requested all survey participants to contact him if they need environmental gear.

Dr. Maurice Renaud, NMFS Galveston, presented a proposal on hypoxia survey off Louisiana. The proposal was presented as a cooperative survey between the State of Louisiana and NMFS Galveston Laboratory, to study hypoxia occurrence off the coast of Louisiana. The proposal was broken down into two parts, one for 1983 funding and the other for 1984 funding.

Mr. Barrett stated that the proposal is presented as a SEAMAP cooperative effort between Louisiana and NMFS, but Louisiana has only obligated to supply bunk space for the NMFS scientist. Louisiana has been collecting hypoxia data off Louisiana for the last three years under a contract and could not release this data without permission from the contractor.

Mr. Matlock made a motion that the Subcommittee should support the 1983 portion of the hypoxia project as a cooperative effort between Louisiana and NMFS, but not as a SEAMAP project and without funding support. Also encourage vessels in the area to collect environmental samples if convenient and feasible, but not to add additional environmental parameters. In addition, defer the 1984 portion of the proposal back to the environmental work group for further consideration to include in survey plans for 1984 on the assumption that this is an activity that SEAMAP will consider.

The Subcommittee discussed the potential use of satellite environmental data for distribution on a real-time basis. The Subcommittee concluded that satellite real-time data was a high priority item with SEAMAP and agreed to support NMFS in whatever way possible to obtain satellite real-time data.

Mr. Ken Savastano presented a report on data coordination to the Subcommittee. He reviewed the following flow charts entitled SEAMAP System Overview, SEAMAP Study Data Flow, Environmental Data Processing Subsystem, Groundfish Data Processing Subsystem, Ichthyoplankton Data Processing Subsystem, Shrimp Data Processing Subsystem, Near Real-Time Data Processing Subsystem, SEAMAP Information System, Copy of New Groundfish and Environmental Form, Copy of Ichthyoplankton Form and Copy of Argos Changes.

Mr. Matlock recommended that an internal policy or protocol be developed by the Data Coordinating Work Group for handling and accessing SEAMAP data. This protocol will be put into the SEAMAP Operational Plan.

Mr. Tatum stated that if there were no objections from the Subcommittee, the Data Coordinating Work Group will meet with Perry Thompson prior to the next SEAMAP meeting to develop the data protocol. This protocol will be distributed to the Subcommittee for approval.

Dr. Condrey discussed the first phase of the SEAMAP Operational Plan and requested guidance from the Subcommittee on the document entitled SEAMAP Options: Policies and Objectives.

Under the topic of Program Management, the first issue was University Participation (Sea Grant) in SEAMAP.

The Subcommittee discussed and concluded that the universities do play a major role on the Subcommittee by being incorporated into the work groups as non-voting members. The problem with including universities or other marine institutions, is that it would create a management problem for the Subcommittee as a large unworkable subcommittee. The Subcommittee will keep Sea Grant informed of SEAMAP activities and include universities into the SEAMAP work groups.

The second issue was MARMAP/SEAMAP Association.

The Subcommittee discussed and concluded that they should eliminate the reference to MARMAP specifically but not eliminate the tie in with the national needs, stock assessment, and resources associated activities with MARMAP.

The third issue was Council involvement in an advisory capacity.

The Subcommittee discussed and concluded that a window be left open in the plan for Council or Commission involvement. Council's goals and objectives are identified through NMFS and state participation because they are components of the Councils.

The fourth issue was gear calibration objectives.

The Subcommittee discussed and concluded that it should try to standarize sampling gear as far as feasible and in those areas when they cannot develop methodologies for comparing results.

Under the Topic of Resource Surveys, the first issue was Scope Of Operations.

The Subcommittee discussed and concluded that the scope of operations should include the Gulf of Mexico and associated estuarine waters.

The second issue was prioritization of living marine resources.

Mrs. Bane distributed a summary of priority species (copy attached) which was completed by the Subcommittee. She stated that there was no single resource objective that covered all the states (copy attached).

The Subcommittee discussed future SEAMAP survey activities, that could be put into the Operational Plan.

Mr. Tatum stated that he would be interested in a short term project for tagging red drum to obtain information on the magnitude and migration of stocks in the Gulf of Mexico.

Dr. Matlock was concerned that the original intent of SEAMAP not be lost. That intent is to establish a long term data base that would develop trends for the assessment of as many stocks as possible. The trawling was selected because large numbers of animals could be collected with the least amount of effort. As far as SEAMAP activities he would recommend the Subcommittee to do the following:

- 1) Establish trawling as both short and long term goal of SEAMAP and expand trawling year round in the Gulf in order to develop a long term data base.
- 2) Tagging activities be coordinated amongst all states and do not restrict to one species.
- 3) Also, not to do the sampling but to encourage the examination of incorporating longlines to assess the population of adult fish.
- 4) A repeat of the gear calibration workshop either next year or the year after. Also a workshop on tagging activities in the Gulf, so we can obtain a handle on the kinds of tags, shedding rates and purposes.

Dr. Stuntz stated that if we are going to expand trawling we would probably want to expand ichthyoplankton also.

Mr. Tatum recommended that the redfish tagging survey start in the fall of FY 84 and 85.

Mr. Matlock recommended that the trawling survey be expanded in 1984 temporarily and spatial as much as practical with existing vessels. The longline study should start in 1984 by creating a work group to look at the feasibility of longlining for adult stocks of fish in the Gulf.

The third issue under Topic of Resource Surveys was evaluation of importance of environmental data.

The Subcommittee discussed and concluded that the environmental data be defined as a new goal, "Develop an integrated data base for describing the resource environment in the Gulf of Mexico".

The fourth issue was determination of Information Products. The following items were discussed by the Subcommittee:

- 1) Survey Atlas - the Subcommittee recommended that if possible it would be published every year.
- 2) Marine Directory - the Subcommittee recommended that it would be updated annually.
- 3) Data Bank Assessment - the Subcommittee recommended that it would be included in the Marine Directory.
- 4) Operations Manual - the Subcommittee recommended that the manuals for each work group are the responsibility of the work group.
- 5) Cruise Plans - the Subcommittee recommended that it be included in the Operational Plan and a letter be sent to interested personnel prior to survey.

The Subcommittee decided that the next SEAMAP meeting would be in July. The exact date will be decided after contact with the Subcommittee by the Coordinator.

Mr. Watson reported on gear workshop that was held in Austin, Texas. A list of recommendations were presented to the Subcommittee (copy attached).

Mr. Matlock moved that the Subcommittee adopt these recommendations, as SEAMAP procedures when feasible with an amendment to the fourth recommendation. The beginning of that recommendation should read, "The Subcommittee recommends that.... instead of the word Develop".

The Subcommittee agreed to the motion by consensus.
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Walter Tatum, Chairman
SEAMAP Subcommittee

WT/PAT/mh

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday/Friday, April 21-22, 1983
New Orleans, Louisiana

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Richard Waller	Gulf Coast Research Lab., Ocean Springs, MS
Walter Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Nikki Bane	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Harold B. Allen	FL Institute of Oceanography, St. Petersburg, FL
Barney Barrett	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Karen Foote	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Warren Stuntz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MA
Neal Baxter	NMFS, Galveston, TX
Maurice Renaud	NMFS, Galveston, TX
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Ken Savastano	NMFS, NSTL Station, MS
Tom Leming	NMFS, MSTL Station, MS
J. Alan Huff	FL Dept. Natural Resources, St. Petersburg, FL
C.E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Richard Condrey	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Richard S. Brown	NMFS, Miami, FL
Fred R. Diaz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Walter M. Tatum	Al Dept. Cons. & Nat. Resour., Gulf Shores, AL

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE

Preliminary Agenda

April 21-22, 1983

New Orleans Airport Hilton
Rosedown Room
New Orleans, Louisiana

DATE/TIME

Thursday, April 21, 1983

- 10:00 a.m. Adoption of Agenda (Tatum)
- 10:05 a.m. Adoption of March 14, 1983 Minutes (Tatum)
- 10:15 a.m. Operational Plan Overview (Condrey)
o Priorities and Resources
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Detail 1983 Survey Plans
o Ichthyoplankton Work Group Report (Richards)
- Ichthyoplankton Archives
- Fall Ichthyoplankton Survey
- o Shrimp and Bottomfish Work Group Report (Bryan)
- Survey Design (Nichols)
- o Environmental Work Group Report (Stuntz)
- Anoxia Proposal
- 4:30 p.m. Data Coordination Work Group Report (Savastano)
o Data Management
- Data Request
- o Real-time Data

Friday, April 22, 1983

- 8:00 a.m. Future SEAMAP Short and Long Term Goals and Objectives
in Relation To: (Tatum)
o SEAMAP Activities
o SEAMAP Survey
o Operational Plans
- 11:30 a.m. SEAMAP Gear Standardization Manual (Watson)
- 11:45 a.m. Other Business
o Future Meetings
- 12:00 noon Adjourn

Ichthyoplankton Work Group Report

Prepared by W. J. Richards for the SEAMAP Meeting of April 21, 1983

1982 Ichthyoplankton Samples

Sorted and identified samples for all but a few of the 1982 SEAMAP cruises and they are being mailed from Poland on April 22, 1983. Transit time is usually four weeks. Upon arrival in Miami, the following will be done: (1) Data logs will be xeroxed and sent to SEAMAP subcommittee members. (2) Entry of the data into the computer will commence. (3) Mexican samples will be sent to Mexico. (4) Samples requested by scientists will be packed and sent out. (5) Miami staff will commence further verification of identification for important groups especially bluefin tuna to meet international commitments. (6) Upon conclusion of data entry, a report including distribution plots will be distributed to the SEAMAP subcommittee.

1983 Spring Survey

The OREGON II will conduct the pelagic portion from April 21 to May 23. Word has been received that Mexico will survey her waters with two vessels. Small bongo samplers have been shipped on April 20 to Louisiana and Alabama. A large bongo frame and nets will be sent to GCRL soon. LSU has requested bongo tows from the OREGON II pelagic cruise to study insect distribution in the Gulf. The samples will be returned within 6 weeks.

1983 Fall Survey

Interest remains high for this important survey. The OREGON II will do the inshore ichthyoplankton survey as part of her fall groundfish survey. The offshore pelagic phase will be conducted in early December by the OREGON. ^{II} There is a need for the states to commit vessels to inshore

waters in October and November. As of last word, Mexico will survey her waters in October and November. This survey will provide a unique look at fall spawning resources in the Gulf, especially sciaenids.

Permanent Archiving of Ichthyoplankton Samples

The Ichthyoplankton Work Group has not yet received any formal correspondence on their offer to permanently archive material.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS ON SEAMAP
RESOURCE PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES
April 21, 1983

Discussions focusing on resource needs and research objectives reflected, for the most part, the viewpoints of SEAMAP representatives from the five Gulf states and the NMFS representative, with additional insight from other participants attending the meeting. A general overview of those opinions is presented here, followed by a summary of major observations on priorities.

ALABAMA (Mr. Walter Tatum)

HIGHEST PRIORITY NEEDS:

SHRIMP: population dynamics for non-adult stages; environmental requirements of larval shrimp
ESTUARINE PELAGICS: seasonal distribution, other population dynamics; predator-prey relationships
GROUND FISH: population dynamics, stock magnitude
COASTAL HERRINGS
WHITE SHRIMP: spawning areas, environmental parameters, density/growth relationships

VERY HIGH PRIORITY NEEDS:

REEF FISH: life histories and food habits; environmental requirements of juveniles; population abundance and MSY
SHARKS, TUNAS, BILLFISH: abundance, environmental parameters, gear efficiency
COASTAL PELAGICS: environmental parameters and migrations
REEF FISH: habitat requirements

LESS IMPORTANT NEEDS:

SQUID: population dynamics, MSY: relative gear efficiency, age/growth, spawning areas

SPECIES OF LIMITED INTEREST:

stone crabs, corals, reef fish, spiny lobsters

MISSISSIPPI (Mr. Dick Waller)

HIGHEST PRIORITY NEEDS:

SHRIMP: distribution and abundance, real-time data
MENHADEN: offseason distribution (spawning); larval transport; offshore food habits, schooling behavior; environmental parameters
GROUND FISH: abundance, distribution, gear efficiency; species interactions, environmental requirements
ESTUARINE PELAGICS: life histories, larval foods, migrations and offshore distribution

VERY HIGH PRIORITY NEEDS:

SHARKS: distribution and abundance; food habits, reproduction
COASTAL PELAGICS: distribution and abundance, migrations, spawning; other life history studies
REEF FISHES: distribution and abundance
STONE CRABS: substrate, distribution, predator-prey relationships

LESS IMPORTANT NEEDS:

COASTAL HERRINGS: as forage, predator-prey migrations, distribution, abundance
TUNAS AND BILLFISH: distribution, spawning, gear efficiency, juvenile mortality
SQUID: abundance, distribution, life histories, migrations, gear efficiency

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (Dr. Walter Nelson)

HIGHEST PRIORITY NEEDS:

ADULT STOCKS OF SHRIMP, GROUND FISH, REEF FISH, OCEAN PELAGICS, COASTAL HERRINGS: distribution, abundance, status of stocks

JUVENILE STAGES OF ABOVE SPECIES: recruitment index, environmental relationships, trophic structures (predator-prey)

EGGS AND LARVAE OF ABOVE SPECIES: diversity; trophic structure, species identification, spawning areas, environmental relationships

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

VERY HIGH PRIORITY NEEDS:

ESTUARINE PELAGICS, OCEANIC PELAGICS, TURTLES, MARINE MAMMALS, SQUID, MENHADEN, CRABS: distribution, abundance, status of stocks, age structure

OCEANIC PELAGICS, SQUID, MENHADEN, TURTLES, MARINE MAMMALS: offshore distribution and abundance

ABOVE SPECIES: seasonal patterns of distribution and distribution of eggs and larvae

LESS IMPORTANT NEEDS:

SCALLOPS, CLAMS, CORALS, TROPICAL REEF FISHES: general distribution and abundance

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

LOUISIANA (Mr. Barney Barrett, Ms. Karen Foote)

HIGHEST PRIORITY NEEDS:

SHRIMP: spawning areas and migrations; distribution, environmental parameters
ESTUARINE PELAGICS (RED DRUM AND SPOTTED SEATROUT): age/growth, distribution, abundance; reproduction fecundity, mortality; spawning areas and environmental parameters

VERY HIGH PRIORITY NEEDS:

GROUND FISH: abundance; migrations; environmental parameters

COASTAL PELAGICS (MACKEREL): abundance

MENHADEN: distribution, individual year classes

LESS IMPORTANT NEEDS:

REEF FISH: abundance and distribution

SPECIES OF LIMITED INTEREST:

coastal herrings, tunas, sharks, billfish, swordfish, scallops, clams, spiny lobsters, corals, tropical reef fishes, sea turtles, marine mammals, squid

TEXAS (Mr. Gary Matlock)

Mr. Matlock expressed his opinion that the goal of SEAMAP is not to prioritize resources and research objectives, but rather to monitor, identify, and enumerate all species captured in trawls, tagging all captured species practicable and collecting environmental data. Mr. Matlock felt this approach best expresses the spirit of the original SEAMAP purpose set forth by NMFS, and should be continued for (up to?) 10 years prior to determining research objectives.

FLORIDA (Mr. Alan Huff)

HIGHEST PRIORITY NEEDS: All of the following species have been ranked equally by Mr. Huff:

REEF FISH (GROUPERS): life histories, age/growth, early growth, stock identification; offshore forage areas, spawning sites; habitat alteration

ESTUARINE PELAGICS (BLACK DRUM, RED DRUM, MULLET, SPOTTED SEATROUT, TARPON, SNOOK) migrations, distribution by all ages, size, sex, season; age/growth, life histories, stock identification; diseases and parasites

COASTAL PELAGICS (MACKEREL): natural and fishing mortality, growth rates, stock identification; migrations, gear efficiency, early growth to 1 year; distribution

FLORIDA

HIGHEST PRIORITY NEEDS (cont'd.):

OYSTERS: abundance, distribution by size, growth, biological pathogens; mortality, gear efficiency/fishing pressure, depuration/relaying
QUEEN CONCH: abundance, distribution, age/growth, reproduction
CLAMS: abundance, distribution, biological pathogens
BLUE CRABS: population dynamics, migrations, environmental requirements, climatological; commercial/recreational catch, abundance for sustainable yield, recruitment, gear efficiency
STONE CRABS: fishing mortality, claw stridulatory patterns, population dynamics; gear efficiency, fishery statistics
MARINE MAMMALS (MANATEES): population dynamics, life histories, spawning and nursery grounds
CORALS: population dynamics (abundance, distribution, mortality, age/growth), life histories, reproduction; mortality from human activities, environmental parameters affecting zonation, food habits
SPINY LOBSTER: population dynamics (juvenile and adult migrations, age/growth, gear efficiency/baiting, nursery habitat, maturity); recruitment sources, catch data
SEA TURTLES: population dynamics (spawning areas, nesting sites), behavior, mortality; stock enhancement/survival

HIGH PRIORITY NEEDS:

SQUID
BILLFISH
MENHADEN: environmental data
SPONGES
COASTAL HERRINGS: predator-prey relationships

LESS IMPORTANT RESOURCES (research not needed): SHARKS

NOTE: Of special interest to Florida are studies of vegetated habitats and their relationships to living resources; and habitat characterization.

ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS:

- Dr. Warren Stuntz, NMFS: Dr. Stuntz agreed with Mr. Matlock that the focus of SEAMAP should be on the ecosystem as a whole, encompassing all encountered species and resources in the Gulf, and not specifically on identified, prioritized species.
- Dr. Andrew Kemmerer, NMFS, and Dr. Harold Allen, FIO, offered insightful interpretations of the role of identifying important resources while at the same time focusing efforts on understanding the entire ecosystem.
- Dr. William J. Richards, NMFS, in a written memo, notes as Highest Priority Needs of the NMFS Miami Laboratory, stock assessment of shrimp, menhaden, bluefin tunas and mackerels through ichthyoplankton surveys; distribution and abundance, and spawning times and intensity of those species. Very High Priority Needs include such clupeid resources as Sardinella, Opisthonemus, and Etrumeus spp.; distribution and abundance of pelagic reef fishes and their early life history stages. Of Less Important Need are studies on carangid species.
- Mr. C.E. Bryan, TPWD: Mr. Bryan concurred with Mr. Matlock's viewpoint on goals.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON REGIONAL NEEDS:

In no case did a specific marine resource appear as the highest perceived research need among all states and NMFS. Considerable variation in prioritization appeared, reflecting differing resource abundance, use, known parameters and other factors. Nevertheless, a commonality of research need among three or more states is noted for several resources listed as Highest Priority or Very High Priority needs. These include:

- Shrimp: distribution and abundance of all stages, spawning areas, environmental parameters, life histories and status of stocks
- Groundfish: distribution and abundance, environmental parameters, status of stocks
- Coastal pelagics: distribution and abundance, migrations, spawning areas, environmental parameters
- Estuarine pelagics: distribution and abundance, life histories, predator-prey relationships, food habits, migrations, status of stocks
- Reef fish: life histories, stock identification, MSY, offshore forage, spawning sites, environmental parameters
- Menhaden: spawning areas, larval transport, age structure, distribution, schooling behavior, status of stocks, environmental parameters
- Sharks, tunas, billfish: abundance, stock recruitment, life histories, environmental parameters
- Squid: abundance and distribution, stock status

Other notable items:

1. A number of resources important to Florida did not appear as noted needs in any priority category of the other respondents: queen conch, clams, corals, sponges and spiny lobsters.
2. Environmental parameters appear as an important research objective for most of the high-priority resources as well as many of the less important resources.
3. Population dynamics, including distribution and abundance, migrations, and status of stocks, appear frequently as important objectives for most of the high-priority resources.
4. Coastal pelagics most frequently specified as important were mackerels.
5. Estuarine pelagics most frequently specified as important were red drum and spotted ~~sea trout~~
sea trout.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center
Mississippi Laboratories
Pascagoula Facility
P. O. Drawer 1207
Pascagoula, MS 39567

April 20, 1983

TO: SEAMAP Subcommittee
FROM: John Watson *J. L. Watson*
Gear Workshop Chairman

SUBJECT: Report on SEAMAP Gear Workshop

The SEAMAP Gear Workshop was held on March 17, 1983, in Austin, Texas at the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's 33rd annual spring meeting. The workshop was productive and generated considerable interest in calibrating and standardizing sampling gear and generating data to develop conversion factors for different sampling gears. Seven technical papers were presented on the subject and were well received by those in attendance. The papers and proceedings of the workshop will be published by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. Editors will be Dr. Richard Condrey, LSU, Dr. Jeff Mathews, NMFS, and myself. The proceedings of the panel discussion have been transcribed and are being edited. The principal objective of the workshop was to develop specific recommendations for "calibrating" trawls for SEAMAP bottom trawl surveys and future research requirements. The following recommendations based on results of the workshop proceedings are respectfully submitted to the SEAMAP subcommittee for consideration.

- o Designate the 40 ft SEAMAP sampling trawl as the standard offshore sampling trawl to which comparisons of other trawl samples are made.
- o Provide detailed specifications for the standard 40 ft SEAMAP sampling trawl.
- o Develop a manual to include instructions on developing specifications for standardizing trawling gear, checking gear to insure standardization, and rigging and tuning trawling gear for proper operation.
- o Develop a program to collect trawl performance data and determine common units of measurement to calculate conversion factors between different gears.



10TH ANNIVERSARY 1970-1980

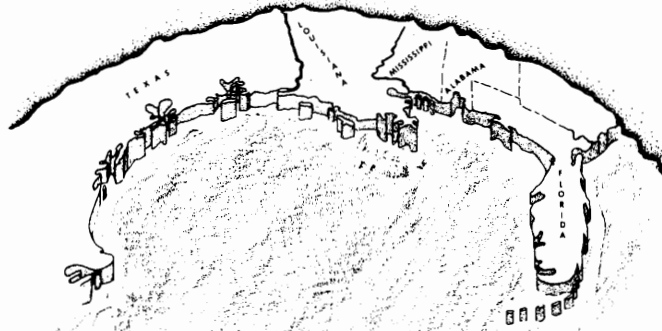
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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- o Continue to collect comparative data on catch rates for gear of different sizes. Utilize comparative data collected by Texas, Louisiana, and NMFS to compute conversion factors for different size trawls. Update conversion factors as new data is acquired.
- o Continue to collect comparative information from paired tows between vessels conducting SEAMAP surveys with the following recommendations to improve results.
 - o Paired tow tests should be made at the start of a sampling program, and the data analyzed on-the-spot in case changes and re-testing are required.
 - o Vessels should be as close together as feasible when making paired tows.
 - o A minimum of 5 paired tows should be required.
 - o Two nets should be towed by at least one vessel when making the paired tows. This provides an estimate of within vessel error which greatly simplifies data analysis and interpretation.
- o Sponsor additional workshops on sampling design, sampling techniques, and data analysis.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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

DATE: July 7, 1983

TO: SEAMAP Subcommittee

FROM: Perry A. Thompson *P.A.*
SEAMAP Coordinator

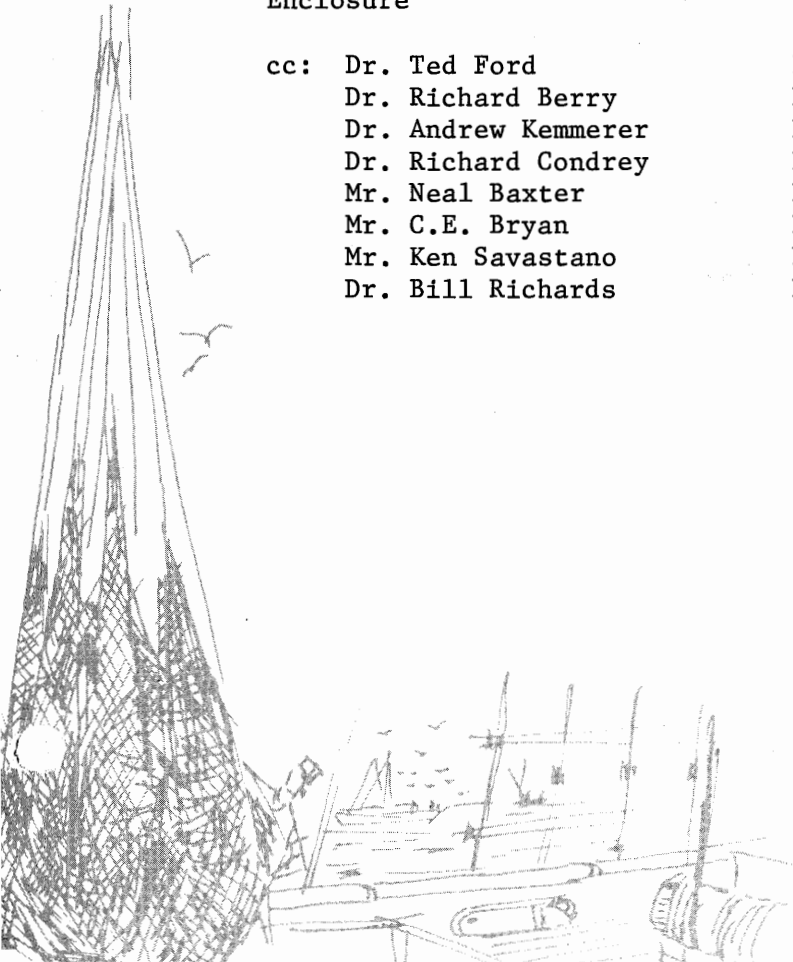
SUBJECT: April 21-22, 1983 - SEAMAP Minutes

Attached are the April 21-22, 1983 SEAMAP Minutes for your review. If you have any comments, changes or deletions, please make them at the July 21, 1983 SEAMAP meeting.

PAT/mh

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Ted Ford	Dr. Warren Stuntz
Dr. Richard Berry	Mr. Harold Allen
Dr. Andrew Kemmerer	Dr. Sally Richardson
Dr. Richard Condrey	Mrs. Karen Foote
Mr. Neal Baxter	Mr. Fred Diaz
Mr. C.E. Bryan	Mr. Tom Leming
Mr. Ken Savastano	Dr. Edward Klima
Dr. Bill Richards	Dr. Thomas McIlwain



TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
MINUTES
May 25-26, 1983
Kenner, Louisiana

The Task Force meeting began at 9:05 a.m. chaired by Larry B. Simpson. The agenda was approved with no corrections. The minutes of the March 15, 1983, Austin, Texas, Task Force meeting were approved with no corrections.

David Etzold gave a brief review of the Menhaden Management Plan approval procedure. He reminded the group that after the Task Force approves the plan it will be submitted to the Menhaden Advisory Committee (MAC). In the event of an impasse within the Task Force, the Executive Director of the Commission will negotiate a conclusion. His decision will be accepted as the Task Force decision to present to the MAC. After MAC approval, the plan will be sent to the Gulf States-Federal Fisheries Management Board (GS-FFMB) for approval by mail ballot as previously arranged. The Board will send the plan to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) for approval and subsequent submission to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in fulfillment of contract provisions and for their approval.

Handouts were distributed to the Task Force on Section 3 - Summary, Table 9-2 update and additional fishing effort information for consideration.

Major and minor problems within the text of the draft plan were noted and discussed page by page. Typing and editorial changes were received and noted by the full Task Force page by page. After these discussions and a special night session of the MSY Ad Hoc group, the Task Force considered the plan for approval. A motion was made by Dalton Berry and seconded by Richard Condrey to approve the plan for submission to the MAC with the following caveats:

- Inclusion of typing and editorial changes
- Approval of rewrites of 6.0 Habitat, 9.3 Economic Profile, 14.9 Limited Access Systems and 16.2 Harvest Prediction (circulate reference documents)

TASK FORCE, MENHADEN PLAN REVISION
MINUTES
Page Two

The motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry B. Simpson

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, May 26, 1983

Kenner, Louisiana

At the call of the Chairman, Harry Schafer, the Menhaden Advisory Committee (MAC) met to consider approval of the Gulf Menhaden Management Plan.

A quorum was declared with three of the five Gulf States present and all of the five Menhaden companies present during all or part of the discussions.

The Menhaden Task Force formally presented the document to the MAC for approval. A motion was made by George Brumfield and seconded by J.Y. Christmas to approve the plan for submission to the Gulf States-Federal Fisheries Management Board (GS-FFMB) for approval with the following caveats:

- Inclusion of typing and editorial changes
- Approval of rewrites of 6.0 Habitat, 9.3 Economic Profile, 14.9 Limited Access Systems and 16.2 Harvest Predictions (circulate reference documents)

The motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Schafer, Chairman
Menhaden Advisory Committee

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 26, 1983
Kenner, Louisiana

LIST OF ATTENDEES

David J. Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS, Hattiesburg, MS
J.Y. Christmas	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Ben R. Humphreys	Standard Products, Kilmarnock, VA
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife, Austin, TX
Walter Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Vincent Guillory	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Grand Isle, LA
Harry Schafer	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
George A. Brumfield	Zapata Haynie Corp., Moss Point, MS
Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products, Mandeville, LA
Robert B. Chapoton	NMFS, Beaufort Lab, Beaufort, N.C.
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc., Port Monmouth, NJ
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
Richard Condrey	LSU, Baton Rouge, LA

-AGENDA-
MENHADEN MANAGEMENT PLAN
WORKSHOP III

May 25-26, 1983
Kenner, Louisiana

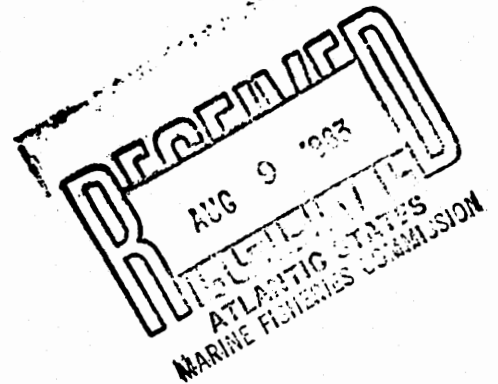
- 1) Call Workshop to order Time: 9:00 a.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
- 3) Approval of Workshop II Minutes and March meeting in Austin, Texas
- 4) Review Approval Procedure
- 5) Handouts: Summary, Bibliography, etc.
- 6) Major Problems - by sections
- 7) Minor Problems - by sections
- 8) Typing/Grammar - by sections
- 9) Task Force Approval
- 10) Menhaden Advisory Committee Approval
- 11) Adjourned



To Lakky Simpson JM
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20235

F/ML:ADT

JUN 8 1983



To: Regional Directors, NMFS

From: *for Roland J. ...*
F/M - Carmen J. Blondin

Subject: Interim Criteria for 90 percent funding under P.L 89-304

Attached are interim criteria for your use in determining eligibility for 90 percent funding under P.L 89-304 in FY 1983. These criteria are also being used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Also attached is a copy of the report on H.R 2784 prepared by the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. If H.R 2784 is enacted into law it will probably be unnecessary for us to publish interpretive rules for Section 14 of P.L 97-453.

Please call Ann Terbush (634-7218) with any questions you may have concerning this matter.

F/ML:ADTerbush:47218:sp:6/2/83
cc: Regional grants coordinators
Steve DiAngelo, USFWS
Magill F/ML. Schaefer: F/CA, Clear thru GCF

F/ML



Interim Criteria for Implementation of Section 14 of P.L. 97-453 (Section 1(C) of the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act, as amended): *

The Regional Director (of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service), before approving an application for 90 percent funding under Section 14 of P.L. 97-453, shall determine that the state has implemented an interstate fisheries management plan, and that the proposed activities are required by that plan. The Regional Director shall use the following guidance in making his determination:

- I. An "Interstate Fisheries Management Plan" is a plan which:
 1. has been prepared by an interstate Commission (i.e. the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, or the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission.)
 2. applies to waters of two or more States in which the anadromous fish stock (or groups of stocks) occurs,
 3. identifies any existing legal bases for reciprocal and/or interjurisdictional management of shared anadromous fishery resources,
 4. commits the States to a course of action, including regulation of fishery harvest through mandatory management measures within respective jurisdictional boundaries,
 5. establishes a schedule of actions and cost estimates where appropriate, and
 6. includes, at a minimum, the following elements:
 - a. Status and identification of the stocks and fisheries
 - b. Description of biological, economic and social problems and needs
 - c. Management goals and objectives
 - d. Specified conservation and management measures (mandatory and encouraged) which:
 - 1) address biological, legal, economic and social problems while recognizing constraints imposed by data gaps;
 - 2) prevent overfishing while achieving, on a continuing basis, the optimum yield for each fishery;
 - 3) are based on the best scientific information available;

- 4) to the extent practicable, provide for the management of an individual stock of fish as a unit throughout its range, and the management of interrelated stocks as a unit or in close coordination.
 - 5) do not discriminate between residents of different states. Fishing privileges allocated among various United States fishermen, must be:
 - a) fair and equitable to all such fishermen;
 - b) reasonably calculated to promote conservation; and
 - c) carried out in such manner that no particular individual, corporation or other entity acquires an excessive share of such privileges;
 - 6) take into account and allow for variations among and contingencies in fisheries, fishery resources, and catches; and,
 - 7) where practicable, minimize costs and avoid unnecessary duplication.
- e. Habitat and other environmental considerations
 - f. Provision for plan review and revision at intervals of not more than three years.
 - g. A description of coordination mechanisms.
 - h. Identification of research and monitoring needs.
 - i. Other topics pertinent to effective management of the stocks and fisheries.

II. "Has implemented" means that a state has adopted such a plan and has promulgated the mandatory management measures specified by the inter-state management plan.

III. "Activities required by such plan" are those activities, as specified by the plan, necessary to achieve its goals and objectives.

BLUE CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 18, 1983
Key West, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Harriet Perry, chairman. Phil Steele of Florida presented preliminary data concerning Florida's blue crab tagging program. Blue crab migration patterns, tag return rates and tagging programs were discussed. He noted similar migration patterns already observed by Oesterling. However, he has postulated that the female crabs that concentrate in the Apalachicola area are not seeking a spawning ground but are blocked by the freshwater discharge from that river and thus congregate in the area.

Following this presentation, each member of the Subcommittee as well as other non-member participants gave brief reports on the stone crab fisheries (Menippe sp.) in the Northern Gulf. It appears that these fisheries are still in their infancy although more stone crabs are being harvested than previously recognized from these states. Harriet Perry reviewed the research being conducted to determine the meristic differences between the Florida stone crab M. mercenaria and the variety found in the Northern Gulf. The latter variety has been given the species name M. sidulata.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to reviewing comments of W. A. Van Engle concerning the Economics Section of the Blue crab Fishery Profile. Dr. Garey Perkins provided his expertise in clarifying problem areas. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

BLUE CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. The attendees continued to review various comments concerning the Profile. Assignments were given to the attendees to update and correct portions of the profile.

Elections were held for a new chairman and the lot fell to Paul Hammerschmidt of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Seadrift, Texas. He recognized the outgoing chairman, Harriet Perry, as the driving force behind the successful completion of the Blue Crab Fishery Profile.

The Subcommittee members discussed future goals of the committee. Gerald Adkins was asked to present the minutes, accomplishments and goals of the Subcommittee to the TCC in the unavoidable absence of the newly-elected chairman. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul C. Hammerschmidt, Chairman
Blue Crab Subcommittee

BLUE CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 18 - Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Harriet M. Perry	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Gerald Adkins	LDWF, Bourg, LA
Richard Condrey	CWR/LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Paul C. Hammerschmidt	TPWD, Seadrift, TX
Steve Heath	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Charles Moss	Marine Advisory Service/TX A&M, Angleton, TX
Garey Perkins	Food & Fiber Center/MSU, Mississippi State, MS
Phil Steele	FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 18, 1983
Key West, Florida

Law Enforcement Committee convened at 1:00 pm and took up old business.

Billy Walker briefed the committee on recent Texas legislation requiring that trucks transporting fish in Texas be marked. It was the concession of the group that this would be an asset to enforcement efforts of all the Gulf states.

All representatives concurred that our SEAS computers are in place and personnel have been trained. They were complimentary of Charles Fuss of National Marine Fisheries Service and his staff. All feel this system will be an asset for the exchange of law enforcement information.

Captain Dave McGillis of the Florida Marine Patrol gave a presentation on Florida's stolen boat program and how it affects all of the Gulf states, particularly, the insurance costs being passed on to pleasure and commercial vessel owners. He discussed current legislation in Florida that requires a secondary number on all boats and outboard motors manufactured or sold in Florida. His discussion also pointed out the problems caused by non-title states in the recovery of stolen boats.

There followed a general discussion of marine resource enforcement, techniques employed and a slide presentation of some of the law enforcement equipment presently in use.

Members of the committee met with officers of the Florida Marine Patrol and accompanied them on patrol to familiarize themselves with enforcement problems in the Florida Keys.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
October 18, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Pat Howell	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Charles M. Fuss, Jr.	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Billy Walker	TPWD, Austin, TX
Harold D. Oates	TPWD, Austin, TX
Tommy Landis	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Charlie Clark	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Harvey	MBMR, Long Beach, MS
Jerry Waller	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Maj. Joe Brown	FMP, Homosassa Springs, FL
Capt. Dave McGillis	FMP, Tallahassee, FL
Capt. L. S. Livings	FMP, Marathon, FL

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 18, 1983
Key West, Florida

Mr. Walter Tatum, Chairman of the SEAMAP Subcommittee, opened the meeting with prayer at 9:00 am. The agenda was accepted with additions (copy attached). The July 21 and 22 SEAMAP meeting and conference call minutes were approved with minor corrections.

Mr. Alan Huff reported on the South Atlantic SEAMAP initiative. He stated that the South Atlantic committee consists of one member each from the states of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina along with NMFS, Southeast Fisheries Center and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. The fishery problems and priorities are different in the South Atlantic. Ichthyoplankton is not of high priority but environmental sampling, reef fish, shrimp and red fish are of high priority. The Committee has started on an operational plan by using the Gulf Operational Plan as a model.

The 1983 Annual SEAMAP Report was distributed to the Subcommittee for review. The Subcommittee motioned and without objections agreed that the 1983 Annual SEAMAP Report be presented by the Chairman to the TCC on Thursday, October 20, 1983, along with a slide show on 1983 SEAMAP activities.

Dr. Bill Richards reported on the status of the 1982 and 1983 ichthyoplankton samples (chart attached). Presently the 1982 samples are undergoing quality control. Problems have existed in Poland causing delays in identifying and shipping the 1982 ichthyoplankton samples. The majority of the 1982 samples will be ready to go into the 1983 SEAMAP Atlas by the middle of November.

Mr. Huff stated that Florida is ready to receive the 1982 ichthyoplankton samples. Florida has a full-time technician and storage facilities for curating SEAMAP ichthyoplankton samples. If NMFS agrees, Florida would like to send Mark Leiby to the Miami NMFS Lab to work out the logistics of obtaining the 1982 ichthyoplankton samples.

Mr. Perry Thompson reported on the Fall ichthyoplankton survey. He stated that the states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana along with the NMFS would participate in the survey. Florida and Texas would not participate due to vessel problems. The survey would be in the Northern Gulf from Perdido Bay, Florida, to Trinity Shoals, Louisiana, from October 11 to November 15, 1983. The states will be using 20 cm bongo nets to sample their bays and passes while the NMFS Vessel OREGON II will collect ichthyoplankton samples offshore during their groundfish survey. There will be an offshore ichthyoplankton survey from December 6 to 22 but the states will not be involved.

Dr. Ed Klima reported on the 1983 Shrimp and Bottomfish Survey. He stated that no major problems occurred during the survey.

Mr. Thompson reported that a SEAMAP questionnaire was sent to 173 persons on the SEAMAP mailing list. The questionnaire asked for comments on the 1983 real-time data reports. He stated that he has received 86 replies in which 95% of those would like for SEAMAP to continue.

Dr. Tom McIlwain reported on his tour of duty in Washington, DC, which would end November 1. He stated that the Commerce budget bill is

in Senate committee. The SEAMAP budget request for 1984 funding was bounced out of Commerce. On October 4 he met with David Stockman, head of Office of Management and Budget (OMB), to present the SEAMAP budget case for 1984. OMB listened to the justification for SEAMAP funding and requested information on state in-kind support, which was supplied.

He continued by saying that the Gulf needs a voice in Washington to present a united front for fishery funds in the Gulf. Several fishery groups are well represented in Washington but the Gulf needs to unite to build a coalition for all the Gulf fisheries and work together. He suggested that fishery people in the Gulf contact their Washington representatives to keep them informed on fishery problems.

Dr. Warren Stuntz reported on the 1983 Environmental Survey activities. He stated that overall the survey went well but did have minor problems with the chlorophyll samples. The work group will address the issue of data quality control the next time they meet.

The SEAMAP Atlas has been sent out to the Subcommittee for review. All comments have been incorporated and the Atlas should be ready for publication by December 1.

Mr. John Ray Nelson stated that his fishermen don't really understand the real-time data. He would like for the Sea Grant people in Alabama to explain the data reports to the fishermen.

Mr. Ken Savastano reported on the Data Coordinating Work Group. He distributed a handout on the status of the 1982 and 1983 data (copy attached).

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated that some species weights are missing in the data sheets from Alabama and Texas. Mr. Tatum stated that Alabama will be putting species weights on their data sheets in the future. Mr. Gary Matlock stated that Texas does not take weights of individual species but does take total weights of samples. Texas plans to develop length/weight regressions for each one of the species.

After much discussion the Subcommittee agreed that the Shrimp and Bottomfish Work Group should address the problem of species weights.

The SEAMAP meeting adjourned till 1:00 pm with only the Subcommittee remaining to discuss problems with the real-time data mailouts from the GSMFC office and Galveston Lab and publishing of a hypoxia paper by the Galveston Lab. The Subcommittee also discussed a conflict with request for ichthyoplankton samples.

The Subcommittee agreed to put on the agenda for the March 1984 GSMFC meeting a discussion of formatting and distribution of real-time data. Dr. Ed Klima agreed to meet with the Subcommittee at that time to discuss distribution of the real-time mailouts.

The Subcommittee discussed the publishing of papers on the hypoxia conditions off Louisiana. Dr. Klima agreed to send the Galveston paper on hypoxia to Dr. Ford, Mr. Barrett and the Subcommittee for review. Dr. Klima proposed that either Louisiana should publish jointly with NMFS or separately after the review so as not to duplicate the data. The Subcommittee agreed to review the paper.

The Subcommittee discussed an ichthyoplankton sample conflict between Louisiana and Dr. Sally Richardson/Rick Shaw. The Subcommittee requested that the parties involved get together to solve the conflict. If the conflict could not be solved then the Subcommittee would solve it.

The Subcommittee adjourned for lunch.

The Subcommittee reconvened at 1 pm to discuss a letter received from the Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) concerning distribution of real-time data. The Subcommittee agreed to respond to the TSA letter and address the following points. On sampling strategy, the Shrimp and Bottomfish Work Group would review the strategy of sampling North to South or South to North off Texas in 1984. On distribution of real-time data, the Subcommittee will state that a policy was established in 1982 that all data would be distributed upon request only, instead of sending blanket mailouts. The policy was not followed in 1983 and will be correct before the 1984 mailouts.

Dr. Richard Condrey presented the final draft of the SEAMAP Operational Plan to the Subcommittee. He asked the Subcommittee for approval of the following:

- (1) He would suggest that the Operational Plan be single spaced with double spacing between paragraphs and with figures incorporated throughout the Plan.

- The Subcommittee had no objections.

(2) He suggested that the Subcommittee consider the same SEAMAP logo since it is an established logo for SEAMAP.

- The Subcommittee agreed.

(3) He suggested that a list of Subcommittee members be put in the Plan.

- The Subcommittee agreed that the list should be put in the front of the Plan.

(4) He stated that Section 7.0, Budget and Planning, has new figures.

- The Subcommittee agreed that Table 7.3 is not an accurate table and motioned, without objection, to have it removed from the Plan.

Dr. Condrey requested all the Subcommittee members to review the final draft and the event logic diagram before they would depart Key West.

Mr. Tatum requested the Subcommittee members, Dr. Ford, Dr. Condrey, Mrs. Bane and Mr. Thompson to meet for lunch October 19 to complete the Operational Plan review.

Mr. Mike Murphy presented a red fish tagging proposal to the Subcommittee. He stated that Florida is interested in obtaining information on age and growth of large adult red fish and their migration patterns in the Gulf. Purse seine captains have stated that the big reds move in from the east off Northwest Florida into Louisiana in the spring and in the fall move back to the east from the Florida panhandle to central Florida. This proposal is designed to study

migration patterns of these large fish through tagging. Presently Florida is in the process of a feasibility study to see if tagging would be the best method for studying migration patterns of red drum.

He proposed the chartering of a purse seine vessel to tag the fish, measure, and inject tetracycline into the fish for aging. In 20 hours of tagging from one vessel he could possibly tag 1,200 fish. He estimates returns to be 3%. The return rate of 3% is based on work done by Dr. Overstreet of GCRL.

The Subcommittee motioned and without objection agreed that the ichthyoplankton surveys should continue into 1984. The work group should remain the same and be charged with reviewing 1982 and 1983 surveys so as to prepare for the 1984 surveys.

The Subcommittee motioned and without objection agreed to form a Red Drum Work Group consisting of one knowledgeable person on red fish from each of the states and NMFS, also to invite a technical staff member from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to be on the work group.

The Red Drum Work Group would be to assess current techniques available for identification of red drum stocks throughout their life cycles in the Gulf of Mexico.

Knowledge on red drum and the problems within the fishery have already been addressed in the profile published by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and in the draft profile by the Gulf Council (copies attached). The Subcommittee would like for the Workgroup members to review these documents prior to the next meeting so decisions

can be made on the best approach and techniques available for determining the status of the red drum stocks in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Subcommittee motioned and without objection agreed to continue with the shrimp and bottomfish surveys in 1984. The Shrimp and Bottomfish Work Group would remain the same with a charge to review 1982 and 1983 survey so as to prepare for the 1984 survey activities.

The Subcommittee motioned and without objection agreed to continue with the environmental surveys into 1984. The Environmental Work Group members would remain the same and would be charged with reviewing 1982 and 1983 survey activities so as to prepare for 1984 survey activities.

Dr. Andy Kemmerer stated that the Minerals Management Service (MMS) will be planning a major environmental survey in the Gulf for 1984. There is a possibility that SEAMAP could coordinate survey activities with MMS. SEAMAP could obtain a good bit of XBT equipment to go on state and NMFS vessels. He would like to recommend that the Subcommittee send Dr. Stuntz and/or Mr. Leming to the MMS meeting in New Orleans November 15-17 to represent SEAMAP.

The Subcommittee approved of Dr. Kemmerer's request.

Mr. Thompson presented a budget report for FY 84. He stated that funding support from GSMFC State/Federal programmatic funds and NMFS/SEFC for 1984 would total \$39,500.

Mr. Tatum recommended that the Subcommittee be thinking about FY 85 in terms of budget and activities to be prepared and discuss them at the next SEAMAP meeting.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
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The Subcommittee discussed the Coordinator's position. Mr. Thompson will return to NMFS on February 1, 1984.

Mr. Matlock motioned that a small group composed of Subcommittee members be appointed to consider every single option possible to fill the Coordinator's position.

The motion passed without objection.

Mr. Tatum appointed Mr. Thompson, Dr. Nelson, Dr. Ford, Mr. Huff and himself to serve on a Search Committee to recommend a new Coordinator to the Subcommittee at the next SEAMAP meeting.

The Subcommittee agreed that the next SEAMAP meeting will be in New Orleans on December 7 and 8.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter M. Tatum
Chairman
SEAMAP Subcommittee

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 18, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Walter M. Tatum	ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Gary Matlock	TPWD, Austin, TX
J. A. Huff	FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Barney Barrett	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Karen Foote	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Kenneth Savastano	NMFS, MS Laboratory
Bill Richards	NMFS, Miami Laboratory
J. Y. Christmas	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Warren Stuntz	NMFS, MS Laboratory
Dr. Walter Nelson	NMFS, MS Laboratory
Mr. Richard Waller	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Dr. Ed Klima	NMFS, Galveston Laboratory
Ms. Nikki Bane	CWR/LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Dr. Richard Condrey	CWR/LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Dr. Andrew Kemmerer	NMFS, MS Laboratories
Dr. Al Jones	NMFS, Miami Laboratory
Dr. J. I. Jones	MS-AL Sea Grant, Ocean Springs, MS
Mary Thompson	NMFS, Washington, DC

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

The SEAMAP Subcommittee met from 12 noon to 2 pm to continue with review comments on the SEAMAP Operational Plan. All comments were agreed to by the Subcommittee.

Dr. Condrey will incorporate the comments and send three photo finished copies of the SEAMAP Operational Plan to the Coordinator by November 1, 1983. Dr. Condrey's contract to develop the plan will end on November 1, 1983.

The Subcommittee members presented the following names for those people who will be on the Red Drum Work Group.

Texas	-	Larry McEachron
NMFS	-	William Fable
Mississippi	-	Dr. Tom McIlwain
Louisiana	-	Joey Sheppard
Alabama	-	John Hawk
Florida	-	Mike Murphy
Gulf Council	-	incomplete

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Preliminary Agenda

October 18, 1983

Casa Marina Resort
Duck Key Room
Key West, Florida

DATE/TIME

Tuesday - October 18, 1983

- 9:00 a.m. Introduction (Tatum)
- 9:05 a.m. Adoption of Agenda (Tatum)
- 9:10 a.m. Adoption of July 21-22, 1983 minutes (Tatum)
- 9:15 a.m. Atlantic SEAMAP Initiative (Tatum)
- 10:00 a.m. SEAMAP TCC Report (Tatum)
- 10:10 a.m. Washington SEAMAP Report (McIlwain)
- 10:30 a.m. 1983 Survey Activities:
- o Ichthyoplankton Work Group Report (Richards)
 - Status of 1982 ichthyoplankton samples and data
 - 1983 survey results
 - Fall ichthyoplankton survey plans
 - o Shrimp and Bottomfish Work Group Report (Bryan)
 - 1983 survey results
 - o Environmental Work Group Report (Stuntz)
 - 1983 survey results
 - Status of Atlas
 - o Data Coordinating Work Group Report (Savastano)
 - Status of 1983 survey data
- 11:00 a.m. SEAMAP Operational Plan - Final Draft (Condrey)
- o Review comments
 - o Executive summary
- 12:00 noon Lunch

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Preliminary Agenda
October 18, 1983
Key West, Florida

- 1:00 p.m. Future SEAMAP activities (Tatum)
- o FY 84
 - Redfish tagging feasibility discussion (Huff)
 - Shrimp and bottomfish survey
 - Ichthyoplankton survey
 - Environmental survey
 - Budget
 - Other activities
 - o FY 85
 - Operational Plan Schedule
 - Budget
 - Research priorities
- 4:00 p.m. SEAMAP Coordinator (Tatum)
- o State
 - o Federal
 - o Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - Assistant to the Director
 - Full Time
 - o University
- 4:30 p.m. Future SEAMAP meeting (Tatum)
- 4:45 p.m. Other business
- 5:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned

STATUS OF SEAMAP 1982 (10/12/83)

Vessel/Cruise	Range SEAMAP #'s	Samples sent to PSC		Samples ret'd Miami		Samples not ret'd		Larval data in computer	Comments
		No.	Date	No.	Date	No.	Gear		
Oregon II/126	1-390	261	10/19/82	259 (2 samples broken in Poland)	July-Sept. 1983	0	Bongo Neuston	259	
Bellows/S482	391-414	15	10/19/82	15	July-Sept. 1983	0	Bongo Neuston	15	
Jeff & Tina/003	415-447	20	10/19/82	20	July-Sept. 1983	0	Bongo Neuston	20	
Western Gulf/15	448-453	2	10/19/82 & 11/20/82	2	July-Sept. 1983	0	Bongo Neuston	2	
Louisiana/82	454-496	43	11/20/82	38	July-Sept. 1983	5	Y2 Meter Net	38	
Oregon II/127	497-709	141	10/19/82	77	July-Sept. 1983	64	Bongo Neuston	77	
Hernan Cortez/01	710-730	14	10/20/82	8	July-Sept. 1983	6	Bongo Neuston	8	
Hernan Cortez/02	731-817	57	10/20/82	27	July-Sept. 1983	25	Bongo Neuston	27	
Hernan Cortez/03	818-868	34	10/20/82	14	July-Sept. 1983	20	Bongo Neuston	14	
Oregon II/125	869-963	84	11/15/82	0	---	84	Bongo	0	
Onjuku/ON8204-I	964-973	10	12/1982	0	---	10	Bongo	0	
Onjuku/ON8204-II	974-983	10	12/1982	0	---	10	Bongo	0	
Bip/BipIX-8201	984-1014	31	12/1982	0	---	31	Bongo	0	
Onjuku/ON8204-II	1015-1043	29	12/1982	0	---	29	Bongo	0	
Bip/BipIX8201	1044-1067	24	12/1982	0	---	24	Bongo	0	
Onjuku/ON8204-II	1068-1081	14	12/1982	0	---	14	Bongo	0	
Onjuku/ON8204-I	1082-1135	54	12/1982	0	---	54	Bongo	0	
Onjuku/ON8204-II	1136-1137	2	12/1982	0	---	2	Bongo	0	
Oregon II/126	1138	1	12/1982	0	---		Deep neuston	0	

STATUS OF SEAMAP 1983 (10/12/83)

Institute & Vessel	Range SEAMAP #'s	Samples rec'd		Station log data in computer	Samples shipped to PSC		Gear used	Tentative Fall cruise dates	Comments
		Date	No.		Date	No.			
NMFS, OREGON II	1139-1471	7/22/83	333	Yes	7/25/83	221	61 cm bongo Neuston	Dec. 6-22, 1983	
FL DNR, HERNAN CORTEZ	1486-1590			Yes			61 cm bongo Neuston	No cruise scheduled	104 samples expected to arrive in two weeks
AL DEPT. OF CONS. & NAT. RES.	1472-1485	7/28/83	14	Yes	8/18/83	7	20 cm bongo	Oct. 1983	
GULF COAST RESEARCH LAB, TOMMY MMRO	1639-1673	8/15/83	35	Yes	8/18/83	23	61 cm bongo Neuston	Oct.-Nov., 1983	
FL INST. OF OCEANOGRAPHY, SUNCOASTER	1685-1702			Yes			61 cm bongo Neuston	No cruise scheduled	18 samples expected to arrive next week
NMFS, DELAWARE II	1591-1638	7/1/83	48	Yes	8/18/83	31	61 cm bongo Neuston	No cruise scheduled	
LA DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES							20 cm bongo	Nov.-Dec., 1983	Approximately 75 samples expected to arrive this month, Stat. logs already sent.
RSMS, CALANUS	1675-1684	9/25/83	10	Yes			Neuston	Nov., 1983	10 samples to be shipped to PSC w/next shipment
MEXICO								Cruise scheduled	Plan to exchange samples & data with them in Mexico in November
		Total samples rec'd = 440		Total samples shipped = 282					

9/27/83

SEAMAP 1982

BIOLOGICAL

ICHTHYO

ENVIRONMENTAL

Data Sources	Stations	Species	Total	Status	Stations	Stations	Records	Status
FL	∅	∅	∅	1	*	53	159	5
AL	10	73	83	5	*	11	33	5
MS	20	391	411	5	*	20	60	5
LA	129	876	1005	6	*	129	387	6
TX	33	1042	1075	6	*	38	114	6
T 126	∅	∅	∅	1	*	129	387	6
T 127	202	5401	5603	6	70	241	723	6
Tanya&Jo	∅	∅	∅	1	*	68	204	6
Jeff&Tina	86	117**	203	6	*	86	258	6
Status codes:								
1 - not taken								
2 - taken, not received								
3 - being processed at Pascagoula								
4 - waiting for local verification prior to state verification								
5 - at states for verification								
6 - initial verification complete								
7 - final verification complete								
∅ record status incomplete at this time								
** only commercial shrimp species records available								

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

The Statistical Subcommittee of the Technical Coordinating Committee met on Wednesday afternoon, October 19, 1983. Present were Claude Boudreaux (Chairman), Louisiana; Al Green, Texas; Fred Deegan, Mississippi; Walter Tatum/Steve Heath, Alabama; Alan Huff/Ed Joyce, Florida; Herb Prytherch, NMFS. The agenda was adopted with the following additions:

- 5a) Discussion of Gulf Council Data Collection FMP - W. Swingle
- 5b) Discussion of future methods of operations (goals, objectives, operational procedures and future activities)

The minutes of the March meeting in Austin, Texas were reviewed and approved with no change (motion by Ed Joyce, second by Al Green).

The chairman reported briefly on the State/Federal Statistics Workshop held on September 20-22, 1983, at the Southeast Fisheries Center in Miami, Florida. Present at the Workshop were representatives from NMFS, the South Atlantic States (Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina), most of the Gulf States (Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas), and the Caribbean (Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands). The purpose of the Workshop was to review the status of the Cooperative Fisheries Statistics Program, to discuss mutual problems affecting the gathering and dissemination of fisheries statistics, and to initiate plans for FY 1984 activities.

The Subcommittee members gave status reports of their current fishery dependent data gathering activities. Texas is holding planning sessions in the near future to reassess its programs which gather such

data, and to plan bait dealer and shrimp tagging activities. Louisiana has signed a cooperative agreement with NMFS and is currently developing a program to gather mackerel statistics. Mississippi has used its cooperative agreement to add a state port agent to enhance its statistics program. Alabama has lost a key person in its program and is attempting to replace that person. Florida is beginning a major effort and is setting up a statistics section on the strength of the recent passage of a Seafoods Products license.

NMFS is actively working to set the stage for negotiation of 1984 work statements for the projects of the State/Federal Cooperative Agreements. A draft policy statement for the program has been prepared by NMFS and circulated to the states. Formal written comments have been requested from the states by November. This draft includes a method of distributing funds in the Cooperative Agreements. One million dollars is available in FY 1984 for these agreements. A major emphasis for the 1984 work statements will be to develop the "fishing trip" as a standard method of sampling.

Wayne Swingle provided an overview of a possible Statistical Data Collection FMP. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has the authority to require reporting by fisheries under its control. At present it requires reporting only for the stone crab fishery and shrimp. However, all of the FMP's require statistical information.

The Statistical Data Collection FMP is only a concept and its development is not certain. Wayne invited a representative of each

state to a Council meeting the week of January 16 in order to discuss existing state statistical systems.

The Subcommittee discussed the desirability of developing goals, objectives and operating procedures. The Subcommittee was set up as a discussion group by the TCC in response to the State/Federal statistics initiative at the time several states had signed cooperative agreements. The level of participation has increased since that time. The question has arisen as to whether there are activities that the Subcommittee could undertake to enhance the current cooperative efforts between NMFS and the individual states. Two possible activities mentioned by Al Jones are:

- 1) reviewing the Survey Design for the National Recreational Survey
- 2) formally reviewing the concept of the fishery trip as the preferred method of sampling

The chairman appointed a three man working group (Al Green, leader; Herb Prytherch; and Fred Deegan) to address the issue of developing goals and to prepare a "first cut" document which can be reviewed by the Subcommittee in ensuing months. The results of this discussion will be reported to the TCC for ratification.

The Subcommittee discussed the time and locations of two future workshops; these workshops will be supported by State/Federal funds received from the Commission. It was decided that the chairman should contact the North Carolina fisheries program and request that that state

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page - 4 -

host the Subcommittee in February and describe and demonstrate their program (motion by Walter Tatum, second by Fred Deegan). North Carolina was selected because of its well developed, long term state effort in gathering statistics. The second workshop will be held in Texas sometime in May 1984. Texas was selected because it also has a well developed state-supported statistics gathering effort. Considerable interest was expressed in visiting the state of Florida's program after it has begun but before all problems have been worked out, as Florida is anticipating a major state initiative in gathering statistics.

Respectfully submitted,

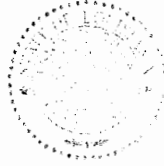
Claude Boudreaux
Chairman

STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Claude Boudreaux	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Al Green	TPWD, Austin, TX
Fred Deegan	BMR, Long Beach, MS
Walter Tatum	ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Steve Heath	ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Alan Huff	FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Ed Joyce	FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Herb Prytherch	NMFS, Miami, FL

State of Louisiana



JESSE J. GUIDRY
SECRETARY
(504) 925-3617

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

POST OFFICE BOX 15570

BATON ROUGE, LA. 70895

GULF STATES MARINE
FISHERIES COMMISSION

DAVID C. TREEN
GOVERNOR

November 17, 1983

NOV 21 1983

Mrs. Katy West
North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
P. O. Box 769
Morehead City, North Carolina 28551

Dear Mrs. West:

The Statistical Subcommittee of the Technical Coordinating Committee of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, at its October 19, 1983, meeting, discussed the possibility of holding workshops in states with viable fishery statistics gathering efforts. We feel that the Gulf states will profit from the experiences of such states in the development of our own state funded statistics gathering efforts.

The subcommittee directed that I contact you and require as to the feasibility of your state hosting such a workshop. North Carolina was chosen before those subcommittee members experienced in this field were uniformly impressed with the efforts of your state.

As we visualize the workshop, it would be a 1 or 1½ day meeting with presentations and/or discussions targeted toward the manner in which North Carolina gathers and analyzes fisheries statistics, the application of fishery statistics to your management problems, and the problems encountered in setting up and maintaining your program. The subcommittee tentatively agreed that February was a good month to hold the workshop but this could change based on your convenience. The subcommittee has funding and would pay for a meeting place as well as travel expenses for any North Carolina personnel brought in to make presentations. We would welcome the participation of the other states of the South Atlantic Statistics Committee, however we could not provide travel funding for them, and we would prefer to concentrate on the activities of North Carolina.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Claude J. Boudreaux".

Claude J. Boudreaux
Chairman, Statistics Subcommittee

CJB:sd

cc: Ronald J. Essig
Larry Simpson

Handwritten initials in cursive script, possibly "R" and "S".

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

The meeting was called to order by Ralph Rayburn (proxy for Walter Zimmerman) at 9:05 a.m. John Ray Nelson motioned to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by R. Jones. The motion carried.

R. Rayburn explained that the make-up of the Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) was very informal and asked that anyone wishing to participate in discussion before the committee, please do so.

R. Jones motioned to adopt the minutes of the March 1983 meeting. Seconded by C. Thomas, the motion carried.

R. Rayburn discussed problems at the NMFS Galveston Laboratory in regards to damage caused by the recent hurricane. Funds in the amount of \$200K would be required to repair damage. R. Jones was in favor of supporting the laboratory efforts to restore the facility. He was complimentary of the shrimp and turtle research being done at the Lab. Richard Berry was aware of the needs to repair and even renovate the facility but had no specific details. L. Simpson reported that the laboratory had received no significant funds for renovation in over ten years and that perhaps if additional funds of \$300K for renovations were added to the amount already designated for repairs, it would be opportune timing for the laboratory and perhaps prevent further budget cutting for the many projects done at the Lab. R. Anderson discussed the possibility of including a line item of \$300K for renovations in the form of legislation. R. Jones summarized by saying that the committee requested the Commission's support of the research being done at the NMFS Galveston Laboratory; that they support funds for repair in the

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
PAGE 2

amount of \$200K; and, that they further support funds for renovations in the amount of \$300K.

R. Rayburn reported that members of the Texas Shrimp Association had met with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to discuss a comprehensive shrimp tagging program in the Texas area, in order to better understand the shrimp migration pattern during the Texas closure so that managers can more clearly understand what the shrimp do during their life cycle. He stated that tagging projects done in 1979 through 1981 were not aligned with the Texas closure. They had suggested that the Council pursue a bi-national level tagging program. A proposal had been prepared by Ed Klima, Director, NMFS/ Galveston Laboratory. There was a great deal of discussion regarding tagging projects and the general consensus was that a shrimp tagging project would be beneficial. Current data may prove that most shrimp cross the Mexican Border, therefore requiring Texas closure to be thoroughly studied in South Texas, and perhaps help U.S. fishermen get access to Mexican waters. It was agreed that a tagging program should include early data, if available, and should be ongoing in order to collect the most effective data in determining shrimp movement. R. Berry stated that NMFS estimates the cost of the project to be \$300K. The Council and NMFS do not have the available funds. NMFS is looking to industry for support - perhaps one method of reducing cost may be in the area of vessel time. R. Rayburn summarized the desires of the committee by stating that they supported the shrimp tagging project proposal written by Ed Klima and that it should be handled by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
PAGE 3

R. Rayburn briefed the committee on H.R. 3381, a bill to establish NOAA as an independent agency. No real progress has been made on the bill and unless independent support arises within federal government the bill will probably not pass. After discussion it was the consensus of the committee to support H.R. 3381. The bill would reduce bureaucracy, increase effectiveness, provide higher visibility for fisheries and concentrate on matters of concern to fisheries.

R. Rayburn led discussion on H.R. 3806, a bill to establish a fisheries corporation to stimulate the full development of all sectors of the U.S. fishing industry. The bill is sponsored by Congressmen Forsythe, Breaux and Biaggi. The bill deals with a comprehensive non-profit corporation with offices in the U.S. and when necessary in foreign countries. The Corporation would be made up of 25 members appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Congress. In addition, the Board shall have 3 non-voting members; Secretary of State, Secretary of Commerce & U.S. Trade Representative. Members of the Board will be from the harvesting, processing & marketing sector of the U.S. fishing industry and will serve 3 year terms. R. Rayburn stated that industry reaction to this bill is cautious. Industry supports the sponsors of the bill but the comprehensive nature of the legislation along with doubts regarding the set-up of the Board has left them hesitant. Hearings were held in September and representatives of financial institutions and fisheries consultants testified. Hearings are scheduled for November 7 to receive industry input. At the request

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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PAGE 4

of Bill MacKenzie, member of Congressman Forsythe's staff, the Texas Shrimp Association will testify on H.R. 3806. R. Rayburn has problems with the bill but intends to present input on points that are satisfactory so that the sponsors of the bill will have enough feedback to work on restructuring the legislation.

R. Rayburn briefly reported on H.R. 3474, Congressman Breaux's artificial reef legislation. Hearings had been held during the summer of 1983. Secretary of Interior Jim Watt participated in the hearings and had made several statements regarding who had the authority to act on the contents of the bill. Secretary Watt has stated that the bill's tax deduction is not acceptable in its present form and would be vetoed by the Administration as it now appears. Industry representatives are anxious about administration of the bill and favor it being placed under the Department of Commerce. Other concerns of the industry include sites for reefs. Because of controversy created at hearings there has been no action on the bill at this time.

There were no available details in regards to NMFS - FY 84' budget. It was reported that NMFS was operating on a continuing resolution through mid-November and would probably have another continuing resolution prior to an adoption of a budget. There were no major changes in this year's budget.

D. Duden gave a report on the newly formed Florida Marine Fisheries Commission. Prior to the Commission the Florida legislative process was the rulemaking authority. This was not always an equitable process for

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
PAGE 5

all fisheries in Florida. The Commission was established as a result of a 2 year study approved by the legislature. The Commission is made-up of 7 members (2 commercial, 2 recreational, 3 scientists) appointed by the Governor. The Commission makes recommendations to the Governor and his cabinet. If approved by this process, recommendations become law. The Commission can make recommendations on gear, size, total harvest, protected species, fishing areas, etc. They have no authority regarding license fee or enforcement. The Cabinet can override the Commission thereby creating a legislative check and balance - a scientific management with political input when necessary. D. Duden stated that this Commission was the biggest step forward for fisheries in Florida in 25 years. The standards for the Commission were similar to standards outlined in the FMCA. The consensus of the IAC was that this program should be commended and should be a model to other states in the Gulf.

D. Duden also reported on a new product license that has been effective since Oct 1, 1983. Anyone selling seafood within the State of Florida must have a product license. Funds received from sales of the license are divided equally to support marketing efforts; the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission; and, a new system established in Florida to collect their own statistical data.

D. Duden requested that L. Simpson invite the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission to participate in Gulf State Marine Fisheries Commission activities.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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PAGE 6

L. Simpson reported on an amendment to Louisiana law regarding the time frame for purchasing shrimp and finfish licenses. Louisiana law provides for the purchase of licenses in the month of January only. For the last two years, additional time periods have been allowed through legislative resolutions. This year the time frame was opened for shrimp for the period of May 19 through June 2, 1983 and for finfish it was re-opened for June 1, 1983 only. A copy of the resolution will be distributed to interested persons.

R. Rayburn reported that the Southeastern Fisheries Association and the Texas Shrimp Association had been working at various levels to discuss access of U.S. fishermen to Mexican waters. Meetings with Mexican Ambassador Gavin, Mexican Dept. of Fisheries, and Presidential discussions had proved to be pleasant but had no effect on Mexican policy. Some permits were issued to the San Diego Tuna Fishermen Cooperative Association and others with definite limitations. R. Rayburn is optimistic although progress has been slow. Mexico's new Administration may be hesitant to change established policy and does not appear interested in a permitting system unless national economic benefits could be achieved.

R. Rayburn gave a brief legislative update on the following Congressional actions: Capital Construction Fund; H.R. 2062, a bill dealing with marine sanctuaries; National Ocean Policy Bill; Senator Steven's marketing bill; Exclusive Economic Zone; Fisheries Loan Fund; Lacey Act Amendment; Social Security taxes and unemployment exemption programs; H.R. 5 - OCS revenue sharing; and, D-J Expansion Fund.

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
PAGE 7

R. Jones nominated R. Rayburn for Chairman of the IAC for the upcoming year. B. Chauvin seconded, the vote was unanimous.

L. Kiffe stated that he was concerned about the SEAMAP project and he requested that the IAC put it on their agenda for the March, 1984 meeting. L. Simpson stated that he would have a representative of SEAMAP present at the next meeting to answer any questions they may have. R. Rayburn had requested information from the SEAMAP Committee and was awaiting their response. He said that he would circulate their response upon receipt.

R. Rayburn mentioned that the Texas Shrimp Association was opposed to hazardous waste incineration in the Gulf of Mexico. The EPA was arranging hearings regarding the disposal of hazardous waste off the Brownsville coast. He suggested that L. Simpson distribute copies of the EPA standards for disposing of hazardous waste. He suggested that a position be established industry-wide on the disposal of hazardous waste.

Dr. Jim Jones, as President-elect of the Sea Grant Association, reported he has dropped membership dues to \$100, in an effort to increase membership.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Rayburn

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Leroy "Tom" Kiffe	GSMFC, Lockport, LA
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc. Bon Secour, AL
Bill Chauvin	Amer. Shrimp Cannery & Proc. Assn., New Orleans, LA
Bob Jones	Southeastern Fisheries Assn., Tallahassee, FL
Roger D. Anderson	Gulf & So. Atl. Fish Dev. Foundation, Inc. Tampa, FL
Don Solanas	U.S Minerals Mgmt Service, Metairie, LA
Melissa W. Smith	U.S. Dept. of Energy SPR, New Orleans, LA
Ginny Herring	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Mary H. Thompson	NOAA/NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Andrew J. Kemmerer	NOAA/NMFS, NSTL Station, MS
Tom W. Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife Dept, Austin, TX
C.E. Bryan	TX Parks & Wildlife Dept, Austin, TX
Ted Millette	MS House of Representatives, Pascagoula, MS
Dick Berry	SEFC, Miami, FL
Jim Jones	MS/AL Sea Grant College, Ocean Springs, MS
Don Duden	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Charles C. Thomas	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Edwin Joyce	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Al Armitt	Ocean Seafood Products, Key West, FL
Billy Nills	Ocean Seafood Products, Key West, FL
Marshall Hartley	Coral S & H Seafood, Key West, FL
Ralph Rayburn	Texas Shrimp Association, Austin, TX

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 19, 1983

Key West, Florida

Mr. Walter Tatum, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The agenda was approved. The minutes of the Spring Meeting in Austin, Texas were approved.

Mr. Tatum introduced Dr. Gary Saul, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, who will replace Gary Matlock on the committee.

The committee discussed the proposed marine license and permits. Texas stated they already had a vessel registration system and saltwater license, so any new permit and/or fee's would not be necessary to fish in saltwater outside the state territorial waters. Louisiana agreed with Texas in that they already require state licensing for all saltwater and freshwater angler fishing. Mississippi, is not like Texas and Louisiana, in that it does not have a state saltwater license. Mississippi would like to establish a marine anglers license in the state waters but not necessarily having a license for fishing outside state territorial waters. Florida has a new saltwater products license which is required to sell or buy any saltwater products. They have no saltwater fishing license as such now. Alabama does not have a marine anglers license requirement, however they do have a non-resident license requirement. They would like to see a uniform license requirement.

Mr. Ron Schmied, (NMFS/SEFO) summarized H.R. 2965, a bill to provide uniform state licensing of marine recreational fishermen. Vessel permitting would be a way to identify commercial and non-commercial vessel alike and also generate funds for research to be

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page 2

passed back to the individual states. Mississippi, Alabama and possibly Florida would be the most interested in this bill since they don't have their own vessel regulations program. Dr. Richard Leard said his group would not support H.R. 2965, he felt this was a state responsibility. Walter Tatum stated this bill was more for the benefit of the states to have their own permitting regulations and authority and aimed at helping the states to identify the users.

The Data Collection Fishery Management Plan which is being developed by the Council was discussed by the Committee. Vessel permitting might be included in this plan in order to obtain data needs for fishery management. Comments on the Data Collection FMP system would probably be best given to Jack Brawner, Regional Director and State agency council members.

Lou Villanova discussed the DJ Expansion Program. He stated that DJ Expansion will bring in two sources of revenue: 1) motorboat fuel tax 2) tax on fishing tackle. The Secretary of the Interior will have to develop the regulations and rules. The money will be distributed according to the number of resident marine anglers in the state, compared to the number of fresh water anglers and divided equally. Presently the DJ fund is budgeted at \$35 million, we don't know the final wording of the bill, but with the expansion it will go to \$110 million if it passes.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
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PAGE 3

Ed Joyce asked whether the match would be 75/25%? Lou Villanova said yes, but you can't match federal funds with federal funds. Walter Tatum stated that in the Gulf, Mississippi and Alabama are the only states whose marine agencies are utilizing 89-304 funds. The Anadromous Program funding is presently 50/50%. Alabama would like to expand their programs and personnel in the future. If Alabama would receive a higher funding ratio with DJ then it would take the higher ratio in order to expand its personnel.

Ann Terbush, Fishery Grants Coordinator, NMFS, Washington, D.C. said so far, Massachusetts was the only state that has implemented a plan and had applied for the 90% Anadromous funding, and you don't get the 90% funding unless you implement a plan. Mr. Tatum stated that years ago under the TCC an Anadromous Fish Subcommittee existed. Mr. Larry Simpson is going to make a proposal to the TCC tomorrow that we initiate this Subcommittee. Establishment of this Subcommittee, will put us on the road to qualify for this 90% Anadromous funding.

Ms. Maureen Fleetwood reported on the "Rigs-to-Reefs" Program. She stated that Rep. John Breaux's Bill - H.R.3474, as of Friday, Oct 14, 1983 was stalled and more substantial comments are needed if the bill is to go anywhere.

Villere Reggio, stated that comments on artificial reefs needed to be sent to Glenn Delaney, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page 4

Ron Schmied discussed the Commissions Resolution on Artificial Reefs. He presented a draft resolution for setting up a task force for this program to the Committee for review (copy attached). The biggest problem for the reefs is with buoying. The Committee needs to respond to the Resolution on Artificial Reefs.

Fred Deegen moved that the draft resolution be adopted, and it was seconded by Ed Joyce. The motion passed with no objections.

Buck Byrd stated that to save time, we identify only the positive areas for reefs and not both positive and negative areas. His objective was that to get the most optimum results in the resolution, we need to state suitable areas only not criteria. Mr. Schmied stated that to get support from commercial industry we need to identify unsuitable areas. Ed Joyce stated the resolution needed to be done on a criteria basis not site to site. Harry Schafer stated it needed to be flexible.

Villere Reggio presented a short statement on artificial reefs and invited everyone at the meeting to attend their upcoming MMS Meeting in New Orleans, Nov 15-17, 1983.

Al Jones, reviewed the statistical program on marine finfish. He stated that NMFS proposed that the states meet local objectives and conduct directly, portions of the national recreational survey. He asked for comments from the states. NMFS would like for the states to take over the program in 1984 or 1985. Ed Joyce stated Jan 1, 1984 was too soon for Florida and would like it delayed to 1985.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Page 5

Walter Tatum asked Ron Schmied to summarize the National Marine Fisheries Service's long-term recreational fisheries plan. He stated that all states received copies of the draft of the plan for their input. It has been redrafted and Jack Brawner, Richard Berry both signed off on it and will be redistributed to the states shortly. Will identify activities, accomplishments and time frames. Would like to thank all the states for their comments.

Fred Deegen was elected Chairman for next year.

Ron Schmied moved and it was seconded that we invite membership from the MMS to be on the Recreational Fisheries Committee. The motion was passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Tatum, Chairman
Recreational Fisheries Committee

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

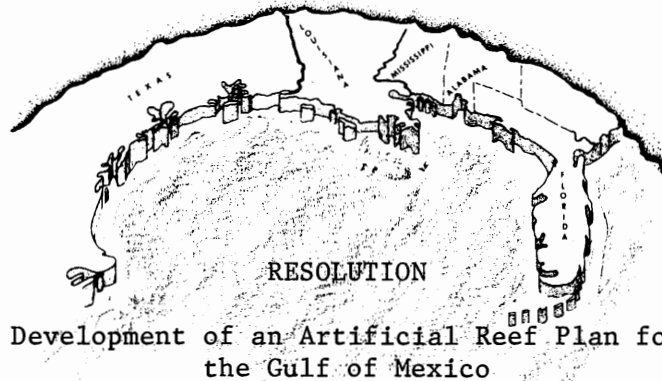
LIST OF ATTENDEES

Dr. Gary Saul	TX Parks & Wildlife Dept, Austin, TX
Maureen Fleetwood	U.S. Dept. of Interior, Wash, D.C.
Villere Reggio	MMS, New Orleans, LA
Richard Leard	BMR, Long Beach, MS
Gary Matlock	TX Parks & Wildlife Dept, Austin, TX
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Marlena Hemphill	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Fred Deegen	BMR, Long Beach, MS
Harry Schafer	LA Dept of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Water Tatum	AL Dept. Cons & Natu. Resources, Gulf Shores, AL
Al Jones	NMFS, Miami, FL
Larry Six	PMFC, Portland, OR
Ann Terbush	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Lou Villanova	U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Atlanta, GA
Steve DiAngelo	U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Atlanta, GA
Ed Joyce	FL Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
I.B. "Buck" Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Wayne Swingle	GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Larry Nicholson	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Ronald L. Schmied	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS

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



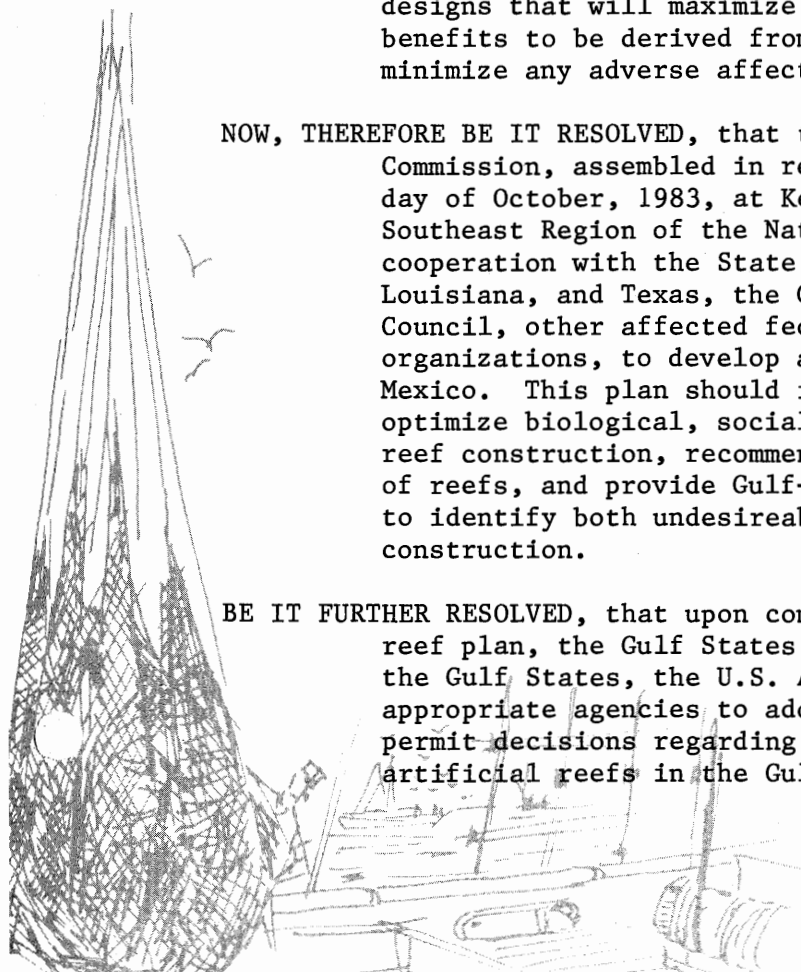
WHEREAS, artificial reefs have been proven to be effective in enhancing marine habitat, increasing fisheries production, and increasing recreational and commercial fishing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission assembled on March 16, 1982, passed a resolution petitioning the Congress of the United States to enact a National Artificial Reef Policy to provide reef construction standards and financial incentives for the orderly development of properly designed, sited and constructed artificial reefs; and

WHEREAS, state and federal agencies responsible for the management of marine fisheries and environments can interpret and use fishery biology, environmental, oceanographic, demographic, social and economic information to identify artificial reef sites and designs that will maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits to be derived from artificial reef construction, and minimize any adverse affects on other resource users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in regular semi-annual meetings this 21st day of October, 1983, at Key West, Florida, herewith urges the Southeast Region of the National Marine Fisheries Service in cooperation with the State of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, other affected federal agencies, industry and other organizations, to develop an artificial reef plan for the Gulf of Mexico. This plan should identify research needed to measure and optimize biological, social and economic benefits from artificial reef construction, recommend strategies for improved permitting of reefs, and provide Gulf-wide artificial reef siting criteria to identify both undesirable and optimum locations for reef construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon completion of the approved artificial reef plan, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission urges the Gulf States, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other appropriate agencies to adopt and utilize the plan as a guide in permit decisions regarding the siting and construction of artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico area.



GS/FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 19, 1983

Key West, Florida

Mr. Harry Schafer, Chairman, presiding. Mr. Schafer called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. The agenda was adopted with the addition of discussion by Bob Chapoton on the 1983 season, Melissa Smith on the Bryan Mound, Big Hill, and West Hackberry brine disposal sites and Dr. David Etzold on information needed for future plan updates after a motion by Hugh Swingle and a second by Borden Wallace. The minutes of the March 15, 1983 meeting were approved after an editorial change in the second paragraph on a motion by Dalton Berry and a second by Ray Richardson. The minutes of the May 26, 1983 meeting were approved without change after a motion by Ray Richardson and a second by Billy Lunsford.

Bob Chapoton reported to the Committee on the 1983 fishing season results and the 1983 Captains' Daily Fishing Reports. He indicated preliminary results show there was a new record established for the Gulf fishery of 923,000 metric tons or 3,039 million standard fish. This represents an 8% increase over last year which was the previous record year at 854,000 metric tons. All areas of the Gulf had improved landings over the previous year.

Mississippi	17% increase over last year
Eastern Louisiana	7% increase over last year
Western Louisiana	5% increase over last year

The age composition in the landings were largely II's with some III's the last of September and October. He reported no long term harm to the fishery is expected because of the last two years of excellent catches.

He predicted for 1984 there will be 80 or 81 vessels in the fishery and landings of between 650-750 thousand metric tons.

Concerning the Captains' Daily Reports, 40% of the 1983 data have been computerized and all the companies are reporting. He expects a full readout of the 1983 information sometime this winter. He recommended no changes in the forms or methods of reporting at this time. All data will be handled confidentially by summarizing the information except that information given to a single company requesting its own separated data.

Melissa Smith of the Department of Energy reported on the status of the brine disposal and oil storage at the Bryan Mound and West Hackberry sites. This is a Congressionally mandated program to leach and store in these salt domes up to 750 million barrels of crude oil. The Bryan Mound site in Texas disposes of brine from the leaching operations in 72' of water at a rate of approximately 1.1 million barrels/day. The West Hackberry site off Cameron Parrish, Louisiana, disposes of brine approximately 6 nautical miles offshore at a rate of 1.0 million barrels/day. An EPA permit under Section 403 (Point Source - Ocean discharge) is required. A monitoring and assessment program has been required each year as a part of that permit since initiation. No adverse impacts have been observed to date. A new storage site named Big Hill is expected to be developed at Winnie, Texas, 3.5 miles offshore in 30 feet of water. They expect the site will be in operation by late 1985.

Dr. Etzold reported on the Management Plan Update. The document has been published and initial distributions have been made. The work was completed on time and on budget. All contract obligations have been met and the task force which drafted the Update was formally dissolved. Future actions on the plan will be addressed by the Menhaden Advisory Committee.

An election for Chairman was held and Mr. Dalton Berry of Petrou Fisheries, Inc. was elected unanimously for the next year.

Under other business Dr. Etzold discussed the need for a two or three interim report on the Management Plan. He discussed his ideas on a central location for ongoing information in the menhaden fishery which could facilitate future interim reports and updates. A motion by Borden Wallace and second by Billy Lunsford passed for Dr. Etzold to report back to the Committee at its' March meeting to brief the group in a written report on his suggestions and ideas to accomplish the data gathering and storage.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Schafer, Chairman
Menhaden Advisory Committee

GS/FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 19, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
J. Y. Christmas	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
David Etzold	Univ. of Southern MS, Hattiesburg, MS
Hugh Swingle	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Harry Schafer	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc., Port Monmouth, NJ
Jack T. Styron	Wallace Menhaden, Mandeville, LA
Wm. C. Lunsford, Jr.	Zapata Haynie Corp., Timonium, MD
W. Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden, Mandeville, LA
Dalton R. Berry	Petrou Fisheries, Empire, LA
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, SEFC, Beaufort Lab, Beaufort, NC
Larry Six	PMFC, Portland, OR
Gary Saul	TPWD, Austin, TX
Tom D. Moore	TPWD, Austin, TX
Jim Jones	MS/AL Sea Grant College, Ocean Springs, MS
Melissa Smith	DOE/SPR, New Orleans, LA
Ted Millette	MS House of Representatives, Pascagoula, MS
Mary H. Thompson	NOAA/NMFS, Washington, DC
Gary Matlock	TPWD, Austin, TX

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Thursday, October 20, 1983
Key West, Florida

Chairman Leroy Wieting called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The following proxies were seated:

Don Duden	proxy	Elton Gissendanner
Ted Ford	proxy	Jesse Guidry
J.Y. Christmas	proxy	Ted Millette
Richard Leard	proxy	Lon Strong
Robert Kemp	proxy	Charles Travis
Harry Schafer	proxy	Sam Theriot
Hugh Swingle	proxy	John Hodnett

Chairman Wieting suggested that B. Byrd, Chief, Grant Program Administration, NMFS/St. Petersburg, FL be added to the agenda to discuss any state-federal matters of interest to the states. H. Swingle motioned to adopt the agenda as amended. T. Ford seconded, the motion passed.

H. Swingle motioned to adopt the minutes of the March, 1983 meeting. Seconded by T. Ford, the motion carried.

L. Simpson reported on the contract entitled "Administrative Support of the S-F Fisheries Management Program" (1983) and on the SEAMAP project for 1983. Both projects are on schedule. There has been a continuing problem with a lack of administrative financial support. He assured the Board that every effort will be made to continue to support the Board with the funds available.

L. Simpson reported that all responsibilities of the contract entitled, "A Contract to Revise, Publish, and Distribute the Regional Management Plan for the Menhaden Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico", had been met - and that copies of the plan had been distributed and were available upon request. He stated that this was a very successful

cooperative effort on the part of the Commission, the Board, the states, the industry and the committee members.

H. Schafer reported for the Menhaden Advisory Committee. He reported that the preliminary results for the 1983 fishing season shows a new record for the Gulf fishery. A total of 923,000 metric tons were landed, an 8% increase over 1982. Other topics of discussion included - Captains' Daily Reports; brine disposal sites; and, election of Dalton Berry as chairman for 1984. H. Swingle motioned to accept the report. Seconded by J. Allen, the motion carried.

L. Simpson reported that funds had been awarded in the amount of \$80,500 for the cooperative agreement entitled, "Data Accumulation, Planning and Administration for Interjurisdictional Management of Marine Fisheries Resources of the Gulf of Mexico" (1984). Projects included in this award are support of the State-Federal Management Program; TCC Statistical Subcommittee Workshops; publication of Blue Crab Colloquium; and SEAMAP.

T. Ford stated that the Blue Crab Subcommittee was now the Crab Subcommittee.

B. Byrd reported that we had a successful S-F cooperative program and that we had accomplished alot with a very little money. He stated that the South Atlantic S-F Fisheries Management Board had suggested the possibility of changing the method of distributing programmatic funds. Instead of receiving \$50K every other year, as has been the case for several years, they suggest the Gulf and South Atlantic split the \$50K

annually thereby both receiving \$25K. H. Swingle motioned to support \$25K annually. Seconded by R. Leard, the motion carried.

H. Swingle nominated B. Byrd as Chairman for 1984, seconded by H. Schafer. There being no further nominations, B. Byrd was elected Chairman by acclamation.

T. Harper nominated H. Swingle for Vice-Chairman, seconded by D. Duden. There being no further nomination, H. Swingle was elected Vice-Chairman by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leroy Wieting
Chairman

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
Thursday, October 20, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ginny Herring	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Don E. Duden	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Ted B. Ford	LA Dept of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Leroy "Tom" Kiffe	GSMFC, Lockport, LA
J.Y. Christmas	Gulf Coast Research Lab, Ocean Springs, MS
Richard Leard	Bureau of Marine Resources, Long Beach, MS
Bob Kemp	TX Parks & Wildlife Dept, Austin, TX
Harry Schafer	LA Dept of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Joe Allen	Florida House of Representatives, Key West, FL
Hugh A. Swingle	AL Dept.of Cons.& Nat. Resources, Dauphin Island, AL
Taylor Harper	Alabama House of Representatives, Grand Bay, AL
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
I.B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Leroy J. Wieting	Texas House of Representatives, Portland, TX
Tom D. Moore	TX Parks & Wildlife Dept, Austin, TX
Edwin A. Joyce	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Charles C. Thomas	Florida Dept. of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, FL
Fred Deegen	Bureau of Marine Resources, Long Beach, MS
Claude Boudreaux	LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Bob Jones	Southeastern Fisheries Assn., Tallahassee, FL
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc. Bon Secour, AL
Larry Six	Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission, Portland, OR
Borden Wallace	Wallace-Menhaden Products, Inc. Mandeville, LA
W.C. Lunsford, Jr.	Zapata Haynie Corp, Timonium, MD
Jack T. Styron	Wallace-Menhaden Products, Inc. Mandeville, LA
David Etzold	Univ. of Southern Miss, Hattiesburg, MS
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products, Inc. Port Monmouth, NJ
A.J. Kemmerer	NOAA/NMFS, NSTL Station, MS
Ann Terbush	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
Walter Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Richard Condrey	LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Mary H. Thompson	NMFS, Washington, D.C.
W.H. Herke	LCFU/LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 20, 1983
Key West, Florida

Dr. Ted Ford, Chairman of the TCC, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and declared a quorum present.

The agenda was adopted with the following additions (copy attached).

- A) Delete item 5 (Review Red Drum Profile)
- B) Gulf Council's Fishery Data Management Proposal
- Wayne Swingle
- C) Film called "Striper Fever"
- D) Discussion paper on "Research Needs for Information Leading to Full and Wise Use of Fishery Resources in the Gulf of Mexico" - Dr. McIlwain
- E) Draft paper on "Coastal Fishery Management Program"
- Mary Thompson

The minutes of the last meeting were distributed.

Dr. David Etzold reported on control of freshwater discharge into the Louisiana marshes. He stated that four sites are under consideration, one west of the Mississippi River and three east of the River. The first site is Davis Pond in St. Charles Parish. The New Orleans Corps of Engineers is negotiating with St. Charles Parish. The second site is Caernaervon in Plaquemine Parish. The state of Louisiana has loaned 200 K to the Corps to continue the effort at Caernaervon. The project is on schedule and will be in operation in 1988. The third site, Riverbend, does not look good and will be dropped by the Corps.

The fourth site is the Bonnet Carré on which a draft report will be sent in a couple of weeks.

Public hearings on all of these sites will occur the last of November and first of December in Gulfport, Mississippi; Bay St. Louis, Mississippi and New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Larry Simpson and Dr. David Veal were asked to distribute information on meeting times and places.

Mr. Walter Tatum distributed a report and presented a slide show on SEAMAP activities for 1983 and proposed activities for 1984. He stated that the 1983 SEAMAP report and the development of a SEAMAP Operational Plan illustrates the dedication of all the Gulf States and NMFS to work together to support the SEAMAP concept. The Subcommittee would like to continue with SEAMAP activities in 1984 with the following activities:

- A) Ichthyoplankton Survey (spring and fall)
- B) Shrimp and Bottomfish Survey
- C) Environmental Survey
- D) Redfish Feasibility Study
- E) Development of a 1984 SEAMAP Atlas
- F) Development of a Marine Director for 1984

He motioned that the TCC authorize the continuation of SEAMAP activities in 1984 and pursue the redfish efforts in 1984.

The TCC approved Mr. Tatum's motion without objection.

Dr. Ford presented a letter from Walter Tatum, SEAMAP Chairman, addressing the excellent job done by Perry Thompson as SEAMAP Coordinator. He said that Mr. Thompson's IPA appointment will be up on

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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February 1, and proposed that a resolution of appreciation to Mr. Thompson for his role as Coordinator be developed. This resolution would be presented to his supervisor and entered into his record.

The TCC approved without objection the development of the resolution of appreciation.

Mrs. Harriet Perry reported on the Blue Crab Subcommittee. She stated that the completion report on the Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Profile was approved. This Subcommittee meeting provided time for editorial comments before publication. The Subcommittee reviewed by-catch and current research of Menippe in the Northern Gulf. The new chairman of the Blue Crab Subcommittee is Paul Hammerschmidt.

Mr. Gerald Adkins commented on problems of the blue crab industry. He stated that a Colloquium was held on blue crab and the contents from the Colloquium have been published. One of the most popular items of the Colloquium was information on the soft shell crab industry. One of the future needs of the Subcommittee is the review of the red crab fishery. He stated that with the decline in the king crab industry there is a possibility that red crab population could be utilized. In addition to red crab some work is being done on utilizing the crab C. similis. Also Menippe are starting to enter the blue crab fishery as a by-catch. Very little is known of the crab Menippe and their impact on the blue crab fishery. The profile has information on the status of the blue crab stocks, problems of the fishery and identifies research needs. To assure that these research needs are funded and conducted in a cost effective manner and to allow consideration of additional crab

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MINUTES
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species the Blue Crab Subcommittee would like to expand its scope of interest to other crab species and continue to function as a subcommittee in these new areas.

The TCC noted the past work of the Subcommittee and to facilitate the expanded work with other species of crabs approved without objection to change the name from Blue Crab to Crab Subcommittee.

Mr. Claude Boudreaux reported on the Statistical Subcommittee meeting. He stated that the Subcommittee reviewed accomplishments of a state/federal statistical workshop held in mid-September at the SEFC Miami Laboratory. Participants were from NMFS, South Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf States. The purpose of the workshop was to review the status of the cooperative fishery statistical program, to discuss mutual problems affecting the gathering and dissemination of fishery statistics and to initiate plans for FY 1984 activities.

In the Subcommittee meeting each member reported on his current fishery statistics program. Mr. Wayne Swingle provided an overview of the Statistical Data Collection FMP. The Subcommittee has initially focused on becoming familiar with the activities of other states and NMFS. Now the Subcommittee feels it should address specific activities of the statistical gathering program. Two possible activities mentioned were: 1) review survey design for National Recreational Survey, and 2) review the concept of the fishing trip as a preferred method of sampling. A three-man workgroup will address the issue of developing goals for the Subcommittee and produce a document which will be circulated to Subcommittee members.

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Two future workshops were discussed: 1) in North Carolina in February, and 2) in Texas sometime in May. North Carolina and Texas were selected because of their well-developed statistical programs.

The TCC reviewed a film on striped bass entitled "Striper Fever."

Mr. Larry Nicholson discussed the possibility of developing a Striped Bass Management Plan. He stated that a striped bass program has been developed in some of the Gulf states using anadromous fish (PL 89-304) money. Mississippi and Alabama have a cooperative program for striped bass with hopes for qualifying for 2/3 / 1/3 federal/state funding. If a Striped Bass Management Plan can be developed in the Gulf we can possibly qualify for 90/10 funding level for our programs.

Ms. Ann Terbush reviewed PL 89-304 procedures for 90/10 funding. She described the interim criteria for 90 percent funding under PL 89-304 (copy attached).

Mr. Steve DiAngelo stated that striped bass stocks on the east and west coasts are in a sad state, but in the Gulf progress has been made. The Gulf has nothing to lose and everything to gain if they develop a striped bass plan. FY 84 funding, which is still under a continuing resolution, could be as much as \$4 million for the Anadromous Fish Act. In FY 85 funding is vague and the Anadromous Fish Act expires. Some speculation exists to the effect that if D-J Expansion passes, then the Anadromous Fish Act may not be needed. The development of a Gulf Coast plan for striped bass, however, would help ensure continued funding for the Gulf.

The TCC motioned without objection to form an Anadromous Fish Subcommittee comprised of representatives from the several Gulf states, NMFS and Fish and Wildlife. The Subcommittee would develop a feasibility study to see if a regional management plan could be established to qualify for striped bass funding.

Dr. Ford requested that the states, NMFS and Fish and Wildlife consider who they would like on the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee would elect its own chairman.

Mr. Wayne Swingle reported on the Council's Statistical Data Collection FMP. The FCMA establishing the Council provided authority for data collection. The legal opinions on this authority have concluded that this authority extends to the shoreline. Under the auspices of a plan, data can be collected from a vessel operating in state waters and from shore-based facilities. Presently port agencies are used to collect data. The basic change would be that this system would be mandatory. The Act also provides for vessel permits for those vessels that engage in these fisheries if the Council feels they are necessary. This vessel permitting system could be used in collecting statistics on the fisheries and for enforcement. The states would administer the permitting system and get the resulting fees.

The Gulf Council did not feel the necessity of a data collection FMP. A steering committee would be set up to suggest alternative methods to be explored and other systems to be evaluated. The steering committee would report back to the Council to see if there were

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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requirements for a new or specialized data collection FMP. He distributed an outline of a discussion paper on the procedure of which the Council will go through to establish whether or not a data collection FMP is necessary (copy attached). In one year a draft Data Collection FMP will be submitted by the Council staff which will be distributed to the states and NMFS for review.

Dr. Tom McIlwain presented his paper on "Research Needs for Information Leading to Wise Use of Fishery Resources in the Gulf of Mexico." He stated that the bottom line is that the fisheries in the Gulf are not getting their fair share of research monies. This paper illustrates the importance of Gulf fisheries compared to the rest of the country. It states that the Gulf Region produces 36% of the fishery volume but receives only 14% of the funding, comparing this to other regions where funding exceeds the volume produced.

He continued by saying that the Gulf needs to coordinate activities to secure funds and present to our representatives in Washington. Several of our Gulf industries have good representation in Washington but the Gulf fisheries is not coordinated to present a united front for fisheries in the Gulf.

Mr. Hugh Swingle asked if Dr. McIlwain was suggesting that the TCC set up a committee.

Dr. McIlwain replied by saying that was the basic idea. A suggestion at this time would be to establish a group to coordinate Gulf activities to bring all the agencies' ideas together and have the effort coordinated through the Commission.

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Dr. Ford asked if we could anticipate continued support from Congressman Lott and NMFS.

Dr. McIlwain stated that Congressman Lott's office has supported this effort in several instances already. One was to distribute his paper to the Gulf Congressional delegation. Another supportive effort by the Congressman was a formal presentation to Bill Gordon and David Stockman of the paper and his endorsement for an increased Gulf research initiative. Next week he would present the paper to the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation. The idea is to make industry more aware of the need to have Gulf research initiatives better funded. He indicated there was some support from Gulf Coastal members in the United States Congress.

Mr. Tatum stated that he would suggest the establishment of a political action committee to disseminate existing information and research needs for the Gulf. This approach would go a long way and the Commission is in the position to do so. Further on, there needs to be more coordination to develop strategies to utilize these monies. He asked Dr. McIlwain what he thought of an all encompassing committee.

Dr. McIlwain replied that a super committee that controls all things in the Gulf is not needed, but a committee is needed that would focus on the mechanism to implement the recommendations of increased research funding for the Gulf. The TCC was supportive of this initiative and the Chairman would recommend to the Commission that they

support this initiative as well as widely distribute Dr. McIlwain's paper for additional support.

The TCC motioned without objection that the Commission send a letter to Congressmen Lott, Breaux and others expressing our appreciation for their support and asking them for their continued support.

Mrs. Mary Thompson presented a draft of a position paper entitled "Management of Interjurisdictional Coastal Fisheries and Related Activities in marine and Estuarine Waters of the United States." The purpose of this position paper is to establish a policy for the orderly planning and implementation of management measures for coastal stocks of marine and estuarine fish in state and federal waters in the United States. She requested the TCC to review the paper and send comments to her.

The TCC passed a motion without objection that Dr. Ted Ford be elected by acclamation as Chairman of the TCC.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Ted B. Ford
TCC Chairman

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 20, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Ted B. Ford	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
J. Y. Christmas	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
C. E. Bryan	TPWD, Austin, TX
Tom D. Moore	TPWD, Austin, TX
Tom D. McIlwain	Cong. Trent Lott/GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Wayne Swingle	Gulf Fishery Council, Tampa, FL
Harry Schafer	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.	FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Dick Berry	SEFC, Miami, FL
Alan Huff	FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Hugh A. Swingle	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Walter M. Tatum	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Perry Thompson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Lou Villanova	FWS, Atlanta, GA
Steve DiAngelo	FWS, Washington, DC
Ann D. Terbush	NMFS, Washington, DC
Mary H. Thompson	NMFS, Washington, DC
Rep. Leroy J. Wieting	Texas/GSMFC, Portland, TX
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC, Lockport, LA
Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Larry Six	PMFC, Portland, OR
David Etzold	USM, Hattiesburg, MS
Charles C. Thomas	FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Walter R. Nelson	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
A. J. Kemmerer	NOAA/NMFS, MS Laboratories
Gary Matlock	TPWD, Austin, TX
Gary Saul	TPWD, Austin, TX
Don Duden	FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Dalton Berry	Petrou Fisheries Inc., Empire, LA
Warren Stuntz	NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Harriet Perry	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Ralph Rayburn	TSA, Austin, TX
Melissa W. Smith	DOE/SPR, New Orleans, LA
Jack T. Styron	Wallace Menhaden, Mandeville, LA
Ray Richardson	Seacoast Products Inc., Port Monmouth, NJ
W. C. Lunsford, Jr.	Zapata Haynie Corp., Timonium, MD
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries Inc., Bon Secour, AL
W. H. Herke	LA Coop. Fish Res. Unit, Baton Rouge, LA
W. D. Chauvin	Am. Shrimp Cannery & Processors Assoc., New Orleans, LA
Nikki Bane	LSU, CWR, Baton Rouge, LA
R. B. Chapoton	NMFS, Beaufort Lab, NC
Borden Wallace	Wallace Menhaden Products, Mandeville, LA
Barney Barrett	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Don Solanas	MMS, Metairie, LA

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Continued

Herb Prytherch	NOAA/NMFS SEFC, Miami, FL
Claude Boudreaux	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Gil Bane	Coastal Ecology (Fisheries), Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Jones	MS/AL Sea Grant Consortium, Ocean Springs, MS
Steve Heath	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Dick Schaefer	NMFS, Washington, DC
Richard Waller	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Larry C. Nicholson	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
I. B. Byrd	NOAA/NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Agenda

Thursday, October 20, 1983
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Marriott's Casa Marina Resort
Fiesta Key Room
Key West, Florida

- 1) Status report on controlled freshwater introduction to the Louisiana marshes. - David Etzold
- 2) Summary report of SEAMAP Subcommittee. - Walter Tatum
- 3) Summary report of Blue Crab Subcommittee. - Harriet Perry
- 4) Summary report of Statistical Subcommittee. - Claude Boudreaux
- 5) Review Red Drum Profile (copies mailed to all members from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council).
- 6) Discussion on possibility of Gulf States striped bass management plan. - Larry Nicholson
- 7) Framework for Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's Data Collection FMP's. - Wayne Swingle
- 8) Election of TCC Chairman.
- 9) Other business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
MINUTES
Friday, October 21, 1983
Key West, Florida

Chairman Taylor Harper called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. The following proxies were seated:

Robert Kemp	proxy	Charles Travis
Ralph Rayburn	proxy	Walter Zimmerman
Ted B. Ford	proxy	Jesse Guidry
J. Y. Christmas	proxy	Ted Millette
Richard Leard	proxy	Lon Strong
Hugh Swingle	proxy	John Hodnett
Charles Thomas	proxy	Elton Gissendanner

Prior to the business agenda, Chairman Harper took the opportunity on behalf of all the Commissioners, to thank Representative Joe Allen for his contribution in helping make the 34th Annual Fall Meeting of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission a success.

Chairman Harper recognized Larry Simpson, who welcomed and introduced Larry Six, Executive Director of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission.

At the request of the Chairman for the Recreational Fisheries Committee (RFC), Chairman Harper recommended that the RFC be listed first under committee reports. H. Swingle so motioned, seconded by T. Ford, the motion carried.

Hugh Swingle motioned that the March 1983 minutes be adopted, seconded by Sam Theriot. The motion carried.

Chairman Harper discussed the budget meeting that was held on Thursday, October 20, 1983. T. Ford motioned that the budget (copy attached) be adopted as amended and ratified at that meeting, H. Swingle seconded. The motion carried.

Walter Tatum reported that the Recreational Fisheries Committee (RFC) had elected Fred Deegen as Chairman for the upcoming year. He also presented a resolution (attached) to the Commissioners for their approval and support. The resolution supported the development of an artificial reef plan for the Gulf of Mexico. The plan should identify research needed to measure and optimize biological, social and economic

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benefits from artificial reef construction, recommend strategies for improved permitting of reefs, and provide Gulf-wide artificial reef siting criteria to identify both undesirable and optimum locations for reef construction. There was discussion as to who would develop such a plan and what funding mechanisms would be used. John Ray Nelson stated that he would like to see industry have the opportunity to have input both financially and in the actual development of the a plan. Leroy Wieting discussed similar work being done by a committee of the Texas Coastal and Marine Council, and suggested that the RFC contact the Texas Coastal and Marine Council to see what progress they had made. Other action taken by the RFC was a decision to invite a representative of Mineral Management Service to become a member of the Committee. Sam Theriot motioned to support the resolution regarding the artificial reef plan, seconded by J. Y. Christmas. The motion carried. Ted Ford moved to approve membership of a member of Mineral Management Service to the committee, seconded by Richard Leard. The motion carried.

Larry Simpson reported for the Law Enforcement Committee. Topics discussed by the committee included a briefing on recent Texas legislation requiring trucks transporting fish in Texas to be marked; Southeast Area Enforcement System (SEAS) computer systems; Florida's stolen boat program; Florida legislation requiring a secondary number on all boats and outboard motors manufactured or sold in the state; and, general discussion of marine resources enforcement and techniques. The committee also viewed a slide presentation of some of the law enforcement equipment presently in use and took the opportunity to meet with officers of the Florida Marine Patrol and accompany them on patrol to familiarize themselves with enforcement problems in the Florida Keys. R. Leard motioned to accept the report, seconded H. Swingle. The motion carried.

Ted Ford reported on the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC). He briefly discussed topics covered at the meeting which included the status on controlled freshwater introduction to the Louisiana marshes; a summary report from the SEAMAP Subcommittee and the Blue Crab

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Subcommittee (now Crab Committee); a summary report and a review of upcoming plans for the Statistical Subcommittee; a discussion on the possibility of a striped bass management plan; a review of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's framework for data collection FMP's; a presentation by Tom McIlwain regarding the research needs for information leading to the full and wise use of fishery resources in the Gulf of Mexico; a presentation from Mary Thompson, NMFS, Washington, D.C. regarding a NMFS Draft strategic plan regarding NMFS fishery policy as it relates to the states; and, election of Ted Ford as chairman for upcoming year. T. Ford requested that the Commission chairman approve a letter of commendation for Perry Thompson for his work as SEAMAP coordinator. J. Y. Christmas motioned that the the letter be sent, Charlie Thomas seconded. The motion carried. T. Ford also requested that the Commission approve the TCC's request to establish an Anadromous Fish Committee to consist of representatives of the five Gulf States, NMFS and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It was motioned by R. Leard and seconded by H. Swingle to approve the Anadromous Fish Committee. The motion carried. There was discussion regarding T. McIlwain's paper entitled "Research Needs for Information Leading to Full and Wise use of Fishery Resources in the Gulf of Mexico". The TCC recommended that all of the Commissioners make their perspective congressional delegates aware of the paper and aware of the research needs of the Gulf and to solicit their support for funding of such an initiative. They also recommended that the staff of the Commission communicate to Congressmen Lott and Breaux and others supportive of the Gulf fishery initiatives, our appreciation for their support and request continued support in fishery related matters. T. Ford motioned that the Executive Director seek funding for implementation of "Research Needs for Information Leading to Full and Wise use of Fishery Resources in the Gulf of Mexico". Seconded by S. Theriot, the motion carried. There was discussion regarding the draft paper presented by Mary Thompson and it was the TCC's recommendation that the Executive Director distribute copies of the draft paper to all Commissioners and request feedback from

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them in order to prepare a position statement for the Commission.
S. Theriot motioned to accept the TCC's report, seconded by R. Leard.
The motion carried.

R. Rayburn presented a report for the Industry Advisory Committee (IAC). Several topics discussed included the U.S. Development Corporation, (H.R. 3806); H.R. 3381, a bill to establish NOAA as an independent agency; H.R. 3474, Congressman Breaux's artificial reef legislation; current state legislation affecting fisheries; status of progress being made with Mexican government regarding access of U.S. vessels to Mexican waters; and, election of Ralph Rayburn as chairman for upcoming year. The IAC requested that the Commission go on record supporting repairs to the NMFS Galveston Laboratory caused by damage from Hurricane Alicia in the amount of \$200K and also support additional funding of \$300K in renovations to the aging facility. L. Wieting motioned to support the committees request. Seconded by John Ray Nelson, the motion carried. The IAC also requested support of Texas Shrimp Association's request to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council that they undertake a comprehensive shrimp tagging program in the south Texas area in order to better understand the shrimp migration pattern during the Texas closure so that managers can better understand what the shrimp do during their life cycle. R. Rayburn said that funding may be a problem but thought the Commission should write a letter supporting such a project. John Ray Nelson motioned to support a shrimp tagging program, seconded by L. Kiffe. The motion carried. John Ray Nelson motioned to accept R. Rayburn's report, seconded by B. Kemp. The motion carried.

L. Wieting reported for the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board. He reported that all projects were on schedule; that S-F funding for FY84 had been awarded; and that Buck Byrd had been elected chairman and Hugh Swingle had been elected vice chairman. L. Wieting motioned that the report be accepted, seconded by John Ray Nelson. The motion carried.

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B. Byrd reported for NMFS, Southeast Regional Office. He gave a brief report on behalf of Jack Brawner, Regional Director and gave the Chairman a written report of S-F accomplishments for FY83 (report attached). In summary he said that striking accomplishments were made in 1983 to strengthen the S-F partnership for the conservation and management of marine fisheries. In order to continue to be successful as stewards of the Nation's fisheries he urged continued effort to build successful programs in 1984. He stated that the Southeast Region is committed to providing all the support that they can to achieve the best partnership for the conservation and management of marine resources.

Prior to the Executive Director's report, Chairman Harper appointed a committee to investigate a retirement plan for Commission staff members. A retirement plan had been discussed at the budget meeting and it was decided that a committee would be established to look into a retirement plan and that they would report to the Executive Session at the Spring meeting. Chairman Harper appointed:

John Ray Nelson	Alabama
Richard Leard	Mississippi
Leroy Wieting	Texas

Chairman Harper took the opportunity on behalf of all of the Commissioners to congratulate Larry Simpson for his appointment to the position of Executive Director.

Larry Simpson reported that funding for P.L. 88-309 and P.L. 89-304 had been secured by a continuing resolution. He felt that a budget would be adopted soon but that another continuing resolution would probably precede final action. Indications in Washington are that P.L. 88-309 will be funded in the amount of \$4 million. He said that the Commission would continue to monitor budget progress, keep the states informed and to provide input when necessary. He also reported on the oyster mortality situation in the Gulf which called for the availability of funds for oyster planting, etc. He stated that funds had been added on by Senate appropriation committee and that he anticipated favorable action by House conferees. His sources in Washington stated that approximately \$2.5 million would be allocated for oyster restoration -

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\$1 million for Louisiana; \$.5 million for Mississippi; and, \$.5 million for Alabama. He covered other topics which included his MAFAC report (membership list to be distributed to Commissioners); John Harville's retirement; his meeting with NMFS and Interstate Compact Commissions regarding S-F interactions for management of interjurisdictional fisheries; a Council update; the Commission's annual report for FY82; his meeting with Bill Simpson (former aide to Senator Eastland), the Atlantic and Pacific Commissions and Senator Cochran regarding a push to move forward with portions of the Eastland Survey not yet implemented; and, future meeting locations for the Commission.

L. Simpson requested input from the Commissioners regarding future meeting content. He suggested that the Fall meeting be strictly a business meeting (no general session) and that at the Spring meeting, the staff would arrange a general session on a relevant topic of mutual interest to the Gulf States. The Commissioners were agreeable to this suggestion but requested the staff take care in arranging committee meetings (avoid scheduling more than one meeting at a time); attempt to shorten the length of the meeting; and, to take travel time into consideration when handling meeting schedules.

L. Simpson stated that approximately 95% of the Dingell-Johnson Funds (D-J Funds), amounting to \$35-\$40 million per year, has heretofore gone to freshwater projects. D-J Expansion calls for additional items to be taxed and moving some of the motor boat fuel taxes over to water safety increasing available funds to more than \$100 million per year. In this process it would require equitable amounts of the funds to go towards marine projects. As of October 19, D-J Expansion was held up in the Senate finance committee. He would continue to keep the Commission abreast of the situation and would continue to support D-J Expansion.

L. Simpson reported on the "Marine Licenses and Fees" pamphlet that the Commission has been putting out annually for the past several years. He stated that he had received a great deal of enthusiasm on the pamphlet and that he would strive to enhance it in the future, perhaps adding a brief narrative on how to obtain licenses in the various states

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and maybe even include a copy of the actual state applications. He also briefed the Commissioners on H.R. 2965, a bill to provide uniform state licensing of marine recreational fishermen, and for other purposes. He stated that he would monitor the progress of this bill and keep the Commissioners informed.

R. Leard reported that directors or their representatives of the state agencies concerned with fishery resources of the Gulf met to discuss mutual problems of the various states, including working with their perspective legislatures, federal agencies and other governing bodies. He stated that the meeting had been personally beneficial and that at their first meeting three issues of concern had been discussed and that may require Commission action.

R. Leard stated that of major concern to attendees of this meeting was perhaps a misunderstanding of how NMFS was awarding Saltonstall-Kennedy Funds (S-K Funds). He summarized the feelings of the state directors by requesting the Commissioners to direct the Executive Director to draft a resolution/letter, to be sent out for review and approval by the full Commission prior to distribution, to appropriate persons (including Bill Gordon and Jack Brawner), outlining the concerns of the states. All comments are to be considered - namely that state proposals be given priority; that S-K Funds not be given out in lump sums and furthermore, if they are continued to be given out in the same manner, that the states be given knowledge of who is receiving funds, what they are being spent on and a budget breakdown.

Bob Kemp stated that of major concern to this group was that for the last 2 or 3 years the southeast region had received approximately \$1.5 million in S-K Funds and over \$1 million had gone to development foundations in the form of block grants - and that these foundations in turn determine who the money goes to and for what projects without state assistance or input. He continued by stating that for the last 2 years, with funds provided through the S-K Act, people (awarded proposals by the foundations) have been doing research in state waters without the

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knowledge of the state. T. Ford motioned that the desires of the state directors be carried out, seconded by J. Allen. The motion carried.

Ron Schmied, NMFS, Southeast Regional Office explained briefly how the S-K Funds operated. He said that a letter requesting state feedback was or was going to be sent out. He personally would relay the concerns of the Commission to Jack Brawner.

R. Rayburn stated that he was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation, Inc. and that he would tell the Board of the Commission's concern regarding S-K Funds. Chairman Harper said that it would be appropriate for R. Rayburn to tell the Board of our concerns but that the Commission would prepare a written statement also.

Other topics discussed by the state directors included a recommendation that the Commission arrange more closed sessions of the Executive Committee similar to the budget meetings held each October. They also recommended that a new method of choosing meeting sites be developed. They would like to see more emphasis put on cost for the participants and considerations for the participants time both at the meeting and traveling to the meeting site. They also recommended that the entire Executive Committee be able to review meeting site information prior to a final decision being made.

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on the current status of H.R. 3381 - a bill to establish NOAA as an independent agency. He stated that the Commission had supported this bill on the basis of information supplied by the Gulf States but that he saw no immediate action being taken on this bill at this time. He would continue to keep the Commissioners informed on any progress being made.

B. Kemp motioned that the Executive Director go on record as supporting H. Con. Res. 119, a resolution declaring the observance of National Fishing Week. Seconded by R. Leard, the motion carried.

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on H.R. 5, the Ocean and Coastal Resources Management and Development Block Grant Act. The bill is aimed at returning up to \$300 million annually in federal offshore

EXECUTIVE SESSION
MINUTES
PAGE 9

oil and gas revenues to 35 coastal states and territories in the form of block grants for coastal protection and management programs broadly designated in the Act. He stated that Sea Grant will receive \$35 million and that the Gulf States will also receive a percentage based on coastline, population, energy activity, etc. The money is in the form of block grants and therefore not earmarked for fisheries and he advised that the states be aware of where the money goes and to seek methods of receiving funds for fishery related projects. He will continue to monitor the Bill's progress and to seek funds for fishery related projects.

Chairman Harper motioned that the Commission award a person or persons an annual award for outstanding accomplishments in fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. He furthermore stated that the award be entitled "Charles H. Lyles Award for Excellence in the Improvement of Gulf Fisheries" and that the Commission chairman appoint a committee annually to meet and investigate prospective candidates for the award to be given at the annual fall meeting. J. Allen seconded the motion, it carried. Upon further discussion, R. Rayburn nominated the first candidate to receive the award at the March meeting. It was agreed that the candidate's name would be kept secret until presented. Seconded by John Ray Nelson, the motion carried.

T. Ford nominated B. Kemp as Commission chairman for the upcoming year, seconded by R. Rayburn. Being no further nominations B. Kemp was elected by acclamation.

J. Y. Christmas nominated R. Leard as vice chairman for the upcoming year, seconded by John Ray Nelson. Being no further nominations R. Leard was elected by acclamation.

R. Rayburn requested that the Executive Director send a note of thanks to Robert Canaday and the Southeast Fisheries Association for the cook-out attended by all of the Commissioners on Thursday, October 20.

The meeting adjourned.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Friday, October 21, 1983
Key West, Florida

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Taylor Harper	AL House of Representatives, Grand Bay, AL
Walter M. Tatum	ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Richard L. Leard	DWC, BMR, Long Beach, MS
Hugh Swingle	ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Charles C. Thomas	FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Leroy Kiffe	GSMFC, Lockport, LA
I. B. Byrd	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ron Schmied	NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Tom Moore	TPWD, Austin, TX
Larry Six	PMFC, Portland, OR
John Ray Nelson	Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc., Bon Secour, AL
Ted B. Ford	LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
J. Y. Christmas	GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Joe Allen	FL House of Representatives, Key West, FL
Sam Theriot	LA House of Representatives, Abbeville, LA
Ralph Rayburn	TSA, Austin, TX
Bob Kemp	TPWD, Austin, TX
Larry Simpson	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Leroy Wieting	TX House of Representatives, Portland, TX
Gary Matlock	TPWD, Austin, TX
Ginny Herring	GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

10/21/83

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Southeast Region, NMFS
Report

Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I welcome the opportunity to represent Jack Brawner at this meeting. Jack requested that I express his regrets for not being able to be here to meet with you and to discuss the Gulf of Mexico's cooperative programs for the conservation and management of the Nation's marine fishery resources.

Within the past year substantial progress has been made in the Southeast to enhance our State/Federal partnership for the conservation and management of marine fisheries. The Southeast Region of NMFS is pleased to be a part of this multijurisdictional team and we look forward to a continuation of these important State/Federal programs in the Gulf of Mexico in the coming year.

The total accomplishments of the Gulf of Mexico State/Federal program are too numerous to review at this meeting. However, the following are some of the major accomplishments of the State/Federal programs in the last year.

- A special meeting was held in the Regional office with state fishery directors. Topics discussed included the development of a cooperative fishing vessel registration system in the Southeast to provide a data base for the management and conservation of marine fisheries. Most states agreed in principal to the proposed system. The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils are now in the process of developing preliminary information for the preparation of data collection plans to guide the acquisition of a comprehensive fisheries data base.

Special meetings were also held with many other partners including Sea Grant Directors and their staff, commercial fishery interests and recreational fishing representatives. All of these meetings were most successful.

- Participation in the Cooperative Statistics Program now includes all the states. Cooperative Agreements have been signed with nine of the ten coastal states (including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) of the Southeast Region. The tenth state is expected to officially enter the program in early 1984.
- In FY 1983 the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, through its subcommittees and the Gulf of Mexico State/Federal Fisheries Board initiated or completed the following State/Federal supported activities.
 - Development of a shrimp population dynamics model.
 - Completion of a blue crab fisheries management planning profile.
 - Determined the morphological characteristics of blue crab larvae in the northern Gulf of Mexico.
 - Revised the interjurisdictional fisheries management plan for Menhaden.

- o Intensified the development and implementation of the Gulf of Mexico S.E.A.M.A.P. Program.
- The Southeast Fisheries Center and the Southeast Regional office increased their communication with State/Federal partners in FY 1983.
 - o Seventeen issues of the regional publication, "The Newsbreaker" was distributed to a mailing list of 3,200.
 - o States, other Federal agencies, Sea Grant offices, the Marine Fisheries Commission, regional Fishery Management Councils, and other NMFS offices were provided information on the status of Grant-in-Aid and State/Federal Programs. All partners were also advised of publications and reports that are available from these Federal financial assistance programs.

In summary, striking accomplishments were made in 1983 to strengthen our partnerships for the conservation and management of marine fisheries. However, to continue to be successful as stewards of the Nation's fisheries we must continue to build upon these successful programs in 1984. The Southeast Region is committed to providing all the support that we can to achieve the best partnerships for the conservation and management of marine resources.

OUTLINE OF DISCUSSION PAPER FOR A GULF STATISTICAL DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1) Discussion of the Problems
- 2) Need for Management Data
- 3) Benefits and Obstacles

II. OBJECTIVES OF DISCUSSION PAPER

- 1) To describe the data requirements for management of each major fishery in the Gulf of Mexico.
- 2) To describe the existing statistical systems and their effectiveness in providing the data required to manage the fisheries.
- 3) To identify those management data elements for which the existing systems are inadequately structured to provide the required data.
- 4) To suggest revisions of existing systems or new systems that will be required to provide an adequate level of data for management.
- 5) To identify those management data elements which may most effectively be collected through a federal Data Collection FMP.
- 6) To propose the structure of a Data Collection FMP which will provide the required data with the least burden on user groups.

III. DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING STATISTICAL SYSTEMS

- 1) Statutory Authority for Data Collection
 - a) Federal Systems
 - b) State Systems
- 2) State and Federal Statistical Systems and Programs
 - a) For Recreational Participants
 - b) For Commercial Participants
- 3) State and Federal Systems and Programs which identify user group universes
 - a) Commercial
 - b) Recreational
- 4) Fisheries and user group elements for which no identification system or statistical system exists.

IV. DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT

- 1) Specification of the data elements desirable for management of each major fishery
 - a) by the Councils
 - b) by NMFS
 - c) by the states
- 2) Specification of the level of harvest of each fishery in relation to its MSY and the data elements that are required for management of the stocks to insure optimum yield.
- 3) Specification of those required data elements for each fishery that must be collected by research surveys of the fish and environment.
- 4) Specification of those required data elements for each fishery that must be collected from fishery participants.

V. DEGREE TO WHICH EXISTING STATISTICAL SYSTEMS SATISFY DATA REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Identification of the statistical systems which are providing the required level of statistical management data for each fishery.
- 2) Identification of registration systems which adequately define user group universes which may be sampled to provide required management data.
- 3) Identification of statistical and registration systems that are inadequate to provide the required management data.
- 4) Examination of the success of other existing systems.

VI. REVISIONS OF THE SYSTEMS WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO PROVIDE MANAGEMENT DATA

- 1) Identification of revisions required in existing systems to allow collection of the required level of management data.
- 2) Identification of suggested revisions to existing systems that would make statistical data collection more cost effective.
- 3) Identification of data requirements for which new systems are needed and specification of suggested systems and alternatives
 - a) state systems
 - b) federal systems
 - c) private system:

VII. ELEMENTS OF DATA REQUIREMENTS THAT MAY BE MOST EFFECTIVELY COLLECTED BY A FEDERAL DATA COLLECTION FMP OR SYSTEM

- 1) Those currently collected under inadequate existing systems
- 2) Those requiring new systems.

VIII. STRUCTURE OF THE DATA COLLECTION FMP

- 1) Collection systems possible under existing statutory authority provided By
 - a) FMPs
 - b) FCMA
 - c) State/Federal Cooperative Agreements
- 2) Collection systems requiring new statutory authority
- 3) Use of permitting to identify sampling universes
- 4) Standardization of reporting requirements between fisheries
- 5) Specification of the data systems
- 6) Specification of sampling surveys utilizing identified universes
- 7) Utility of data

IX. PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR DATA COLLECTION FMP

MAJOR FISHERIES

Billfish

Blue Crabs*

Calico Scallops

Clams and Bay Scallops*

Coastal Herrings and Associated Species

Coastal Migratory Pelagics (including jacks)

Coral

Groundfish**

Menhaden*

Mulletts*

Oysters*

Red Drum*

Reef Fish

Sharks

Shrimp

Spotted Seatrout*

Spiny Lobster

Stone Crab

Swordfish

Tropical Reef Fish

Tunas

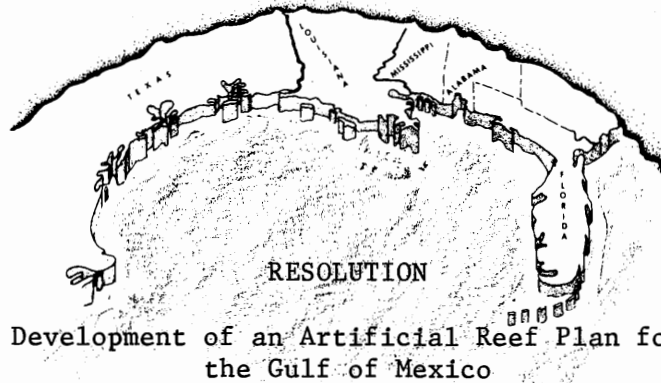
* fisheries largely confined to state waters

** includes sheepshead and black drum

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

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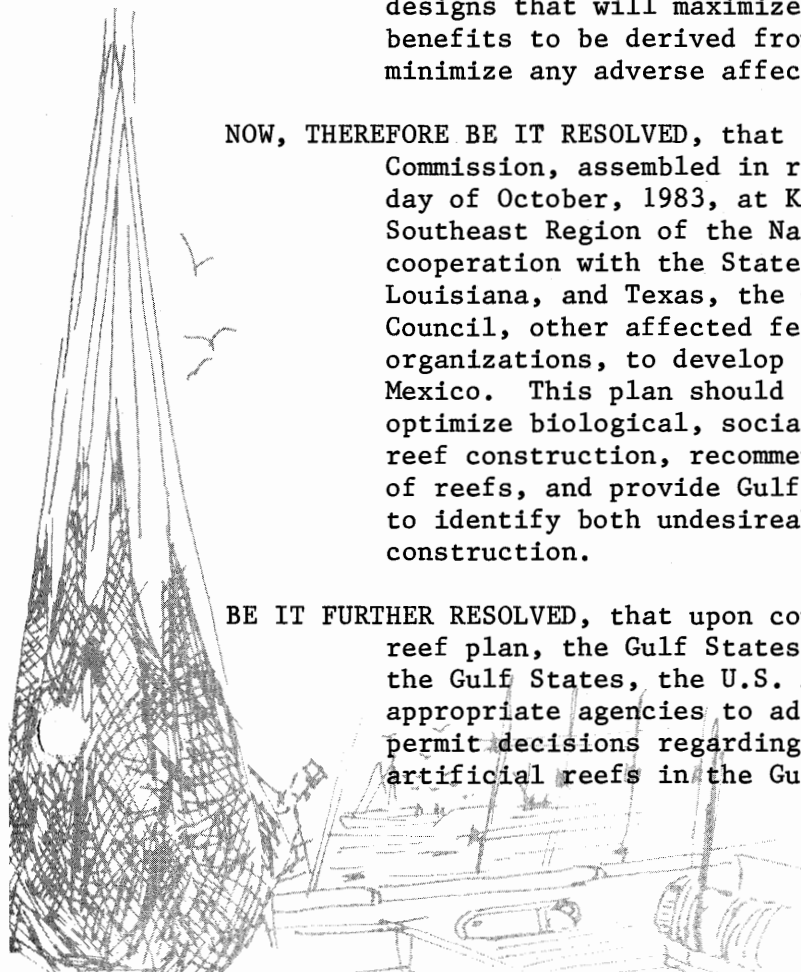
WHEREAS, artificial reefs have been proven to be effective in enhancing marine habitat, increasing fisheries production, and increasing recreational and commercial fishing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission assembled on March 16, 1982, passed a resolution petitioning the Congress of the United States to enact a National Artificial Reef Policy to provide reef construction standards and financial incentives for the orderly development of properly designed, sited and constructed artificial reefs; and

WHEREAS, state and federal agencies responsible for the management of marine fisheries and environments can interpret and use fishery biology, environmental, oceanographic, demographic, social and economic information to identify artificial reef sites and designs that will maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits to be derived from artificial reef construction, and minimize any adverse affects on other resource users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, assembled in regular semi-annual meetings this 21st day of October, 1983, at Key West, Florida, herewith urges the Southeast Region of the National Marine Fisheries Service in cooperation with the State of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, other affected federal agencies, industry and other organizations, to develop an artificial reef plan for the Gulf of Mexico. This plan should identify research needed to measure and optimize biological, social and economic benefits from artificial reef construction, recommend strategies for improved permitting of reefs, and provide Gulf-wide artificial reef siting criteria to identify both undesirable and optimum locations for reef construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon completion of the approved artificial reef plan, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission urges the Gulf States, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other appropriate agencies to adopt and utilize the plan as a guide in permit decisions regarding the siting and construction of artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico area.



SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL
November 18, 1983

The following Subcommittee members were present for a 10:00 am conference call: Mr. Walter Tatum, Mr. Richard Waller, Dr. Walter Nelson, Mr. Gary Matlock, Mr. Barney Barrett, and Mr. Alan Huff.

The Subcommittee discussed the finalization of the SEAMAP Operational Plan. Several Subcommittee members did not receive the latest revised copy of the Plan. An additional copy of the Plan would be sent to those Subcommittee members for their review.

The Subcommittee motioned without objection that the Coordinator should contact each Subcommittee member for his comments on the Plan. The Coordinator would request the Contractor to correct minor editorial comments in the Plan and then authorize payment of \$10,252 to the Contractor, Dr. Richard Condrey, for the completion of the Operational Plan. The Subcommittee would also request the Coordinator to meet with Dr. Kemmerer and the printer to have the Plan published in limited numbers. Once published the Plan should be distributed to the Commissioners and NMFS for final review. After that review is completed the Plan will be published in final form.

The Subcommittee agreed to cancel the December 7-8, 1983 SEAMAP meeting and reschedule it for January 18-19, 1984. The SEAMAP workgroups would meet on January 17-18, 1984 to organize survey activities for 1984. The Subcommittee will select a chairman, vice chairman and coordinator at this meeting.

Mr. Thompson stated that he is in the process of updating the SEAMAP Marine Directory for 1984. On the SEAMAP Atlas - Dr. Stuntz is hoping for a publication date of January 1, 1984.

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL
November 18, 1983
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Mr. Thompson concluded by saying he is in the process of putting together a progress report on 1983 SEAMAP activities for the Southeast Regional Office.

The Subcommittee discussed the disposition of ichthyoplankton sciaenid samples to Louisiana. The samples will be sent to Barney Barrett from NMFS Miami Lab. Dr. Rick Shaw and Dr. Tom McIlwain have agreed that the sciaenid samples should go to Louisiana. Once the samples have been worked up then they will go to Florida DNR for archiving.

Mr. Tatum stated that he has received a letter from Charles A. Parker of NOAA, National Ocean Service requesting hypoxia data off Louisiana. He has requested the Coordinator to send copies of the letter to the Subcommittee and a letter be written to Mr. Parker saying his data request is under review.

Mr. Thompson stated that the TSA has requested a SEAMAP representative to be at their December meeting to discuss real-time data. The Subcommittee motioned without objection that Mr. Thompson attend the December TSA meeting.