

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD

CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Tuesday, January 20, 1987

MARFIN Program Management Board
Tuesday, January 20, 1987
Conference Call
MINUTES

Roll was called at 10:35 am. Those present on the call were:

Members

Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Tom Murray, GASAFDFI, Tampa, FL
Wayne E. Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Jack Greenfield, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Corky Perret, Gulf States, New Orleans, LA
Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
Robert Ditton, Recreational Industry, College Station, TX
Ralph Rayburn, Commercial Industry (designee), Austin, TX

Staff

Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lucia O'Toole, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

NMFS Proposal Review/Approval

Chairman Tom Murray called the meeting to order and informed members that only a few comments had been received on the NMFS proposals which had been circulated for PMB review (proposal listing attached).

W. Swingle moved to approve the first four proposals as well as proposals 15 and 16. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed. The only proposals previously approved by the PMB were number 1, parts of number 4, and numbers 15 and 16. Numbers 2 and 3 were new proposals for MARFIN but were based on last year's work. The motion was withdrawn. It was the consensus of the PMB to consider the proposals individually.

- * Proposal 1 - Red drum stock assessment analysis - was approved by consensus (roll vote).
- * Proposal 2 - Central tagging for red drum - was approved by consensus.
- * Proposal 3 - Red drum mark and recapture - was approved by consensus.
- * Proposal 4 - King and Spanish mackerel research - was approved by consensus.

MARFIN Program Management Board
MINUTES
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* A. Kemmerer moved that proposals 5 (Electronic data collection), 6 (Effects of harvesting prey species), 7 (Habitat loss mitigation), 8 (Minced menhaden for hot dogs), 9 (Mississippi River plume effects on menhaden recruitment), 10 [Mocness (plankton net)], and 11 (Recruitment pathways of pelagic larvae) be delayed for review during the competitive season. W. Swingle seconded the motion. J. Greenfield said that as he understood it, the delayed NMFS projects would have to be considered in a "third round" provided funds are available. NMFS work could not be intermixed with solicited proposals and thereby reduce the amount of funds available for competition. L. Simpson called the question. The motion to delay proposals 5 through 11 carried.

* J. Greenfield provided background information on proposal 12 (U.S. - Venezuelan trade analysis). The project was requested by industry. S/K no longer supports trade analysis work. R. Rayburn moved to delay the proposal for review during the competitive season. The motion carried.

There was discussion on whether or not proposal 13 (ID and descrip. of traditional & devg. finfish in GOM) had been withdrawn because of its similarity to proposal 17 (by Al Jones). SERO is losing a person who is critical to their project. C. Perret suggested that a letter be written to SERO and SEFC asking for one proposal of integrated work which the PMB will consider with the other delayed proposals. It was the consensus of the PMB to write such a letter.

* L. Simpson stated his support for proposal 14 (Educ. tools to promote use and conser. in Gulf rec.) and expressed concern that the proposed fliers be distributed quickly as they have no shelf life. C. Perret moved to approve the proposal as submitted. The motion carried.

* A. Kemmerer moved that proposals 15 (MARFIN project management and coord.) and 16 (MARFIN board support) be approved but that the PMB request SERO and GSMFC to submit spelled-out proposals. C. Perret seconded the motion. The GSMFC proposal is on file from last year (a 3-year contract) and will be circulated. SERO will write and circulate a full proposal.

PMB Terms

L. Simpson reminded members that the Gulf States and NMFS PMB initial terms would expire in February 1987. A consensus of the two groups on their representatives for a three-year appointment to the PMB is needed. L. Simpson will poll the five state agencies and notify the Regional Director and PMB of their selection and alternate. D. Ekberg will direct a letter to the Regional Director as program manager for a decision on NMFS representative and alternate. The individuals now holding the positions may serve successive terms.

Other Business

The need to develop a major initiative on TEDs in the area was discussed. J. Greenfield said that the SERO and SEFC had met and discussed the possibility of the PMB forming small, informal task forces to address TEDs, king mackerel, red drum and economics.

It was the consensus of the PMB to address TEDs immediately. Chairman Murray appointed Jim Cato, Ralph Rayburn, Andy Kemmerer and himself as a subcommittee. A preliminary meeting will be decided on by members of the subcommittee and a number of observers will be invited to participate.

D. Ekberg informed members that the Federal Register notice was now in NOAA and had to go through the Department of Commerce and OMB. Publication is expected in late February.

PMB Meeting

A sit-down meeting was deemed necessary by the PMB. The meeting is tentatively set for New Orleans on February 12 (Thursday) and February 13 (Friday). Details on the meeting are being finalized.

The conference call ended at 12:00 noon.

REVISED 12-29-86

roup	no	k\$reg	k\$match	org	pi	proposal
EFC	1	25.0000	74.1000	MIAMI	W. NELSON	RED DRUM STOCK ASSESS. ANALYSIS
EFC	2	40.0000	70.0000	MIAMI	W. NELSON	CENTRAL TAGGING FOR RED DRUM
EFC	3	155.000	595.000	PASCAGOULA	S. NICHOLS	RED DRUM MARK AND RECAPTURE
EFC	4	144.300	0.00000	PANAMA CITY	G. NAKAMURA	KING AND SPANISH MACKEREL RESEARCH
EFC	5	66.9000	135.000	BEAU/MIAMI	G. HUNTSMAN	ELECTRONIC DATA COLLECTION
EFC	6	31.2000	0.00000	BEAUFORT	D. VAUGHAN	EFFECTS OF HARVESTING PREY SPECIES
EFC	7	60.0000	0.00000	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	HABITAT LOSS MITIGATION
EFC	8	25.8000	0.00000	CHARLESTON	M. HALE	MINCED MENHADEN FOR HOT DOGS
EFC	9	54.7000	0.00000	BEAUFORT	D. HOSS	MS RIV PLUME EFFECTS ON MENHADEN RECRUITMENT
EFC	10	79.6000	0.00000	MIAMI	W. RICHARDS	MOCNESS (PLANKTON NET)
EFC	11	86.4000	0.00000	MIAMI	W. RICHARDS	RECRUITMENT PATHWAYS OF PELAGIC LARVAE
ERO	12	44.0000	0.00000	ST.PETE	P. YOUNGBERG	U.S. - VENEZUELAN TRADE ANALYSIS
ERO	13	35.0000	0.00000	ST.PETE	R.RAULERSON	ID & DESCRIPT OF TRADITIONAL & DEVG FINFISH IN GOM
ERO	14	38.5000	0.00000	ST.PETE	R. SCHMIED	EDUC. TOOLS TO PROMOTE USE AND CONSER. IN GULF REC
ERO	15	75.0000	0.00000	ST. PETE	D. EKBERG	MARFIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT & COORD.
BMFC	16	52.3000	0.00000	DC.SPRINGS	L. SIMPSON	MARFIN BOARD SUPPORT

TOTAL 1013.7000

47 Al Jones
18 E. Klima

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, January 29, 1987
Austin, Texas

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, January 29, 1987
Austin, Texas

Vice Chairman Gary Matlock called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.
The following members and guests were present:

Members

Gary Matlock, TPWD, Austin, TX
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Steve Heath, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL (proxy for W. Tatum)
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Buck Sutter, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
C.E. Bryan, TPWD, Austin, TX
Ken Savastano, NMFS, NSTL, Mississippi
Phil Bowman, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Pete Sheridan, NMFS, Galveston, TX
Butch Pellegrin, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Eileen Benton, Staff Assistant

Guests

Perry Thompson, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Andrew Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Karen Jo Foote, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Jones, MS/AL Sea Grant, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, October 14, 1986, in New Orleans, Louisiana were reviewed and approved as written.

Budget Report

T. Van Devender reported that all objectives and responsibilities under the cooperative agreement ending December 31, 1986 have been completed. Funds in the amount of \$93,100 were expended as of December 31, 1986 and funds in the amount of \$7,000 (add-on funds for Status and Trends) have been encumbered for committee travel.

State of FY87 Cooperative Agreements

P. Thompson reminded members that final reports are due to him by March 31, 1987. He noted that the Department of Commerce has a new standard terms and conditions sheet attached to all amendments, a 5% (changed from 10%) line item change, and that contracts now require a quarterly report, the first being due on March 31, 1987. He recommended that members carefully review the new amendments.

P. Thompson also reported that all cooperative agreements have been submitted, with GSMFC and Alabama already returned. He anticipates the others arriving in early February.

Report on MEXUS-Gulf Meeting

T. Van Devender presented Dick Berry's report, summarized as follows:

- (a) Recommendations from the joint SEAMAP/PESCA meeting were discussed. All recommendations were accepted in principal, although PESCA showed little interest in red drum activities because of the absence of a major fishery at this time.
- (b) Agreement was reached in regard to protocols for handling plankton sampling and forwarding them to Poland for sorting.
- (c) Cooperative estuarine surveys and offshore tagging work on shrimp will be pursued by PESCA and NMFS-Galveston Laboratory.

Work Group Reports

(1) Plankton Work Group

T. Van Devender presented Bill Richard's report of the Plankton Work Group.

A recommendations from the work group that funds be made available for Joanne Schultz to travel to Poland was requested, however further discussion with the work group members requested that funds be made available for two Poles to visit the SEFC, and possibly GCRL, and LSU.

* Funding was discussed, and B. Barrett moved that the Subcommittee accept the recommendation of the two Poles coming to the U.S. and that SEFC provide the funding for their visit. The motion was seconded and passed.

(2) Environmental Data Work Group

S. Nichols presented Warren Stuntz's report of the Environmental Data Work Group, noting that all salinity samples have been completed and are in the process of being entered on the system. Red drum work has delayed processing of chlorophyll samples, resulting in an approximately four month backlog.

G. Matlock also informed the Subcommittee that the EPA is currently soliciting input on environmental habitat issues. The Subcommittee recommended that the Coordinator draft a letter to EPA notifying them of the data base that is currently available and provide them with copies of the SEAMAP Atlases.

(3) Red Drum Work Group

T. McIlwain reported that the Secretary of Commerce has implemented a Red Drum Management Plan, however the Gulf Council is now in the process of developing a Plan to replace or modify the Secretary's Plan.

T. McIlwain reviewed several red drum projects and stated that proposed funds for red drum research from NOAA and MARFIN are in the amount of \$640K and 652K, respectively.

He also reported that the monthly publication, Sciaenops, which gives an update of red drum research, is being well received and plans are underway for a second conference to be held at the GSFMC Annual Spring Meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi.

G. Matlock stressed the importance of mitochondrial DNA research to conduct stock identification on red drum, and requested that the Subcommittee consider writing a letter of support to the MARFIN Board recommending mitochondrial DNA work be funded, and funded through the State of Texas.

* After discussion, B. Barrett moved that a letter be sent to the MARFIN Program Manager supporting funds through MARFIN to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to conduct stock identification work on red drum using mitochondrial DNA. Seconded.

* D. Waller moved for a substitute motion that the Subcommittee recommend to the MARFIN board funding for mitochondrial DNA research on red drum in the Gulf of Mexico for FY87. Motion seconded and passed.

G. Matlock also informed the Subcommittee that the State of Texas has filed suit against the Secretarial Red Drum Plan on the basis that supersession was done improperly, and that it was not necessary.

(4) Data Coordinating Work Group

K. Savastano presented and distributed the Data Coordinating report, summarized as follows:

- (a) Preparations for the 1987 near-real-time data are currently underway.
- (b) A timetable for the 1985 Atlas has been developed with publication anticipated in September 1987.
- (c) 49 SEAMAP data requests have been received, with 47 currently processed.
- (d) The cruise track optimization system was implemented on the Burroughs 7800.
- (e) The final draft of the requirements report was presented to the SEAMAP Design Study reviewers. The first draft of the system design will be presented to the Gulf and South Atlantic Data Coordinating Work Group at a meeting to be scheduled in February.

A recommendation to normalize the trawl data to one gear size was made by the Work Group in order to help reduce the size and cost of the 1985 Atlas.

It was the consensus of the Subcommittee to postpone discussion of the recommendation until the Shrimp/Groundfish report.

(5) Squid/Butterfish Work Group Report

B. Sutter presented and distributed the proposed April 1987 Cruise Plan, summarized as follows:

- (a) Cruise: NMFS/SEAMAP vessel and fishing procedure comparison cruise between the CHAPMAN and TOMMY MUNRO

- (b) Objective: To conduct an experiment to reduce measurement errors introduced by differences between vessels and fishing procedures.
- (c) Sampling dates: April 8 - April 18, 1987
- (d) Depth strata: 60-79 fm, 80-99 fm, and 100-120 fm.
- (e) Location: north central Gulf between 86 50' W and 88 00' W longitude.
- (f) Three replicate tows by each vessel during day and night at each station.
- (g) Gear - 80' nets with 3-m steel "V" doors.

A Squid/Butterfish Work Group meeting will be held in early February to finalize design and personnel requirements.

(6) Shrimp/Bottomfish Work Group Report

Phil Bowman reported that the Shrimp/Groundfish Work Group had met the previous day and proposes the following recommendations to the Subcommittee:

- (1) Recommendation for Phil Bowman to become the work group leader.
- (2) Accept standardized sampling design as presented by Scott Nichols.
- (3) Recommend Pink Shrimp Habitat Study as a SEAMAP special study.

* It was the consensus of the Subcommittee to appoint Phil Bowman as the new work group leader. C.E. Bryan was also commended for his past participation as leader of the work group.

Survey Design

A discussion was held on the spring survey design, noting adverse positions on defining strata by depth or distance.

* B. Barrett moved that the survey design be sent back to the work group to discuss problems and report back to the March Subcommittee meeting. Seconded and passed.

* It was also noted that Texas and NMFS would provide the work group with all data relating to depth and distance to define strata.

* After noting problems with the fall survey design, the Subcommittee approved the motion urging Texas and NMFS to meet jointly and prepare a report for the Shrimp/Groundfish Work Group on trawl calibrations.

The recommendation from the Data Coordinating Work Group recommending normalized data to be presented in the Atlas was then resubmitted for consideration.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Subcommittee that the work group look at the 16 vs 40 data and see if there is significant information to obtain a calibration.

The Spring and Fall Survey Design will be reconsidered by the Subcommittee at its March meeting.

Pink Shrimp Habitat Study

P. Bowman recommended that the work group withdraw the proposal and requested that the Subcommittee form a policy that requires special projects be presented to the work groups in writing and prior to work group meetings.

* It was the consensus of the Subcommittee that prior submission of special projects be established as procedure for all work groups. The Coordinator stated that he would inform all work group members of this new procedure. K. Savastano also noted that these projects should also identify data requirements as some types may require additional software.

It was also noted that Butch Pellegrin, NMFS-Pascagoula Laboratory, would replace Elmer Guthertz as the representative on the Shrimp/ Groundfish Work Group.

SEAMAP Activities in Relation to Operations Plan

A. Kemmerer reported that one aspect of the Operations Plan is an annual program review. The Operations Plan called for this to be internal initially, but that the Subcommittee through the Commission can request an external review of the program. A. Kemmerer recommended that the Subcommittee consider an external review since the program has been in existence for several years. He noted that the external review would study goals, approaches, and efficiency of the program then make any suggestions for modifications or changes to the SEAMAP program. He also noted that this external review would also look at organizational and administrative aspects of the program. The review would perhaps be done by a task force with outside contractors, however funding will need to be identified.

* A. Huff moved that the Subcommittee recommend an external evaluation of the SEAMAP-Gulf program. Motion was seconded and passed with one opposing vote.

* A. Kemmerer noted that he would work out the details with the Coordinator and present them to the Subcommittee at the March meeting.

Joint Passive Gear Workshop/Joint Meeting

T. Van Devender reported that the Gulf and South Atlantic programs have encumbered funds to host a passive gear workshop in 1987. He requested that the Subcommittee discuss an appropriate date for this workshop.

* A discussion was held and it was the recommendation of the Subcommittee to hold the workshop at the October Joint Commission meeting in Key West, Florida.

Election of Officers

B. Barrett moved that the current Chairman and Vice Chairman remain unchanged. Seconded and passed.

Other Business

G. Matlock reported that a Status and Trends Study was published by the NMFS-Beaufort Laboratory but failed to credit the SEAMAP program for its substantial contribution.

The Subcommittee addressed the problems, noting its strong objection to lack of a SEAMAP cite for contributions.

The Subcommittee requested that the Coordinator contact the Beaufort Laboratory requesting data presented in this Status and Trends Study be provided to the Subcommittee members.

The Subcommittee also noted that Tom Bullion will replace Jim Ditty on the Plankton Work Group.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Monday, February 23, 1987

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Monday, February 23, 1987
Conference Call
MINUTES

Roll was called at 1:10 p.m. Those present on the call were:

Members

Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
C.E. Bryan, TPWD, Austin, TX (proxy for G. Matlock)

Staff

Larry Simpson, Executive Director
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Eileen Benton, Staff Assistant

S. Nichols requested that the Subcommittee consider taking nine days (June 2 through June 10) from the OREGON II's SEAMAP Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Cruise and adding those days to the Spring Ichthyoplankton Cruise. He explained that removing the nine days would still leave approximately one week before the synoptic portion of the Shrimp/Groundfish cruise (June 22 through July 15) began. By expanding the spring ichthyoplankton cruise some experiments with frontal boundaries around the Loop Current and the utilization of satellite imagery would result in an improved survey, particularly for bluefin tuna.

A discussion was held concerning the backlog of samples at the Polish Sorting Center. Additional ichthyoplankton samples could further delay sorting existing SEAMAP samples, however if this bluefin tuna sampling scheme was endorsed as a SEAMAP activity, the Subcommittee could have more control over sorting priorities.

It was also a concern of the Subcommittee that if days were removed from the Shrimp/Groundfish Cruise that sampling would not be performed east of the River, however it was decided that with the help of Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, sampling east of the River could still be accomplished in conjunction with seven days ship time on the OREGON II.

A. Huff motioned that SEAMAP endorse the Ichthyoplankton Cruise schedule as presented. Seconded and passed with one opposing vote.

The conference call ended at 1:55 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

JOINT SEAMAP
MINUTES
Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Walter Tatum, SEAMAP-Gulf Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. The following members and guests were present:

SEAMAP-Gulf Subcommittee

Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
J. Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

SEAMAP-South Atlantic Committee

J. Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Michael Street, NCDNRCD, Morehead City, NC
Dave Cupka, SCWMRD, Charleston, SC
R. Pugliese, SAFMC, Charleston, SC

SEAMAP Coordinators

Tom Van Devender, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Pete Eldridge, NMFS, Charleston, SC

Others

James Jones, MS-AL Sea Grant, Ocean Springs, MS
Perry Thompson, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Jack Gartner, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Larry Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Nick Mavar, Biloxi, MS
Jim Vega, Sverdrup Technology, NSTL, MS
Bill Richards, NMFS, Miami, FL
John Ray Nelson, Bon Secour, AL
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
Ken Stuck, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Buck Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Brad Brown, NMFS, Miami, FL

W. Tatum welcomed South Atlantic Council representative Roger Pugliese. All members were present with the exception of representatives from Texas, Georgia and the Gulf Council.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as amended to include a review of the South Atlantic's Bottom Mapping Project by P. Eldridge.

Activities Overview, South Atlantic and Gulf

W. Tatum, SEAMAP-Gulf Chairman, reviewed activities of that program for the past year. Noted were the summer shrimp/bottomfish survey, squid/butterfish survey, a fall shrimp/bottomfish survey, the spring ichthyoplankton survey, a fall plankton survey for king mackerel, and piggy-backed environmental surveys for each. Other major events in the Gulf's program included development and implementation of the State-Federal Three-Year Research Plan for Red Drum, ichthyoplankton and zooplankton archiving at two centers and joint development of the SEAMAP Data Management System.

A. Huff, SEAMAP-South Atlantic Chairman reviewed activities of that program for the past year, noting emphasis on the Bottom Mapping Project conducted by a Duke University team under the direction of the North Carolina Division of Marine Resources. Work is expected to be completed in early April with publication to follow. Other activities included the prioritization of selected species of fish and invertebrates for stock identification, a review of stock identification methods and plans for a second nearshore trawling survey during the summer and fall.

A discussion followed on stock identification methods and the use of mitochondrial DNA techniques as proposed in some MARFIN-funded red drum projects.

Status of State-Federal Funds

S. Nichols presented the budget split of the Congressionally appropriated \$1 million to SEAMAP. After budget reductions, slightly over \$944K was available for the program in FY 1987. Compared to the previous year, NMFS received a 13% reduction while the South Atlantic increased its share by 15%. Gulf funding was increased by less than 1%. It was noted that NMFS in addition to the \$90K identified for data management "carried-over" \$85K to be used for the SEAMAP data management system.

SEAMAP Data Management System Design

K. Savastano, SEAMAP Data Manager, introduced Jim Vega of Sverdrup Technology, Inc., contractor for the new system design. The proposed data system uses the NMFS Burroughs computer as a central data repository and will provide users with direct and immediate data access.

Microcomputers at each data site will be linked to the Burroughs via standard telephone lines. SEAMAP cooperators will enter data locally for incorporation into the SEAMAP data files and can retrieve data sets from these files for local analysis. The proposed system eliminates mail-oriented edit processes and puts considerable processing ability and flexibility in the hands of individual users.

Implementation of the basic system includes buying the necessary hardware and off-the-shelf software packages, development of special software and reformatting of existing SEAMAP data, and providing communication between the on-site microcomputers and the Burroughs.

* Following discussion of the design modules and implementation schedule, D. Cupka moved to accept the data management system design as presented, subject to editorial revisions. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Passive Gear Assessment Techniques Workshop

N. Bane noted that both SEAMAP-Gulf and South Atlantic have FY 1987 funds earmarked to co-host a passive gear workshop. Information presented by invited speakers would include evaluation of longlines and other such gear as possible assessment techniques for future SEAMAP surveys. A proposed SEAMAP Gulf and South Atlantic Joint meeting and Passive Gear Assessment Techniques Workshop, in conjunction with the University of Puerto Rico Sea Grant, was discussed and tentatively scheduled for late August in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

* D. Waller moved to reconsider the Gulf SEAMAP Subcommittee's motion passed at the January 29, 1987 meeting in Austin, Texas, to hold the Passive Gear Workshop in October. S. Nichols seconded and the motion passed.

* D. Cupka moved to proceed with plans to hold the Passive Gear Assessment Techniques Workshop in August in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. A. Huff seconded and the motion passed.

Review of Plankton Issues and Procedures

* At the request of the South Atlantic program, plankton issues including sorting protocols and alternatives to the Polish Sorting Center were discussed. As the South Atlantic develops its plankton

work group and survey plans, the need for coordination with the Gulf's procedures was stressed . B. Richards noted two plankton specialists from the Polish Sorting Center scheduled to work in the U.S. Southeast during the fall would be able to confer with the SEAMAP-Gulf and South Atlantic plankton components if funds were available. M. Street moved that SEAMAP-South Atlantic recommend to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's South Atlantic Board funding of \$5,000 to help support the visit of two Polish plankton specialists to Southeast laboratories. The motion was approved by consensus.

* With the likely future increase in number of SEAMAP plankton samples, A. Huff moved to request that B. Richard explore alternatives to the PSC for sorting of samples and to develop sorting protocols for South Atlantic samples that would decrease the sorting time at the PSC, should samples be sent there. The motion was seconded and passed.

Programmatic Review of SEAMAP

W. Tatum opened discussion with a review of the Gulf Subcommittee's decision to proceed with development of an outside evaluation of SEAMAP. South Atlantic members expressed a desire to be included in an overall program review, and South Atlantic Chairman A. Huff named D. Cupka to serve on the ad hoc committee, identified during the Gulf's morning session. This group will develop a list of options, including individuals or groups who could be contracted to perform a programmatic review and their associated costs.

* M. Street moved that administrative monies from the South Atlantic program be used to fund necessary participation in the program review by South Atlantic members. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion of Need for Federal Aid Workshop

Discussion was held on the need for a workshop to update Federal Aid Coordinators on changes in policies and procedures in federal aid applications. L. Simpson reported that developing regulatory information on P.L. 99-659, the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 was scheduled for presentation at the GSMFC's General Session Thursday afternoon and invited all to attend.

* N. Bane noted that the SEFC would conduct its annual State-Federal Fishery Statistics Workshop in Miami June 9-12, 1987 with session planned on grants administration procedures and requirements. A. Huff moved that all SEAMAP cooperators be authorized to attend the Miami workshop. The motion was seconded and passed.

Other Business

* The South Atlantic program members briefly discussed the report of the Bottom Mapping Work Group. M. Street moved to accept the Bottom Mapping Project report with the editorial comments of the work group. The motion was seconded and passed.

A final item included publication plans for the 1987 SEAMAP Joint Annual Report. By consensus the committee agreed to a similar format as the 1986 report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Larry C. Nichols
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

TCC ANADROMOUS SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Larry Nicholson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with the following people present:

Members

Madison Powell, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
I. B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Lou Villanova, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Jim Barkuloo, FWS, Gainesville, FL

Staff

Lucia O'Toole, Publications Specialist
Larry Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

Mike Street, NCDNR, Moorhead City, NC

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted after an approved change to allow Larry Simpson to discuss the D-J administrative program.

Approval of Minutes

There was no meeting of the TCC Anadromous Subcommittee at the New Orleans meeting in October 1986.

Discussion of "Habitat" Proposal

L. Nicholson indicated that the stream categorization project, funded by FWS, was the first priority of needed information as defined by the newly developed Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. He envisions a publication will result that should list appropriate stream systems and their habitat criterion throughout the Gulf area. Nicholson also stated that there would be no need for field work; he would prefer to compile data from existing literature.

Nicholson introduced a letter written by Charlie Mesing (FGFWFC) in response to a request for stream parameters which he felt were important. Those seven parameters are:

1. dissolved oxygen
2. food availability

3. pH
4. thermal refuges
5. pollution
6. physical barriers
7. water temperature and current velocity

A discussion followed regarding the need to prioritize the seven parameters. It was decided that many of them were too vital for prioritization. L. Nicholson asked that each member discuss their capability to carry out the tasks necessary to fulfill project goals.

Alan Huff indicated that most of the information for Florida would be available through water-management districts and also through on-going monitoring projects.

Nicholson indicated that he had received some comments from Gary Saul even though Texas was not represented at the Subcommittee meeting. His major comment was: the proposal stated that the various States would only have 1 month to assimilate the required data and the remaining 11 months of the project period would be available for production of the publication. That error was discussed and appropriate changes were made. G. Saul also asked whether States would be compensated for their time on this project. L. Nicholson indicated that no time compensation would be available to the States; however, publication, mailing, travel and cost of acquiring the information would be covered by the \$15,000.00 FWS project and the D-J Program.

A discussion ensued concerning whether striped bass restoration programs could be expected to reestablish a self-sustaining population or simply develop a put-and-take fishery. It was agreed that the intent of the various programs was to develop self-sustaining populations, but no one really could say whether or not this was a practical approach.

L. Nicholson said that some research was currently underway to establish various environmental tolerances on Gulf race fish as compared with the Atlantic race fish.

Jim Barkuloo commented on the importance of the forage base in the streams which are receiving the fish. Studies have indicated that a large clupeid population is directly related to the success of fish stocking. Although striped bass will feed on other organisms, clupeids are vital.

M. Powell indicated that he would be able to compile and coordinate the needed information from Alabama. Powell stated that water quality, access points and other logistical concerns were also important, as well as the forage base.

L. Nicholson stated that the cooperative project between Mississippi and Alabama is concentrating on Phase II fish and that all have been tagged. This enables the States to follow the movement of the fish and to also make some determination of their growth during the release period.

L. Nicholson indicated that he expected to be able to correlate stream environmental parameters with time of stocking to better evaluate their survival potential. He also felt that it would be important to know whether or not a stream system met certain minimum standards which could ultimately support a reproducing population of striped bass.

A discussion ensued relating to the effects of pollutants on striped bass populations and on survival of juveniles. It was noted that many, if not most, of the stream systems currently being stocked have some form of pollution associated with them. Nicholson stated that one particular pollutant now being assessed is aluminum. Also, he indicated that by compiling the data for the "Habitat" study, information gaps would point to certain areas that would require more attention.

A discussion ensued regarding the effects of hybrid striped bass on natural or "pure" strain striped bass populations. In many cases the hybrids are more hardy and more capable of survival. They are also capable of reproduction. There is a concern that "pure" strain stripers may not be able to compete with hybrids.

L. Nicholson indicated that all five Gulf States have expressed an interest in obtaining Gulf race fish for stocking. J. Barkuloo stated that the FWS is currently pursuing the development of a hatchery on the Apalachicola-Flint-Chattahoochee River system, to produce Gulf-strain stripers. Barkuloo said that it may be possible to obtain the hatchery through a clause in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, which allows for mitigation of past U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects that have had a negative impact on striped bass populations and their habitat. Buck Byrd suggested that the TCC Anadromous Fish Subcommittee

develop a resolution for approval by the TCC and the Commission to show support for the development of the hatchery. The subject was tabled until after lunch when other business would be addressed.

Time Frame for Reviews and Comments on the "Habitat" Project

L. Nicholson proposed that the next Subcommittee meeting be held at GCRL.

B. Byrd suggested that the Subcommittee delineate what work should be completed by the next meeting. The consensus of the Subcommittee was to: (1) identify the river systems in each state from which data should be compiled, and (2) begin compiling the data required, outlining data gaps.

R. Lukens suggested Tuesday, July 14, 1987, as the date for the next meeting. The Subcommittee approved the meeting date.

B. Byrd suggested that reminder letters of the meeting date and work to be completed be sent to all Subcommittee members prior to the next meeting.

B. Byrd began a discussion of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act. He mentioned that if it passes, it will replace P.L. 88-309. Relative to the recently developed Striped Bass Management Plan, he indicated that if P.L. 88-309 or Interjurisdictional monies were to be used in the implementation of the plan that it would need to include a set of management regulations. The Subcommittee discussed addressing what regulations should be included in the plan for adoption by the States and agreed that it should be a goal of the Subcommittee.

B. Byrd further indicated that there is also a new bill being discussed to license marine recreational fishermen. He indicated that it may serve as an incentive for states to go forward with licensing programs.

Election of Chairman

After considerable debate, it was agreed by consensus of the Subcommittee to reelect Larry Nicholson as chairman by acclamation.

Other Business

The chairman asked that B. Byrd assist the Subcommittee in developing the resolution concerning the fish hatchery. A discussion ensued regarding the title, major points, and specific wording that the

resolution should contain (copy of resolution attached). The final resolution was voted upon by the Subcommittee and passed unanimously. L. Nicholson said that he would present it to the TCC for their consideration.

The chairman requested that Larry Simpson provide information regarding the new D-J Administrative Program of the Commission. L. Simpson introduced Ron Lukens as the Program Coordinator and indicated that the program had been initiated under a cooperative project with ASMFC and PMFC, and funded by administrative money from the Dingell-Johnson-Wallop-Breaux programs. L. Simpson indicated that the D-J Program will facilitate the activities of the Anadromous Fish Subcommittee.

B. Byrd indicated to the Subcommittee that the D-J Program could easily have been rejected if it had not been for the determination of Larry Simpson, Commission Executive Director.

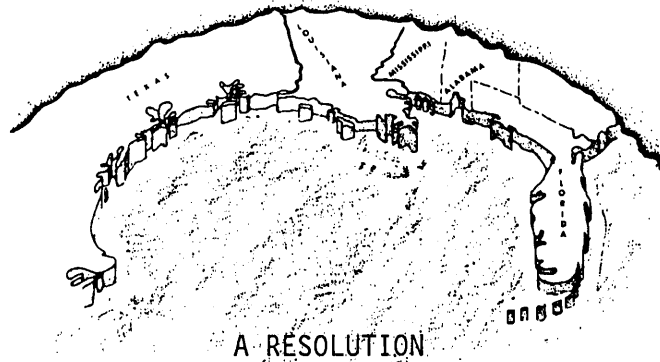
M. Street (NCDNR) mentioned that there will be a joint meeting of the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the Council and the Striped Bass Board, April 8-10, at the Norfolk Airport. He suggested it might be appropriate for a committee member or the new Program Coordinator to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS

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



WHEREAS, striped bass (Morone saxatilis) historically inhabited river systems from Texas to the Suwannee River, Florida, and

WHEREAS, native striped bass populations have declined due to environmental alterations in the form of water control structures, extensive channelization, and industrial and agricultural pollution, and

WHEREAS, the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system is the only remaining dependable source of Gulf race striped bass, and

WHEREAS, a demonstrated ability to produce hatchery-reared striped bass has been exhibited, and

WHEREAS, the desirability of the striped bass as a commercial and recreational species is well known and documented, and

WHEREAS, all five Gulf States have contributed to the development of a Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan and have a demonstrated need for Gulf race striped bass as established by the Plan, and

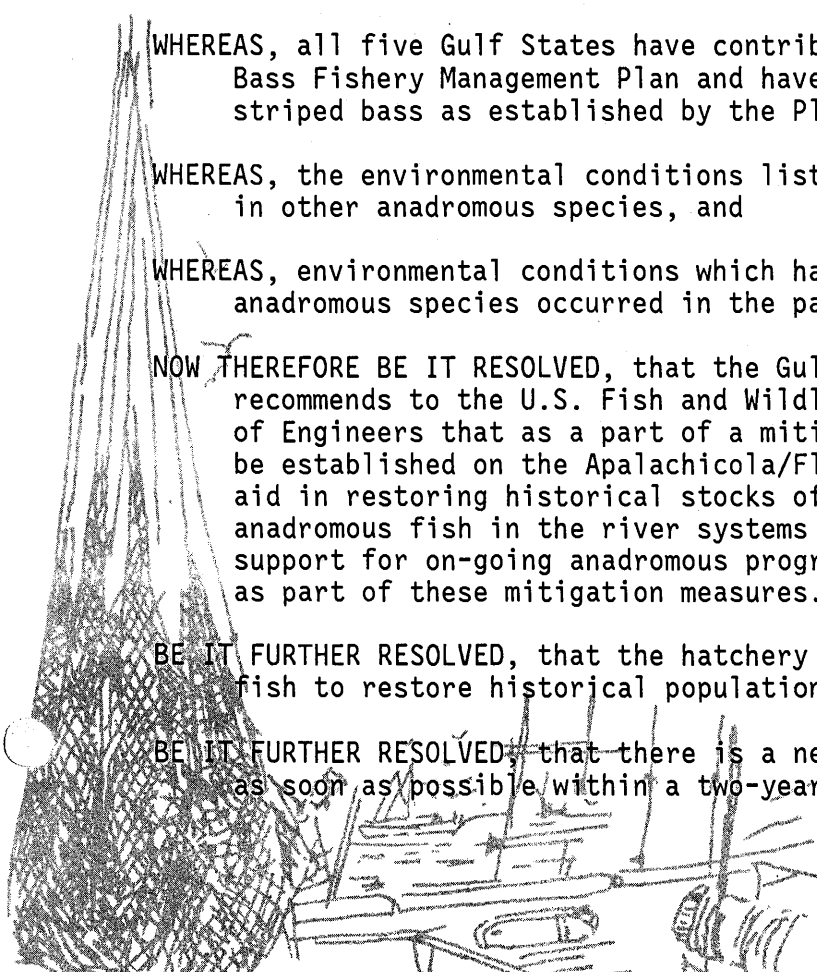
WHEREAS, the environmental conditions listed above have also caused a decline in other anadromous species, and

WHEREAS, environmental conditions which have been detrimental to the anadromous species occurred in the past and have never been mitigated.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission recommends to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that as a part of a mitigation program a hatchery facility be established on the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system to aid in restoring historical stocks of striped bass and the other anadromous fish in the river systems described above and that financial support for on-going anadromous programs in the Gulf States be provided as part of these mitigation measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hatchery be capable of supplying anadromous fish to restore historical populations in the five Gulf States.

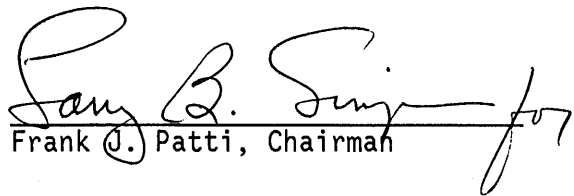
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there is a need for this work to be accomplished as soon as possible within a two-year period either through enabling



legislation or mitigation as provided for by the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and that operation of said hatchery facility will in no way detrimentally affect existing anadromous programs within the Gulf States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and that copies be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States.

Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.


Frank J. Patti, Chairman

APPROVED BY:

Phil Steeb
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

TCC CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Phil Steele, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The following members and guests were present:

Members

Phil Steele, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Steve Heath, AMR, Dauphin Island, AL
Vince Guillory, LDWF, Bourg, LA
Harriet Perry, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Staff

Dee F. Burgin, Secretary, GSMFC

Others

Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
I. B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Christine Trigg, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting in New Orleans, LA on Tuesday, October 14, 1986 were approved with the following corrections:

- 1) Page 2, change 90% to 9%
- 2) Page 2, delete the phrase "pending FDA approval"
- 3) Page 4, change Dr. Jane Burke to Dr. Terri Burke
- 4) Page 5, Vince Guillory will not replace Gerald Adkins but will act as alternate on the Crab Subcommittee.

Review of progress of crab research in each state

ALABAMA:

Steve Heath reported that the Assessment and Monitoring Program is continuing in Alabama and AMRD wants to become involved in the regional tagging project. Alabama has introduced legislation to require a license for commercial crabbers, which should transpire in the coming year.

S. Heath stated that Ken Heck has joined the staff of the Marine Environmental Science Consortium (Sea-Lab) and will be available to assist in any way possible.

LOUISIANA:

V. Guillory reported that landings and sales of licenses are up for 1986 and that there is no stone crab fishing being done in Louisiana waters.

Blue crab research is continuing in Terrebonne and Timberlee Bay Systems and some progress has been made since his report in October, 1986. A determination has been made as to ring sizes and location and number of rings on crab traps.

V. Guillory wants to do a survey with commercial crabbers in Louisiana in regard to number of years in the crab fishery, annual income, number and kinds of traps, time to run traps, lost or stolen traps, kind of bait and what happens to crabs after capture. A progress report will be distributed (if available) at the next meeting.

Research is being done to determine the best bait for crabbing. An artificial crawfish bait which lasts 5-7 days has been developed by Dupont and an artificial crab bait is in the process of being developed.

MISSISSIPPI:

H. Perry reported that the Proceedings of Soft Crab Symposium has been completed. The Blue Crab Monitoring and Assessment Program is still underway. The project using ~~pheromone~~ ^{hormone} stimulation for soft shell crab production is in its third year. The work is published in the Tropical/Subtropical - The Last Proceedings (Don R. Ward and Barbara A. Smith, eds.), and in the Annual Report of the Sea Grant Office. A graduate student is working on a cost-per-crab basis for the commercial system, ~~pending FDA approval~~. Research on soft shell crabs will continue.

FLORIDA:

P. Steele reported that Florida had a poor fishing year due to several bad storms. The Population Dynamics Study Manuscript is complete.

Stone crab research is progressing in Florida with a recruitment area having been found and a laboratory set up.

Research is continuing in the following fields:

- 1) Comprehensive field survey of northwest Florida population.
- 2) Laboratory determination of reproductive success of all forms.
- 3) Laboratory investigations of the effects of the parasite "octolasmis" upon the respiratory apparatus and consecutive reproductive success of the northwest Florida crabs.

The tagging migration program is complete and the manuscript should be completed in about a year.

Research on Geryon crabs is underway in Florida and progress is being made as scheduled.

TEXAS:

There were no representatives from Texas and, therefore, no report was given. P. Steele read a letter from Charles Moss concerning the conflict between shrimp and crab fishermen in Texas. H. Perry suggested that the crab traps be moved in, into the $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile limit during shrimp season. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Report on arrest information for stone crab and blue crab traps

P. Steele read a report from Colonel Don Ellingsen of the Florida Marine Patrol on Stone Crab and Blue Crab violations for the years 1984 - 1986. Regulations are being enforced and fines imposed in Florida waters. It has been determined that a law enforcement officer does not have to be on the scene when a felony is committed.

Report on National Blue Crab Industry Association meeting

P. Steele reported briefly on NBCIA Meeting in Orlando, FL.

Report on SEAMAP Plankton Sorting; status of Polish Sorting Center Contract

H. Perry suggested that Phil Steele stress the importance of plankton samples to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) due to the fact that there is a problem getting samples back from Poland. The last data received from the sorting center was the 1984 data. Discussion continued on problems with the Polish Sorting Center and the Crab Subcommittee is to take a stand on sorting. H. Perry suggested that the sorting center be moved from Poland to the States with Ken Stuck to do the sorting. P. Steele will present problems to TCC and report back.

After viewing the Geryon video, it was decided to adjourn the meeting. The following items were put off and will be discussed at the October meeting in Key West, Florida:

- 1) Report on potential tagging project and funding source
- 2) Report on NMFS travel data proposal
- 3) Report on status of the Gulf of Mexico blue crab fishery, 1986
- 4) Report on Geryon research.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Ray P. Gandy
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

TCC STATISTICAL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, March 16, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Chairman Henry G. "Skip" Lazauski called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. The following members and others were present. A quorum was not established.

Members

Henry G. "Skip" Lazauski, AMR, Dauphin Island, AL
Joey Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Albert Jones, NMFS, Miami, FL

Staff

Eileen M. Benton, Staff Assistant

Others

Maryann Treadway, NMFS, Miami, FL
Ernie Snell, NMFS, Miami, FL
Nick Mavar, Biloxi, MS
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
Buck Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Brad Brown, NMFS, Miami, FL
Phil Goodyear, NMFS, Miami, FL
Ed Burgess, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was provisionally adopted.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana on Tuesday, October 14 were provisionally accepted with the following clarification:

Page 2, paragraph 4, the 3-6 hour turnaround on entry and verification of data refers to general landings, not TIP data.

Report on Trinidad/Tobago FAO Workshop

H. Lazauski briefly reviewed his report on the workshop which had been previously distributed to all members. He noted that the workshop was very informative and felt that the United States is the leader in computer technology. The majority of the participants representing other countries reported problems with limited access to microcomputers, insufficient software and lack of trained personnel. H. Lazauski also noted that the participants felt that a user group should be formed with documentation in two languages (Spanish, English) to exchange information and avoid duplication of effort.

June State-Federal Workshop Agenda

A. Jones reported that the State-Federal Workshop is scheduled for the week of June 8, noting that an agenda will be distributed in May. Three general areas to be covered at the workshop include: 1) a hands-on data management session, 2) discussion of the administration of the cooperative agreement program, and 3) discussion of data collection goals and activities.

State Reports on Statistics Projects

J. Shepard reported that the State of Louisiana is presently collecting different types of monitoring information on finfish and entering this data on PCs. The MARFIN projects on tagging king mackerel and juvenile red drum in inshore waters are continuing. Louisiana also has contracted with LSU to collect catch/effort information, age and growth, and stock assessment on red drum.

H. Lazauski reported that the State of Alabama has completed a tag retention study on red drum at the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center, with results currently being collated. Alabama is continuing collection of general landings data as well as shrimp landings and TIP information. The MARFIN project on mullet is also continuing with work being contracted through Auburn University.

NMFS Data Management Report

M. Treadway reported that the TIP program is finalized and will be sent to the States for program testing. The Gulf Shrimp Program is still in the process of being developed. NMFS is standardizing on the word processing program, "Word Perfect" and is also looking at standardizing on the dBase-III, and Lotus 123 programs. She requested input on communication packages that NMFS could examine for standardization.

A. Jones stated that the PC-ATs were ordered in September with an anticipated delivery date of April 24.

Black Drum Landings

H. Lazauski stated that there has been a dramatic increase in black drum landings in Alabama since the moritorium on red drum. Landings are also expected to increase this year, possibly resulting in a problem in the future.

J. Shepard also noted increased landings in the State of Louisiana, primarily due to landings by purse seines. However, the State of Louisiana adopted a law last year no longer permitting purse seine landings except for menhaden. J. Shepard also noted that Louisiana is seeing an increase in sheepshead landings.

Other Business

A. Jones requested that H. Lazauski contact absent members and South Atlantic state representatives requesting input on agenda items for the State-Federal Workshop.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Mr. Roy Williams, chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.
The following members and guests were present:

Members

Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Roy Williams, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Eugene Nakamura, NMFS, Panama City, FL
Joseph Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Larry Simpson, Executive Director
Virginia Herring, Executive Assistant
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

Lou Villanova, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
John Everet, NMFS, Washington, DC
Phil Goodyear, NMFS, Miami, FL
Elton Gissendanner, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Perry Allen, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
I. B. Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
Ernie Snell, NMFS, Miami, FL
R. L. Applegate, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
Pete Eldridge, NMFS, Beaufort, NC

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with the inclusion of the following item:
Roy Williams would discuss the current status of Spanish mackerel stocks.

STATUS OF SPANISH MACKEREL STOCKS

Roy Williams indicated that there appeared to be a decline in commercial and recreational landings. Also, there is apparently a decline in Gulf stock-size and catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) is down. W. Tatum concurred with R. Williams indicating that numbers and size of

Spanish mackerel were down off of Alabama. R. Williams further stated that the Council Stock Assessment Committee did not have a current estimate of Gulf stocks, but all indications are that a decline is occurring. That group also concluded, through electrophoresis studies, that the Atlantic and Gulf stocks are different, with considerable mixing in south Florida. There also exists the possibility that the south Florida group may be a distinct group in themselves.

R. Williams said that the FMFC has adopted measures to reduce Spanish mackerel harvesting by 45%. The Atlantic coast fishery was closed after a harvest of 1.8 million pounds, down from the previous year's harvest of 4.5 to 5.0 million pounds. The Gulf fishery is still not closed. E. Joyce indicated that the Spanish mackerel fishery is easier than most to keep up with in south Florida because of the intense concentration of effort in time and space. The NW Florida fishery, however, is not as easy to assess.

STATUS OF COUNCIL FMP

R. Williams indicated that the Spanish mackerel fishery is currently under NMFS emergency regulations, including a four-fish bag limit on recreational anglers. Florida and NMFS have requested that the Council extend these emergency regulations through the end of June. W. Tatum indicated that the request had been approved by the Gulf Council and would now go to the Atlantic Council for consideration.

W. Tatum said that further Gulf Council action on Amendment 2 of the FMP was tabled until the next Council meeting. Also, purse seines have been excluded in the Gulf and Atlantic for taking of Spanish mackerel; however, should the stocks recover, that method may again be used.

REVIEW OF STATES' ACTIONS

Florida

The State of Florida has taken steps to reduce commercial and recreational take by 45% by imposing quotas and bag limits. R. Williams said that limits have been placed on mesh size: 3 1/2-inch mesh size on commercial fishermen on the Atlantic coast; 3 3/8-inch on the southwest coast; and 3 inches in the panhandle. On October 1, 1988, all areas will be limited to a 3 5/8-inch mesh size.

Alabama

W. Tatum discussed the on-going recreational survey that assessed directed effort on king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, red drum, spotted seatrout, and flounder. Biological data are also collected from interviews. Annual landings for 1984 in the recreational sector were just under 100,000 pounds. The CPUE for 1984/85 was 0.51 fish/fisherman/ trip. The 1985/86 harvest dropped to approximately 50,000 pounds, but the CPUE was 0.57 fish/fisherman/trip. Median total length of fish for the 1984/85 harvest was 14 inches. The 1985/86 data indicated a similar total-length distribution. W. Tatum also indicated that a considerable portion of the harvest are fish that have not spawned. He also indicated that Alabama gives full support to measures that reduce harvest and restore stocks to historical size. Minimum size is 12 inches fork length.

R. Williams said that some fishermen feel that the 1985/86 recruitment of juveniles was very good, mostly on the north Atlantic Florida coast.

Mississippi

R. Waller indicated that landings off of Mississippi for 1986 were over 42,000 pounds, up almost 300% from the previous year. This may be due to vastly increased fishing effort of the red drum purse seines during that time. Studies indicated that the 1986 larval abundance was good and that recruitment may be increasing. Mississippi has enacted a minimum size limit of 14 inches total length. Currently, the Bureau of Marine Resources considers the Spanish mackerel situation in Mississippi to be satisfactory.

Louisiana

J. Shepard indicated that no legislative action has been taken, however, a framework exists to be able to set regulations for species not currently regulated. There is almost no commercial harvest, and managers feel that currently there is no problem.

Texas

Because no Texas representative was present, no report was given.

FUTURE SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIONS

Players

R. Williams introduced Ron Lukens as the new program coordinator, assigned to handle recreational fisheries, at the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. He discussed Lukens' role pertaining to the activities of the TCC Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee.

R. Williams proposed that the Subcommittee proceed with the development of a management plan for Spanish mackerel in territorial waters. W. Tatum indicated that the Gulf Council does have a management plan for Spanish mackerel; however, they are reluctant to institute any action because the fishery is predominantly in state waters. Tatum felt that the Council would look favorably on a plan developed by the Commission.

Funding

R. Williams asked Mr. Lukens about the funding available to the Subcommittee through the D-J administrative program. Lukens explained how the program would benefit the Subcommittee's activities.

W. Tatum made a motion that the TCC Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee develop a Spanish mackerel management plan for the jurisdictional waters of the Gulf States. The motion was seconded by R. Waller. A discussion ensued. J. Shepard asked how a Commission plan would differ from the Council plan. It was explained that the Council plan was directed to the EEZ and, therefore, would not apply to the Gulf States jurisdictional waters. Someone in the audience asked if all five Gulf States had to agree to comply with the plan for it to be legitimate. Dr. E. Gissendanner said that any agreement between two states would be recognized as a legitimate plan. He also indicated that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission would be addressing a similar plan.

P. Allen (NMFS) indicated that there was a lack of compatibility between regulations in state waters and the EEZ.

J. Everett (NMFS) said that any plan developed by the Commission would have to meet federal standards. W. Tatum agreed that the seven national standards would need to be followed.

A discussion ensued concerning the compatibility of a plan in all states and with the federal government. Other plans, i.e., striped bass

and bluefish, were discussed. The possibility of a joint meeting with the Spanish mackerel planning group of the Atlantic States Commission at the October Key West meeting was discussed.

R. Williams called question on the motion to develop a plan. A vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

Time Frames

Dr. Gissendanner requested that the plan be completed in draft form for presentation at the October Key West meeting. After some discussion, it was determined that the Subcommittee would begin work immediately and the results of the efforts through October would be made available to the Commission; however, it may not be a complete draft.

Guidelines for the plan were discussed and it was decided that much of the plan could follow the Council's FMP format. R. Lukens asked that committee members representing each state provide him, as soon as possible, with current landings, effort, and regulations that relate to Spanish mackerel. R. Williams asked that each state also provide information about how they handle regulation changes. Dr. Gissendanner asked that a component be included wherein no state could drastically change its regulations without first conferring with constituent states.

Future Meeting Plans:

The chairman asked R. Lukens to suggest a subsequent meeting date. Thursday, May 28, 1987, was decided upon, and W. Tatum offered the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center, Gulf Shores, AL, as the meeting place, starting at 8:00 a.m.

R. Williams volunteered to invite Paul Perra of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to attend subsequent Subcommittee meetings to garner input from activities of that Commission.

Other Business:

The chairman appointed W. Tatum to present the Subcommittee report to the TCC.

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

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Chairman Jim Gilmore called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Jim Gilmore, National Fisheries Institute
Bill Chauvin, American Shrimp Processors Association
Charles H. Lyles, Louisiana Shrimp Association
Leroy Kiffe, Commissioner-Lockport, LA
John Ray Nelson, Commissioner-Bon Secour, AL

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Eileen M. Benton, Staff Assistant

Others

John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Douglas S. Vaughn, NMFS Beaufort, NC
Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden, Mandeville, LA
Roy Demarest, Kenner, LA
Richard T. Bennett, MMS, Metairie, LA
Villere C. Reggio, MMS, New Orleans, LA
Wayne K. Kewley, Conoco & Offshore Operators Comm., New Orleans, LA
W. Perry Allen, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
John Everett, NMFS, Washington, DC
Hugh A. Swingle, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Edwin A. Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
I.B. Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Dalton R. Berry, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Eldon J. Levi, NMFS, Gulf Breeze, FL
Ted Shepard, Louisiana Shrimp Association

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, October 15, 1986 in New Orleans, Louisiana were approved with the following correction:

Page 3, paragraph 1, sentence 1, clarified as follows: NMFS also developed a TED that according to their test was 97% effective in excluding sea turtles and would not result in any significant reduction on shrimp catch.

Reports Requested by John Ray Nelson

Economic contributions of the Gulf Shrimp Fishery

Enforcement of fishery regulations

The above reports were prepared by NMFS and were distributed to Committee members prior to the meeting.

Applications, Approvals of Oil/Gas Platforms

A discussion was held regarding turtle mortality by using explosives for oil and gas platform removal.

J.R. Nelson reported that in August 1986 the Minerals Management Service (MMS) instituted a voluntary moratorium against the use of explosives when removing rigs. The Corps of Engineers, however, has not initiated a moratorium and has allowed 20 or more rigs to be removed by explosives since the MMS moratorium went into effect.

V. Reggio stated that a permit is not required to remove a platform, however, prior approval is required. MMS is also initiating studies and evaluations on turtle mortality in relation to rig removal by explosives.

L. Simpson stated that at the last Council meeting, Ed Klima, NMFS-Galveston Laboratory, presented a study that involved caging live turtles in the vicinity of rigs being removed by explosives. Turtles which were placed 160 feet away were totally destroyed and evidence of turtle injury was also documented as far as 200 yards away. NMFS is in the process of looking at removal of platforms, at least by explosives, as a contributor to turtle mortality.

W. Kewley reported that the tests caging live turtles next to platforms that are going to be removed by explosives does not indicate that during normal procedures turtles are in the area and that they are being killed. He stated that there is not enough documented evidence to suggest that turtles are attracted to offshore platforms, particularly along the Louisiana Coast.

J.R. Nelson disagreed noting turtles are attracted to artificial reefs (platforms) and that the use of explosives to remove rigs contributes to turtle mortality.

Artificial Reef Programs

L. Simpson distributed a report noting the various programs, locations, and materials used for artificial reefs in the Gulf States. He noted that the State of Louisiana passed an artificial reef bill which enables the State to receive oil and gas platforms and monitor the reefs for the use of their citizens. Public hearings are currently being held.

TED Situation

A discussion was held concerning the proposed regulations on the mandatory use of TEDs. Major topics addressed included:

- (1) The NMFS economic impact and environmental data study contains untrue (slanted) statements (i.e., the use of TEDs will reduce trash fish, decrease fuel use and lower cost of vessel insurance).
- (2) Question use of the \$3.5 million which was appropriated on the development of the TED.
- (3) Endangered Species Act will continue to affect the commercial fishing industry.
- (4) Other reasons for turtle mortality.

T. Shepard stated that he felt the best alternative was to ask for a one year deferment on the regulations so that better equipment can be developed and tested during the shrimping season.

J.R. Nelson noted that perhaps the industry could challenge the data presented by NMFS, possibly getting a trade organization to file suit on the validity of the information.

Redfish Update

J. Gilmore reported that the National Fisheries Institute and the Southeastern Fisheries Association have joined in a lawsuit against the Secretary of Commerce's Red Drum Management Plan. The basis of this suit was that (1) the Plan violated the national standards of the Magnuson Act that required fishery management plans be nondiscriminatory, and 2) the Plan was not based on the best scientific information available. In addition to this suit, Texas, Louisiana and Florida have also filed suit because the Plan allows for State preemption.

J. Gilmore also reported that the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission has adopted a rule making red drum a gamefish. This rule is currently being reviewed by the Governor and Cabinet.

Vessel Insurance Update

J. Gilmore reported that last year a bill was defeated on vessel safety and insurance which included a \$500,000 cap on vessel liability for personal injury claims. He anticipates that Representative Studds and Senator Chafee will reintroduce the bill this Congress. J. Gilmore also stated that the organization, Fishermens Alliance for Insurance Reform has been established to coordinate industry lobbying efforts.

NMFS Budget

J. Gilmore reported that the Administration is in the process of cutting NMFS budget down to \$100 million from a \$170 million base. The Administration is also proposing a Marine User Fee which will generate \$29 million to be put back into the budget. The fees proposed are as follows:

- \$6.00 per crew man per boat
- \$6.00 individual recreational fisherman
- \$25.00 per boat if catch is sold
- 1% ex-vessel value landing fee
- \$25 Federal Gamefish Stamp

Following discussion, the Committee was nonsupportive of the proposed Marine User Fee.

Product Quality and Safety

J. Gilmore reported that the National Fisheries Institute received \$350,000 from the Department of Commerce to develop a model seafood inspection program. The program is now underway and NFI has asked the National Academy of Sciences to assist them. Completion of this project is anticipated in 2-5 years.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, MS

Chairman Fred Deegan called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. The meeting was delayed from the 1:00 schedule to allow members to attend an important concurrent session. The following persons were in attendance:

Members

Fred Deegan, MBMR, Long Beach, MS
Walter Tatum, AMRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Villere Reggio, MMS, Metairie, LA
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

Lou Villanova, USFWS, Atlanta, GA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana were approved as written.

Dingell-Johnson Administrative Program

Chairman, Fred Deegan, introduced Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator, who gave a brief synopsis of the benefits of the new Administrative Program. Future Recreational Fisheries Committee activities are eligible for support through the Program according to R. Lukens. Lukens indicated that a Wallop-Breaux project of physical monitoring and assessment of Mississippi's artificial reefs would soon be initiated and that the Committee may want to consider a similar project which would have a broader application.

Villere Reggio of MMS requested that all new artificial reef permits be sent through his office for review since he will be in a position to coordinate acquisition of reef materials for specified reef sites.

Coastal Conservation Association Update

The Chairman recognized that no representative of the Coastal Conservation Association was in attendance. He requested that Walter Tatum give a brief account of the CCA meeting held in New Orleans in February, which he did.

Alabama Update

W. Tatum reported that a 360 sq. mi. reef site had been established offshore Alabama. The MRD has been authorized to inspect and approve all materials to be placed within that site. Emphasis has been placed on the fact that all materials placed within the new site are open to public access and not privately owned.

Tatum also reported on the Wallop-Breaux project to raise, tag, and release spotted seatrout. 1986 efforts resulted in 16,000 fish stocked. The 1987 goal is for 20,000 fish to be stocked. Tatum indicated that a recent tag return has indicated the possibility of a much greater growth rate than previously demonstrated for this species.

Florida Update

E. Joyce indicated that Dr. Virginia Vail of his staff would be replacing him on the Committee. He indicated that her expertise would be a great benefit to the Committee.

E. Joyce reported that \$400,000.00 in Wallop-Breaux funds would be expended for artificial reef efforts in Florida in the coming year. Most would be used to fund transportation of reef materials to reef sites. E. Joyce also indicated that some centralization of reef activities is needed to alleviate some of the confusion resulting from wide-spread reef building activities.

According to Joyce, a Wallop-Breaux funded fish hatchery is under construction near St. Petersburg. Twelve of twenty-two ponds are already completed. The facility will initially be used to raise and stock snook, but red drum will also be addressed. He also indicated that if Wallop-Breaux funds are available a stock assessment project for tarpon is being considered.

Mississippi Update

Chairman F. Deegan indicated that work is progressing on three access projects funded by Wallop-Breaux. He also noted that three new access projects would be funded for the coming year. Also coming up is a project to add materials to an existing artificial reef site offshore Mississippi.

F. Deegan reported that a 19 pound 4 ounce striped bass was recently caught in the Biloxi Bay system and that such catches are a clear indication of the success of the State's cooperative striped bass stocking program conducted jointly with Alabama.

F. Deegan reported that the MCWC adopted minimum size limits of 14 inches TL for spotted seatrout and red drum taken from State waters, effective December, 1986. Also, a poster depicting all of the States' saltwater sportfishing creel and size limits and the 1987 Guide to Mississippi Saltwater Fishing Regulations are now available.

Louisiana and Texas

Since there were no representatives from Louisiana or Texas present, these State reports were not given.

Election of Chairman

Ed Joyce nominated F. Deegan, seconded by W. Tatum. It was suggested that Deegan be elected by acclamation. This was accepted by the Committee.

Other Business

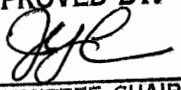
Marine Debris Program

V. Reggio (MMS) discussed the widespread problem of marine debris, which is described as debris in the waters, marshes, and beaches related to the oil and gas industry, shipping interests, commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, the U.S. Navy, and foreign interests. According to a report, 70 to 80% of all marine debris is related to these interests.

Programs conducted in Texas and Louisiana called Coastal Cleanup Efforts have drawn public and political attention to the problem. V. Reggio indicated that a workshop on the subject, sponsored by MMS, will be held on April 13-14 at the Rockefeller Refuge in Louisiana. Anyone interested should contact Reggio directly.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 17, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Chairman J.Y. Christmas called the meeting to order at 9:13 am and declared a quorum was present. The following were in attendance:

Members

John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Vince Guillory, LDWF, Bourg, LA
J.Y. Christmas, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
W. Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA
Dalton R. Berry, Zapata-Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Hugh Swingle, AMRD, Dauphin Island, AL
T.G. Christopher, Standard Products Co., Moss Point, MS

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Lucia B. O'Toole, Publication Specialist

Others

Douglas Vaughan, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
W.S. "Corky" Perret, Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Gilmore, NFM&OA, Washington, DC
John Everett, NMFS, Washington, DC
Eldon Levi, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
I.B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
John Ray Nelson, GSMFC, Bon Secour, AL

Adoption of Agenda

It was noted that Lloyd Regier was unable to attend and therefore item 6 "Update on Oil Research and GRAS Petition" could only be discussed by members. The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, October 15, 1986 in New Orleans, Louisiana were adopted as written.

Report on 1986 Fishing Season

1986 purse-seine landings of Gulf menhaden amounted to 822,100 metric tons. This figure is about 4% less than the forecast using the actual effort value. Nominal fishing effort was 606,500 vessel-ton-weeks. J. Merriner noted that there has been a progressing decline in vessels fishing but the catch has been above 800,000 metric tons for the

last five years. During 1986 a reversal of age composition was observed with age-2s predominating in coastwide landings (64%). Hopefully, both the 1985 and 1986 year classes will prove average.

Plans and Outlook for 1987 Fishing Season

J. Merriner said that NMFS estimates 74 vessels will be active and expects nominal effort will be approximately 632,000 vessel-ton-weeks. With this level of effort, purse-seine landings are predicted to be 867,300 metric tons in 1987.

J. Merriner also reported that the diseased fish studies are continuing on the Atlantic seaboard and that the impact of the disease on the Atlantic menhaden population is unknown. No outbreaks of the necrotic lesions have been reported from Gulf menhaden.

Plans for Captain's Daily Fishing Reports

A total of 7,959 Captain's Daily Fishing Reports (CDFRs) were received from Gulf menhaden vessels for 1986. The Beaufort Lab has coded and keyed 1983 and 1984 CDFRs and is looking for input as to how the general data set might be summarized.

Status Report on Menhaden Surimi Plant

D. Berry reported that the trial start-up of the Zapata Haynie Corp. Reedville, Virginia menhaden surimi plant took place in October. Equipment tests and preliminary processing tests were run when fresh fish were available. The processing plant capacity (1 ton per day) demonstration was completed in November. The plant was surveyed under the USDC/NOAA/NMFS Inspection Program and approved for processing food grade fish products.

Harvesting tests to determine the baseline data on food grade menhaden were discontinued at the end of the regular fishing season on November 21, 1986. A shortage of food-grade fish caused by bad weather precluding fishing resulted in restricted processing. Processing

machinery tests to establish baseline performance data were initiated using frozen fillets in December.

The plant could start up in April if fresh food-grade menhaden is available. When the Virginia fishing season opens in May additional harvesting tests using conventional vessels will be conducted. The plant is expected to operate until September 30, 1987.

Update on Oil Research and GRAS Petition

J. Gilmore stated that the process for GRAS (generally recognized as safe) petitions routinely took 1 1/2 to 2 years. B. Wallace informed members that the environmental impact branch of FDA had a few months ago expressed concerns that a totally new market might be stimulated which might cause potential overfishing of the resource. These concerns are being addressed by industry and NMFS. Menhaden oil will be a substitute oil, no new market will be created. FDA has also questioned technical aspects. It is hoped that favorable comments will be seen by the end of 1987.

Status of Stock Assessment

D. Vaughan reported that the stock assessment report had been accepted for publication by the NOAA/NMFS Technical Report Series and will hopefully be published before the end of 1987. The final version was previously mailed to all members and alternates.

Discussion of MARFIN Proposal on Effects of Harvesting Prey Species

A proposal for MARFIN funds on "Effects of Harvesting Prey Species" was developed by personnel at the NMFS-Beaufort Lab. D. Vaughan had previously mailed proposal summaries to all members and alternates. The goals of the proposed work are: (1) to associate geotemporal feeding habits of coastal pelagics and possibly estuarine species with the geotemporal and size distribution of the juvenile and adult Gulf menhaden; (2) to compare the proportion of adult Gulf menhaden in coastal pelagic stomachs by season and year with estimates of proportion

of Gulf menhaden to other available prey in the offshore environment; (3) to compare the proportion of juvenile Gulf menhaden in the estuarine predators stomachs with the estimates of proportion of Gulf menhaden to other available prey in the estuarine environment; and (4) to compare the size of Gulf menhaden in the stomachs of king mackerel and estuarine predator species to the size of juvenile and adult Gulf menhaden available in the environment and to the size distribution of other available prey species. The final product will be a journal article summarizing findings.

Status of Information in Repository

L. Simpson distributed a listing of articles held in the Commission's menhaden repository. J. Merriner and D. Vaughan prepared and distributed a listing of 1985, 1986, and in press publications from the Southeast on both the Gulf and Atlantic menhaden. They also provided the Commission many of the listed articles and will forward others as soon as possible. It was noted that Linda Deegen from Louisiana State University had written a Ph.D. dissertation which should be added to the repository.

Management Plan Update

J.Y. Christmas noted that the time for an update of the Management Plan was approaching. H. Swingle suggested that an addendum or supplement of specific sections might be more in order than an extensive rewrite or update. It was the consensus of the Committee to ask the Commission to begin thinking in the direction of an addendum or supplement in terms of what can and should be done.

Discussion of Florida Menhaden Season

B. Wallace expressed concern over the growing industry for menhaden as bait and over the lack of a closed season in Florida possibly causing pressure in other states to do the same. It was the general

consensus of the Committee that the resource should be left alone during the spawning season. The magnitude of the bait fishery was unknown but most appears to be from Florida. It was mentioned that State agencies may need to issue guidance as to when bait fishing is allowed. V. Guillory noted a dramatic increase in the crab fishery in recent years in Louisiana and thus an increased demand for bait. It was the further consensus of the Committee to look into the possible need to make some recommendations. An ad hoc committee may be established at the call of the Chairman in order to have a report prepared on this topic for the October meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

GULF STATES-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 18, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Chairman, I. B. "Buck" Byrd, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The following persons attended:

Members

I. B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Frank J. Patti, St. Rep., Belle Chasse, LA
Claude J. Boudreaux, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Edwin A. Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Leroy Kiffe, GSMFC, Lockport, LA
Walter M. Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Larry Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Frank Richardson, USFWS, Atlanta, GA

Staff

Ron Lukens, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Ginny Herring, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Phil Steele, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
J. Y. Christmas, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden Prod., Mandeville, LA
David Etzold, USM, Hattiesburg, MS
Dalton Berry, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Lou Villanova, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Skip Lazauski, AMRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Jim Barkuloo, USFWS, Panama City, FL
Austin Magill, NMFS, Washington, DC
Peter Eldridge, NMFS, Charleston, SC
R. L. Applegate, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
John Ray Nelson, Bon Secour Fisheries, Bon Secour, AL
Christine Trigg, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Harriet Perry, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held October 16, 1986 were reviewed and approved as presented.

Status Report - Data Accumulation, Planning and Administration for
Interjurisdictional Management of Marine Fisheries Resources of the Gulf
of Mexico (1987)

L. Simpson reported that all objectives and responsibilities of this agreement are being accomplished and reports are being submitted to the Southeast Regional Office/National Marine Fisheries Service, St. Petersburg, Florida and Central Administrative Support Center/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administration, travel, communication, planning and other activities for the administrative support of the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board and its committees has been provided in accordance with this agreement.

In addition to performing all secretarial duties for GS-FFMB committees, travel reimbursement was made to Henry Lazauski, Chairman of the Statistical Subcommittee. Dr. Lazauski attended a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization meeting in the Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago as an observer for the GS-FFMB.

There being no objections the report was approved as presented.

Status Report - Menhaden Advisory Committee (MAC)

J. Y. Christmas reported that the MAC had met on Tuesday, March 17, 1987. The committee received reports on the 1986 fishing season; plans and outlooks for the 1987 fishing season; the Captain's Daily Fishing Reports; status on the menhaden surimi plant; an update on oil research and the GRAS petition; status of stock assessment; effects of harvesting prey species; and, discussion of the Florida menhaden season. An update of the menhaden FMP was discussed and it was decided that instead of a rewrite or update an addendum or supplement would be more appropriate at this time. No action was necessary and the report was approved as presented.

Status Report - Crab Subcommittee

P. Steele reported that the Crab Subcommittee met on Monday, March 16, 1987. The committee received updates on the progress of crab research from States represented. Other topics discussed were arrest

information for crab trap violations; a regional tagging program; the National Blue Crab Industry Association Meeting; SEAMAP plankton sorting; NMFS travel data; and Geryon research.

There being no objections, the report was approved.

Status Report - Data Management Subcommittee (DMS)

Skip Lazauski reported that the DMS met on Monday, March 16, 1987. S. Lazauski reported to the subcommittee on his trip to Trinidad where he attended a FAO Workshop on the use of microcomputers for processing statistical and biological fishery data. He was requested to give a presentation on integrative microcomputers for processing statistical and biological fishery data. He was requested to give a presentation on integrating microcomputer software and hardware for fisheries data entry, storage and analysis at the workshop. Other topics discussed were changes in documentation of cooperative agreements; an informal report from NMFS on confidentiality; an update of the scheduled State-Federal workshop in Miami, FL; State's reports; a report on NMFS data management; and discussion on black drum landings. Other significant activities of the DMS was the publication entitled "Design, Collection and Assessment of Angler Volunteered Information Programs".

There being no objections, the report was approved.

Status Report - Law Enforcement Committee (LEC)

G. Herring reported that the LEC met on Tuesday, March 17. Major topics of discussion included the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, status of MFCMA amendments, red drum regulations, review of LEC, summary of State regulations, review of TED legislation, and a report from Richard E. Thompson regarding a FDA document on the prevention of harvesting shellfish from closed areas. The LEC will make the following recommendations to the full commission at their regular session: 1) that Col. Don Ellingsen, FDNR, represent the GSMFC LEC on the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference; 2) that a LEC member be appointed to the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee to offer law enforcement expertise in support of the Spanish Mackerel FMP for State waters; and 3) that the Commission write to State and appropriate agencies requesting that they consider a uniform size limit for red drum and that the States take necessary steps to conform with uniform size limits.

There being no objection, the report was approved. No action was taken.

Cooperative Interstate Fishery Management in the Territorial Sea of the United States (D-J Administrative Agreement)

B. Byrd reviewed background information of the Commission's D-J administrative agreement. He stated that the purpose of the GS-FFMB is to identify management plan priorities, integrate State efforts, encourage participation by user groups and the public in development of management plans and develop and recommend suitable policies to members and encourage implementation to the extent possible, of programs, law and regulations for the effective management of fisheries. He indicated that the purpose and unique charter of the GS-FFMB gave members an advantage in monitoring and supporting the D-J agreement. He suggested that the membership be expanded to include a member of FWS and that the charter be further amended to provide the existing NMFS member a vote as well as the new member. Since the agreement in the amount of \$78,473 is administered through FWS, it was discussed and agreed that it would be an appropriate change.

* E. Joyce motioned to amend the charter by adding a member. The new member will be the FWS Regional Director, Region IV or his designee. The new member and the existing NMFS member would be granted voting privileges. H. Swingle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Richardson was invited to be seated for the rest of the meeting.

B. Byrd introduced Ron Lukens as the program coordinator for the D-J agreement and extended the GS-FFMB's welcome.

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

C H A R T E R
GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD
(Amended March 18, 1987)

Establishment:

The States of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas through their respective agencies for marine fisheries conservation, management and development, and upon the legal authorities contained in their respective constitutions or otherwise, do hereby agree to the formation of a regional fisheries management body to be known as the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board (hereafter referred to as the Board) based on the general approval of Congress contained in the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Compact Act of May 19, 1949 (PL 81-66).

Purpose:

1. Recognizing that certain fisheries, and fisheries resources upon which those fisheries are based, move between, or are broadly distributed among, the territorial waters of two or more States, or the territorial waters and areas seaward thereof;
2. And recognizing the need for the development of uniform or coordinated management systems;
3. And, recognizing the need to optimize economic and social returns and to take appropriate actions to develop and implement certain management plans for the conservation and management of certain identified fisheries resources of the Gulf States;

4. The Board, therefore, agrees to take the necessary steps to accomplish the objectives and purpose of this charter:
 - (a) Identify management plan priorities for fisheries and fisheries resources of common or interstate interest; and
 - (b) Identify and promote institutional arrangements which will foster integration of efforts among the States; and
 - (c) Encourage meaningful participation by user groups and the general public, in the development of management plans; and
 - (d) Develop and recommend suitable policies and strategies to each member State, and encourage the implementation to the extent possible, of programs, laws and regulations for the effective management of fisheries to accomplish the objectives and purposes set out in this section.

Composition:

1. The States of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas shall be represented on the Board by the Administrative Commissioner and one other member of that State appointed to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, or their proxies by that State.
2. The Federal Government shall be invited to participate through the Southeast Regional Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service or his proxy from that region and the Region IV Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or his proxy from that region.
3. The Executive Director of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission shall be a non-voting member of the Board.

Administrative Provisions:

1. Each member State shall be entitled to one vote on all matters properly before said Board.
2. Each designated Federal official shall be entitled to one vote on all matters properly before said Board.
3. A chairman shall be elected by majority vote to preside over all Board business and activities.
4. The Board shall meet:
 - (a) at the call of the Chairman, or
 - (b) at the request of any three or more States acting jointly.
5. The place of each meeting shall be determined by the Chairman.
6. All regular business of the Board shall be conducted by a quorum of not less than fifty percent of the voting members/or their proxies.
7. Regular minutes showing questions offered, votes taken, and a summary record of discussions shall be maintained by a person designated by the Chairman and shall become the official record of the Board upon approval by consensus of the Board at the next succeeding meeting.
8. An annual report shall be prepared for the benefit of the member States by April 15 of each year summarizing the previous year's activities and accomplishments.

9. The Board may consider any issue properly before it except that if Federal funds are accepted to defray the costs of Board meeting and operating expenses, it may not vote upon, record, or otherwise collectively express any official position concerning any measure, proposal or bill before the Congress of the United States in contravention of the "Lobbying With Appropriated Money Act," 18 U.S.C. 1913.

Operating Procedures:

1. The Board may establish one or more subsidiary committees known as Sub-Board, Management Plan Committees, Advisory Committees and Management Committees. The Board may invite scientific and technical personnel from the State and Federal governments, as well as user groups, persons interested in the conservation of fisheries resources and the general public, to serve on these committees, as appropriate.
2. The Board will establish its own rules and procedures for conduct of business.
3. Amendments, deletions or additions to this charter may be made at any meeting of the Board by a majority of the voting members providing that a ten (10) day notice of proposed change was given to all members.
4. This Board may be dissolved by majority consent of the undersigned.

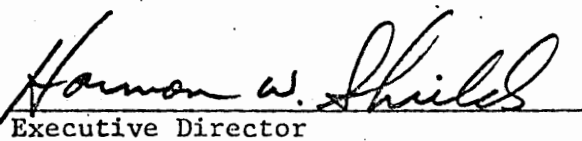
It shall be the responsibility of the Board to oversee the work of such Sub-Boards and Committees and insure that suitable participation by user groups and appropriate advice has been obtained. The Board shall transmit upon adoption those findings to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and member State authorities for consideration, including recommending the adoption and implementation of rules, regulations, laws or other management measures as may be deemed necessary for effective fisheries management.

THE UNDERSIGNED, being duly appointed representatives from the States listed below, do hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the CHARTER, and by their respective signatures, do ratify the same:

STATE

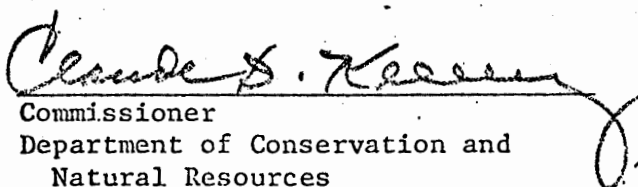
SIGNATURE AND TITLE

FLORIDA


Executive Director
Department of Natural Resources

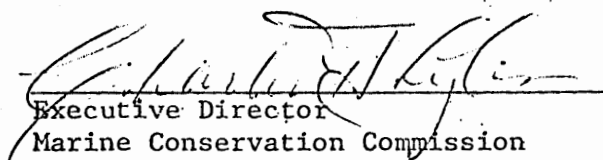
27 Feb 1976
Date

ALABAMA


Commissioner
Department of Conservation and
Natural Resources

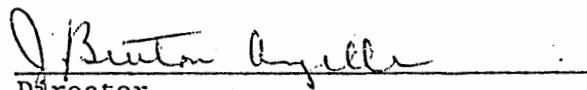
19 Feb. 1976
Date

MISSISSIPPI


Executive Director
Marine Conservation Commission

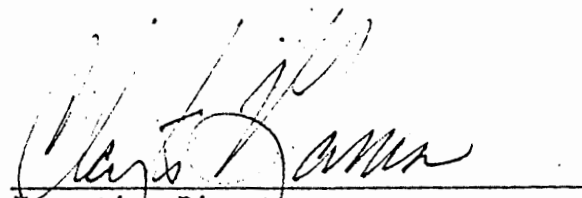
11 March 1976
Date

LOUISIANA


Director
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission

16 March 1976
Date

TEXAS


Executive Director
Parks and Wildlife Department

April 2, 1976
Date

APPROVED BY:

Gerald K. Walker
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 18, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Chairman Jerald K. Waller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
The following members and guests were present:

Members

Major Jerald K. Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Chief Jerry Gollott, MBMR, Biloxi, MS
Major Lewis W. Shelfer, FMP, Tallahassee, FL
Major Tommy H. Candies, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Steve Springer, Special Agent in Charge, NMFS

Staff

Ginny Herring, Executive Assistant

Others

Richard E. Thompson, Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference/
Texas Department of Health, Austin, TX
Ronald J. Dugas, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Perry Allen, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Vincent Lipoma, MBMR, Biloxi, MS
Ed Burgess, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Leroy Kiffe, GSMFC, Lockport, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana on
October 15, 1986 were reviewed and approved as presented.

Review of actions taken at October 1986 meeting

J. Waller reviewed activities of the committee. G. Herring was
instructed to keep members informed on status of the Justice
Department's decision regarding the Comprehensive Crime Control Act
(CCCA) of 1984. Their decision will determine whether or not states may
be reimbursed for enforcement expenses as well as a determination of
whether the CCCA provision can be applied to Magnuson Act forfeitures.

The status of the red drum emergency regulations were discussed.
J. Gollott stated that enforcement problems exist because of state
differences in size limits of red drum.

* T. Candies motioned that the LEC recommend that the Executive Director write to the State agencies and other appropriate agencies requesting they consider a uniform size limit for red drum and that the States take steps to change regulations to conform with uniform size limits. J. Gollott seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

P. Allen reported to the committee on the Commission's plan to develop a fishery management plan (FMP) for Spanish mackerel in state waters. The committee was supportive of this action.

* J. Waller motioned to recommend that a member of the LEC be appointed to the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee to assist with the task and to provide law enforcement expertise. T. Candies seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of draft summary

G. Herring distributed a draft of the summary regulations. J. Waller discussed the interest being shown by the Commission and general public in this effort. P. Allen advised that due to frequent changes in regulations and confusion that may occur due to the abbreviated format being utilized, that a disclaimer should be carefully worded and included as part of the final publication. All members agreed and requested that a disclaimer be included as well as a date line on each page.

G. Herring reported that information was not yet complete but that Lucia O'Toole, publication specialist for the Commission would be contacting members before a final draft is completed.

Presentation of FDA document on the prevention of harvesting shellfish from closed areas and an overview of the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC)

Richard E. Thompson, chairman of the ISSC, reviewed the FDA document entitled "Prevention of Harvesting from Closed Areas". He explained the importance to the ISSC of input and assistance from the enforcement sector. He briefed the committee on the history and purpose of the ISSC and its responsibilities. A discussion of the ISSC's Manual of Operation led to individual state enforcement problems.

* After discussion of the issues, T. Candies motioned to recommend the appointment of a LEC member to the ISSC patrol committee to represent the Gulf States and to provide input and to carry forward Gulf problems. He named Col. Don Ellingsen for the appointment. The motion included a specific recommendation that the patrol committee review ISSC Issue #6315, Part I, Section E of the Manual of Operation to adequately define terms & to expand the manual to provide adequate direction for the States. J. Gollott seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

TED Legislation and its effects on enforcement

The LEC spent the entire afternoon reviewing TED legislation that would require the use of TEDs by shrimp trawlers. The effects on enforcement were discussed in detail. It was the consensus of the LEC, that due to loopholes and foreseeable problems in enforcing the legislation, that the federal government not request state assistance in enforcing the use of TEDs.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY: *J. Christensen*
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 18, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

A quorum was declared by Chairman J. Y. Christmas who called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. The following members and guests were present:

Members

J.Y. Christmas, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Hugh Swingle, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Andrew Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Claude Boudreaux, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Ron Lukens, D-J Coordinator

Others

Phil Steele, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Brad Brown, NMFS, Miami, FL
David Etzold, USM, Hattiesburg, MS
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Jim Barkuloo, U.S. FWS, Panama City, FL
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
Austin Magill, NMFS, Washington, DC
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Peter Eldridge, NMFS, Charleston, SC
Phil Goodyear, NMFS, Miami, FL
R.L. Applegate, U.S. FWS, Albuquerque, NM
Brad Durling, AL GCCA, Lillian, AL
Lou Villanova, U.S. FWS, Atlanta, GA
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Buck Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Mary Ann Treadway, NMFS, Miami, FL
Perry Thompson, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Frank Richardson, U.S. FWS, Atlanta, GA
Thomas D. McIlwain, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as amended to include changes in membership for Louisiana.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana on October 16, 1986 were reviewed. P. Steele noted that a figure in the Crab Subcommittee report should read 54 million pounds landed Gulfwide, not 64 million. The minutes were adopted with this correction made.

Status Report on Controlled Freshwater Introduction into the Louisiana and Mississippi Marshes

David Etzold reported on a meeting with the New Orleans Army Corps of Engineers held on March 7, 1987. Confidence for realization of the freshwater inflow plan was highest since initiation of the program in 1973. Pre-construction engineering and design for the Bonnet Carre site is underway and due for completion of the detailed design by May 1988. Expected date of complete construction is 1993.

Authorization change from the Mrytle Grove site to Davis Pond is still awaiting approval from the Assistant Secretary of the Army's office.

A local Cooperative Agreement between the state of Louisiana and the Corps will allow for real estate acquisition and construction beginning in November 1987 at the Carnarveon site. Water should be flowing by June 1990.

Status of Commercial Butterfish Operations and NMFS Resource Assessment in the Gulf of Mexico

A. Kemmerer first reported on the TED public hearings underway in Louisiana. Over 600 fishermen and public officials attended the meeting in Houma and between 1500 and 2500 appeared in Cameron. He noted that the fishermen at both hearings provided a great deal of input and good information was exchanged.

A request was made of the Chair to allot time at the next meeting for a comprehensive presentation on latent resource assessments, including video tapes of research operations from the underwater MANTA system. A brief report was given on the recently completed squid resource cruise off Florida and plans for the up-coming SEAMAP Squid/Butterfish gear comparison study.

Four northeast trawlers were reported fishing for butterfish in the north-central Gulf. Ex-vessel prices averaged \$1.25/lb. for small (greater than 4 per pound) sizes. Gulf butterfish on the Japanese market were reportedly bringing \$3 per fish. Discussion followed on the use of satellite data to search for butterfish resources west of the Mississippi River delta.

Cooperative Tagging System

N. Bane reported on the Southeast Fisheries Center's plans for an interactive state-federal cooperative tagging data system. Tag information, focusing on mackerel and red drum tagging projects, will be input by states, universities and other agencies; stored in a centralized data base; and will be accessible by cooperators for local analysis. A demonstration of the proposed system is planned for the October GSMFC meeting.

Discussion followed on matters of confidential and proprietary data and the delays possible when such information in the centralized data base is required for management purposes. The Chair requested that S. Lauzauski, Statistical Subcommittee Chairman, keep the T.C.C. abreast of matters involving confidentiality in data collection.

Subcommittee Reports

(1) SEAMAP Subcommittee

W. Tatum presented a comprehensive report on recent SEAMAP activities and the joint meeting between the Gulf and South Atlantic programs.

- Plans to develop a Program Review were implemented by the Subcommittee. An ad hoc committee was appointed to identify individuals or groups to be contracted to perform such a review and their associated costs.
- Sampling design and procedures for the summer Shrimp/Bottomfish survey were established. Concerns were noted over the use of non-standard size trawls in SEAMAP surveys without development of sufficient calibration factors.
- The Environmental Data Work Group will investigate the inclusion of sediment sampling and background hydrocarbon levels in Gulf sediments into future SEAMAP surveys.

- Three areas of concern not presently addressed in the State-Federal Research Plan were reported by the Red Drum Work Group: better landings data from both inshore and EEZ waters; estimates of juvenile escapement rates from estuaries; and a socio-economic impact study of the red drum fishery. The Work Group plans to address these needs in on-going and new research proposals for FY87 MARFIN funding.
- Squid/Butterfish Work Group activities were recognized as an excellent example of state-federal cooperation that has led to the development of a butterfish fishery in the north-central Gulf. Plans for the up-coming April gear and vessel comparison study were outlined.
- A brief overview of the SEAMAP Data Management System Design was presented. System configuration and implementation schedule as developed by the contractor was approved by the joint SEAMAP-Gulf and South Atlantic groups.

Other activities of the SEAMAP Subcommittee included:

- Plans for a joint Gulf and South Atlantic meeting and Passive Gear Techniques Assessment Workshop, tentatively scheduled for Puerto Rico in late August; and
- Election of W. Tatum as Chairman and G. Matlock as Vice-Chairman at the January, 1987 Subcommittee meeting held in Austin, Texas.

* A. Huff moved to accept the SEAMAP Subcommittee report, and without objection the motion carried.

(2) Crab Subcommittee

P. Steele presented current activities of the Crab Subcommittee. A status report on blue crab landings in the Gulf indicated record years for Louisiana (33.0 million pounds) and Texas (10.0 million pounds). Over 58.0 million pounds were landed Gulfwide in 1986, representing a \$20-25 million industry.

Status of state crab research projects included:

- investigation of ghost fishing, i.e. lost traps, in Louisiana;
- assessment and monitoring in Alabama;
- soft-shell blue crab research in Mississippi, utilizing molting hormone and low calcium water; and

- population dynamics of blue crabs in Tampa Bay and surveys from St. Marks to Homosassa Springs in Florida.

Other crab research efforts involve Auburn University and G.C.R.L.'s investigations into salinity tolerance and trap studies for stone crabs and a \$700K study of stone crabs and water flow in Louisiana. Additionally, a MARFIN-funded resource assessment cruise for Geryon crabs will be conducted in early May by G.C.R.L., the University of South Florida and the University of Florida.

Subcommittee work on the NMFS Crab Profile series currently involves literature research on Portunus with completion expected by the end of 1987.

Planning continues on the Regional Tagging Project. Proposed operations will examine migration patterns in waters from Apalachee Bay to the Mississippi River delta.

Subcommittee members H. Perry and P. Steele will present Gulf information at the Smithsonian Institute's Workshop on Ecology of Blue Crabs and Other Portunid Species to be held in May.

At the request of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Crab Subcommittee will report back to the T.C.C. at the next meeting on the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) study of Louisiana stone crabs and flow of waters from the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers.

* E. Joyce moved to accept the Subcommittee's report. Motion was seconded and passed.

(3) Statistical Subcommittee

S. Lazauski reported that due to lack of representation from Mississippi and Texas, a quorum was not established at Monday's meeting and no formal actions could be undertaken.

A report was given on the FAO Workshop on Microcomputers held in Trinidad and attended by the Chairman, in which he noted that the use of computers for statistical data gathering in the U.S. is years ahead of Caribbean countries.

Al Jones presented an informal NMFS discussion paper to the Subcommittee on confidentiality concerns. In essence NMFS will not release a state's data to another requesting state unless a prior agreement between the two existed.

Reported Black drum landings in Alabama had increased by seven fold and may warrant closer monitoring. Louisiana also reported a sharp increase in landings of sheepshead.

The Chairman will investigate the possibility of obtaining a site license from the SAS Institute which would allow for obtaining 50 copies of the statistical package. Copies could then be made available to participants at considerable savings.

As a final item the Subcommittee Chairman noted that the Cooperative Tagging System proposed by the SEFC would be more appropriately addressed by the Statistical Subcommittee, initially, rather than the full T.C.C.

Discussion followed on the proliferation of data management systems and coordination and review of these proposals through the Statistical Subcommittee.

* W. Tatum moved to accept the report of the Subcommittee. The motion was seconded and passed.

* Following acceptance of the report, W. Tatum moved that the T.C.C. recommend that all participants in data acquisition and management under the jurisdiction of GSMFC coordinate those activities with the Statistical Subcommittee. The motion was seconded and adopted.

(4) Anadromous Fish Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chairman L. Nicholson reported on efforts to begin filling in data gaps identified in the Striped Bass Management Plan through a proposal titled Habitat Criteria for Striped Bass Stocks in Tributaries of the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Funds for the work would be provided through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Plans for a workshop to be held on July 14, in Ocean Springs, MS were finalized.

The Subcommittee Chairman noted a change in membership; Ed Crato, USFWS, was replaced by Jim Barkuloo, USFWS, Panama City. R. Lukens, GSMFC staff, was recognized as the new Dingell-Johnson Coordinator and will be working in close association with the Anadromous Subcommittee. Elections were held and L. Nicholson was re-elected Chairman.

In final action, a draft resolution entitled "Support of the Development of an Anadromous Fish Hatchery Located on the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River System" (copy attached to minutes) was presented by the Chairman to the T.C.C. for approval.

* Following discussion and the appointment of an ad hoc group consisting of W. Tatum, A. Huff and F. Richardson to draft the final resolution, H. Swingle moved to accept the Subcommittee report and resolution. The motion was seconded and passed.

(5) Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee

W. Tatum reported for Chairman Roy Williams. The Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee met on March 17, and initiated discussions of current stock status along the Gulf. Florida and Alabama reported stocks of Spanish mackerel were overfished and in need of management, while Louisiana and Mississippi perceived no problem in the fishery in their waters.

Discussion was also held on Amendment II of the Council's Coastal Pelagics FMP, including the request to extend the emergency measures for an additional 90 days.

The Subcommittee recommended a fishery management plan be developed by GSMFC for Spanish mackerel in the jurisdictional waters of the states adjoining the Gulf of Mexico.

A meeting of the Subcommittee was scheduled for May 28 at the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores to begin Plan development.

* H. Swingle moved to accept the Subcommittee report with the recommendation included. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Other Business

* The Chair recognized T. McIlwain who presented a resolution to the T.C.C. concerning funding of the Cooperative Programs for Striped Bass Restoration (resolution attached to minutes). W. Tatum moved to adopt the resolution. H. Swingle seconded and the motion passed.

* H. Swingle, noting the now broader role of the Statistical Subcommittee in reviewing all GCMFC data management proposals, moved to change the name of the Subcommittee to Data Management Subcommittee. The motion was seconded and passed.

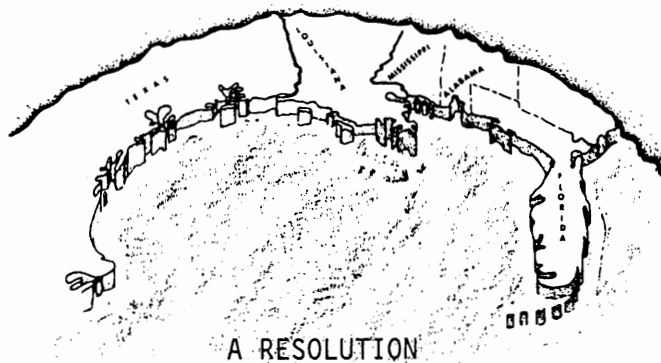
* Changes in membership: Claude Boudreaux moved that Barney Barrett be named to fill the T.C.C. seat vacated by Harry Schaefer, with Gerald Adkins named as alternate; and that C. Boudreaux become alternate for W.S. "Corky" Perrett. The motion was seconded and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS

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



WHEREAS, the striped bass historically occurred along the northern Gulf and provided a significant fishery. This population declined in the 1950's and 1960's to a very low level, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 89-304, "The Anadromous Fish Act" to provide funds to restore valuable anadromous fish resources in the nation, and

WHEREAS, the States of Mississippi and Alabama developed cooperative projects in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reestablish the striped bass, and

WHEREAS, the five Gulf States, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have jointly developed a regional striped bass management plan in 1986 to continue the orderly restoration and rehabilitation of the striped bass resources in the northern Gulf, and

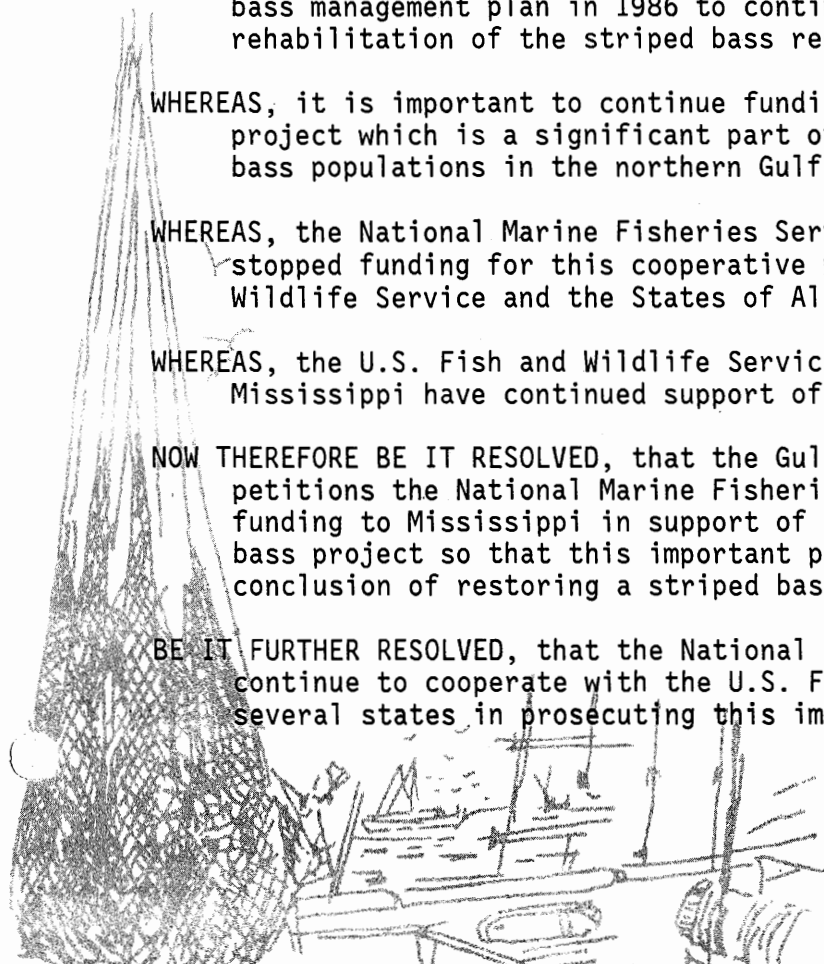
WHEREAS, it is important to continue funding the multi-state P.L. 89-304 project which is a significant part of the effort to reestablish striped bass populations in the northern Gulf, and

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service at its Washington office stopped funding for this cooperative project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the States of Alabama and Mississippi, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the States of Alabama and Mississippi have continued support of this project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission petitions the National Marine Fisheries Service to continue to provide funding to Mississippi in support of the cooperative P.L. 89-304 striped bass project so that this important program may continue to a successful conclusion of restoring a striped bass fishery in the northern Gulf.

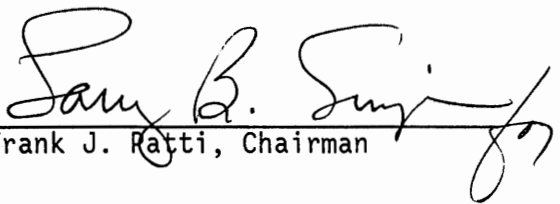
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Marine Fisheries Service be asked to continue to cooperate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the several states in prosecuting this important restoration effort.



RESOLUTION
Page - 2 -

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and that copies be forwarded to the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States.

Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.


Frank J. Ratti, Chairman

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
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P.O. BOX 726
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A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, striped bass (Morone saxatilis) historically inhabited river systems from Texas to the Suwannee River, Florida, and

WHEREAS, native striped bass populations have declined due to environmental alterations in the form of water control structures, extensive channelization, and industrial and agricultural pollution, and

WHEREAS, the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system is the only remaining dependable source of Gulf race striped bass, and

WHEREAS, a demonstrated ability to produce hatchery-reared striped bass has been exhibited, and

WHEREAS, the desirability of the striped bass as a commercial and recreational species is well known and documented, and

WHEREAS, all five Gulf States have contributed to the development of a Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan and have a demonstrated need for Gulf race striped bass as established by the Plan, and

WHEREAS, the environmental conditions listed above have also caused a decline in other anadromous species, and

WHEREAS, environmental conditions which have been detrimental to the anadromous species occurred in the past and have never been mitigated.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission recommends to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that as a part of a mitigation program a hatchery facility be established on the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system to aid in restoring historical stocks of striped bass and the other anadromous fish in the river systems described above and that financial support for on-going anadromous programs in the Gulf States be provided as part of these mitigation measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hatchery be capable of supplying anadromous fish to restore historical populations in the five Gulf States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there is a need for this work to be accomplished as soon as possible within a two-year period either through enabling

APPROVED BY:

Acting 
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SESSION/GENERAL SESSION

MINUTES

Thursday, March 19/Friday, March 20, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

EXECUTIVE SESSION/GENERAL SESSION
MINUTES
Thursday, March 19, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 a.m. by Chairman Frank J. Patti. The following commissioners, staff and committee chairmen were present:

Commissioners

Leslie E. Casterline	TX
John Ray Nelson	AL
Hugh A. Swingle (proxy for J. Martin)	AL
George A. Brumfield (proxy for T. Millette)	MS
Rick Leard (proxy for J. Stone)	MS
Frank J. Patti	LA
Leroy Kiffe	LA
Gerald Adkins (proxy for J. Angelle)	LA
Edwin A. Joyce (proxy for E. Gissendanner)	FL
Sam Mitchell	FL

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ginny Herring, Executive Assistant
Tom M. Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Lucia O'Toole, Publication Specialist

Committee Chairmen

J. Y. Christmas, Technical Coordinating Committee
Jerald Waller, Law Enforcement Committee
Thomas D. McIlwain, SEAMAP Red Drum Work Group
I. B. "Buck" Byrd, Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board

Committee Report - Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

J. Y. Christmas briefed the Commission on the Technical Coordinating Committee meeting held Wednesday, March 18, 1987.

The TCC received reports from David Etzold on the status of controlled freshwater introduction into the Louisiana and Mississippi marshes; Andy Kemmerer reported on the status of commercial butterflyfish operations and NMFS resource assessment in the Gulf; and Nikki Bane reported on the SEFC/NMFS plans for mackerel and red drum tagging projects.

W. Tatum reported to the TCC on the SEAMAP Subcommittee recent activities and meetings. The TCC accepted his report which included a new data system design; development of an external programmatic review of the SEAMAP program; and election of W. Tatum as chairman and G. Matlock as vice chairman for the coming year.

H. Lazauski reported to the TCC for the Statistical Subcommittee. The TCC recommended that all participants in data acquisition and management under the jurisdiction of the GSMFC, coordinate their activities with the Statistical Subcommittee. The TCC further recommended that the name of the Statistical Subcommittee be changed to the Data Management Subcommittee.

L. Nicholson reported to TCC members on behalf of the Anadromous Fish Subcommittee. The AFS is currently working on a project to fill in data gaps identified in the Striped Bass Management Plan. The TCC accepted their report and recommended approval of a resolution (attached) supporting a hatchery facility being established on the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River System to aid in restoring striped bass and other anadromous fish.

W. Tatum briefed the TCC for the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee. The TCC accepted their report and recommended that they proceed with development of a fishery management plan for Spanish mackerel in State waters.

P. Steele reported to the TCC that the Crab Subcommittee met and had reviewed the status of State research in the Gulf.

Other items included in J. Y. Christmas' report was a TCC recommendation to approve a resolution (attached) urging that NMFS continue funding the Cooperative MS/AL P.L. 89-304 Striped bass project; and a membership change to fill Harry Schafer's vacated position with Barney Barrett, Gerald Adkins was named as his alternate and Claude Boudreaux was named alternate for W. S. "Corky" Perrett.

* H. Swingle motioned to accept the TCC report including TCC recommendations and resolutions. R. Leard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Report - Industry Advisory Committee (IAC)

L. Simpson reported that the IAC met on Tuesday, March 17. The major topics of discussion were the economic contributions of the Gulf

shrimp fishery; enforcement of fishery regulations; artificial reef programs; status of TED situation; update on Secretary of Commerce's Red Drum Management Plan; vessel insurance report; discussion on NMFS budget; and review of a product quality and safety program. No action items were considered and the report was approved without objection.

Committee Report - Law Enforcement Committee (LEC)

J. Waller reported that the LEC had met on Wednesday, March 18. Major topics of discussion included the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984; status of MFCMA amendments; red drum regulations; review of LEC summary of State regulations; review of TED legislation; and a report from Richard E. Thompson regarding a FDA document on the prevention of harvesting shellfish from closed areas. J. Waller made the following recommendations on behalf of the LEC: 1) that Col. Don Ellingsen, FDNR represent the GSMFC LEC at the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation conference; 2) that a LEC member be appointed to the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee to offer law enforcement expertise in support of the Spanish Mackerel FMP for State waters; and, 3) that the Executive Director write to State agencies and appropriate agencies requesting that they consider a uniform size limit for red drum and that the States take necessary steps to conform with uniform size limits.

* J. R. Nelson motioned to accept the report and to approve the LEC recommendations. H. Swingle seconded. The motion carried.

Committee Report - Recreational Fisheries Committee (RFC)

R. Lukens reported that the RFC had met on Tuesday, March 17. The major topics discussed were a status and review of the GSMFC's D-J Program; artificial reef proposals; Coastal Conservation Association meeting; recreational fisheries updates from Mississippi, Alabama and Florida; marine debris; and election of Fred Deegan as chairman for the upcoming year.

* J. R. Nelson motioned to accept the RFC report and actions. H. Swingle seconded. The motion carried.

Committee Report - Gulf States Federal Fisheries Management Board (GS-FFMB)

Buck Byrd reported that the GS-FFMB had met on Wednesday, March 18. Prior to his report he briefed the Commissioners on the history and

purpose of the GS-FFMB. The GS-FFMB was established in 1976 under the authority of the GSMFC Compact Act of 1949. The purpose of the GS-FFMB is to identify management plan priorities; integration of State efforts, encourage participation by user groups and the public in development of management plans; and develop and recommend suitable policies to member States, and encourage implementation to the extent possible, of programs, laws and regulations for the effective management of fisheries. He described the composition of the membership of the GS-FFMB. He stated that the GS-FFMB had received reports from L. Simpson on the State-Federal administrative support cooperative agreement and updates on the activities of the Menhaden Advisory Committee, Crab Subcommittee, Data Management Subcommittee and the Law Enforcement Committee. The GS-FFMB will be monitoring and supporting additional committees with funds made available for administrative use by the Commission under the Dingell Johnson Act. These funds, in the amount of \$78,473, will be used for cooperative interstate fishery management in the territorial sea. The Board approved an additional member to assist with this task. The new member is the regional director of the FWS or his designee.

* R. Leard motioned to accept the GS-FFMB report and actions.
H. Swingle seconded. The motion carried.

Report - National Marine Fisheries Service/Southeast Regional Office
(NMFS/SERO)

Buck Byrd summarized the highlights of efforts by the Gulf States in partnership with each other, the Fishery Management Council, the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and NMFS as follows:

- The Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) with all five coastal States and NMFS participating provided an expanded data base for fisheries management and conservation in the southeast.
- The State/Federal Cooperative Fisheries Statistics Program continues to involve all five Gulf States with NMFS in this important effort to provide fishery-dependent information to support State/Federal interjurisdictional management programs.

- The Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Center have continued their commitment to provide whatever assistance and coordination that the States and the FWS desire to enhance the success of the expanded D-J (Wallop-Breaux) Program.
 - The Southeastern States fully utilized their P.L. 88-309 federal funds to provide a data base that supports important territorial sea and interjurisdictional fishery management programs.
 - The Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN) provides important research and development activities needed for fisheries management.
 - Excellent State-Federal efforts have provided for the continuation of pilot projects designed to demonstrate and document the rehabilitation and enhancement of the marine environment in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers under a NMFS-COE Memorandum of Understanding.
- * J.R. Nelson motioned to accept the report. H. Swingle seconded. The motion carried.

Status Report of SEAMAP Red Drum Work Group Activities

T. McIlwain updated the Commission on the history of the red drum fishery and reported on recent Work Group activities including consideration of on-going, new and expanded research proposals contained in the State-Federal Cooperative Research Program (MARFIN) for FY87 and the Work Groups plans to formalize recommendations to submit to the SEAMAP Subcommittee regarding the Secretary of Commerce's recommendations to the States in his Red Drum Management Plan. A detailed report will be submitted to the Commission following SEAMAP review.

Other Business

- * L. Simpson requested permission to write all committee and subcommittee chairmen (with copies to members) to show appreciation for their endeavors and support of Commission activities and to recognize their outstanding service. J. R. Nelson asked that in addition to L. Simpson's request that a similar letter of appreciation be sent to industry persons involved with the TED mediations. There was no objections and the Executive Director was directed to write the necessary letters.

State-Federal Cooperative Program for Red Drum Research in the Gulf of Mexico

The following status reports were presented to the Commissioners:

Stock Assessment Studies

- Collection of Length, Weight and Biological Information on Red Drum Landed in Alabama - Walter M. Tatum, ADCNR/MRD
- Collection of Length, Weight and Biological Information on Red Drum landed in Louisiana - Sandie Russel, LSU
- Red Drum Stock Assessment - Phil Goodyear, NMFS, Miami, FL
- Stock Assessment Information Needed to Manage Red Drum Resources in Louisiana and in the Fishery Operating in the FCZ - Richard Condrey, LSU
- Mark/Recapture Program for Red Drum in the Gulf - Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS

Biological Profiles

- Red Drum Tagging in Louisiana - Joseph Shepard, LDWF
- Migrations and Abundance of Inshore Red Drum in the Mississippi Sound - Thomas D. McIlwain, GCRL
- Tag/Recapture Program of Red Drum in Inshore Waters of Florida - Ronald Taylor, FDNR
- Age Structure and Growth Rates of Red Drum Landed in Louisiana - Charles Wilson, LSU and
- Coordination for the Cooperative Red Drum Research Program - Tom Van Devender, GSMFC

Title III, P.L. 99-659 - Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (IFA)

Austin Magill, Grants Coordinator, NMFS, Washington, D.C. presented an overview of the IFA and reviewed the new apportionment formula. P.L. 99-659 replaces P.L. 88-309, Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act. Major changes are:

- main thrust now interjurisdictional fisheries -- not research and development
- funding available for both commercial and recreational species
- new apportionment formula
- new criteria for project evaluation
- funds will not carry over

- provisions for 90% federal funding
- biennial report requirement
- provides \$350K to interstate commissions
- repeals P.L. 88-309
- effective October 1, 1987

A. Magill gave a section by section analysis of the Act.

Commissioners discussed problems that may occur in the transition period. Of particular concern was Section 304(a). This section states that funds will not be certified to the States until Congress has verified the appropriations. This situation would not only disrupt State projects but could in fact produce zero funding of the Act. A complete discussion of a possible solution was scheduled for the following day.

A. Magill reported that funding for the Commission's IFA proposal was not available under Title III for FY87 funding. He suggested the proposal be re-submitted requesting funds from the budget authority of 1987.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. with the chairman noting that the Executive Session would reconvene at 8:00 a.m. the following morning.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

Page -8-

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Frank J. Patti. Those in attendance were:

Members

Leslie E. Casterline	TX
John Ray Nelson	AL
Hugh A. Swingle (proxy for J. Martin)	AL
George A. Brumfield (proxy for T. Millette)	MS
Rick Leard (proxy for J. Stone)	MS
Frank J. Patti	LA
Leroy Kiffe	LA
Claude J. Boudreaux (proxy for J. Angelle)	LA
Edwin A. Joyce (proxy for E. Gissendanner)	FL
Sam Mitchell	FL

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ginny Herring, Executive Assistant
Tom M. Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Lucia O'Toole, Publication Specialist
Eileen M. Benton, Staff Assistant
Dale F. Burgin, Secretary

Others

J. Y. Christmas, Technical Coordinating Committee
Phil Steele, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Norman Smallwood, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Dalton R. Berry, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Chuck Beck, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden Products, Mandeville, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held October 17, 1986 were reviewed and approved as written.

FY 87 Federal Budget

L. Simpson stated that once again the federal budget has proposed reduced funding for fisheries programs. NMFS submitted a proposed budget for approximately \$160 million, which was reduced to about \$98 million with \$29 million contingent upon the "Marine Fisheries Conservation Assurance Program Act of 1987". This act basically proposes a marine fee and is not supported by the States, industry or Congress.

L. Simpson will continue to support funding for fisheries programs supported by the States and closely watch legislative action that would not be beneficial.

Amendments to MFCMA

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on initiatives taken to develop amendments to MFCMA. The first task force that addressed the issues were representatives from councils and States. Congressional inquiries increased available information. Further studies were done by Dr. Calio's "Blue Ribbon" task force which addressed a much broader range of fisheries management alternatives. This group addressed such issues as elimination of councils and separation of conservation and allocation mechanisms. It was anticipated that the administration would put together proposed amendments based on the "Blue Ribbon" report but at this point Dr. Calio has not indicated that this would be done.

Minor amendments were addressed in Title I of P.L. 99-659. These were qualifications of council membership and the nomination process. L. Simpson will keep Commissioners informed regarding MFCMA.

GSMFC Manual of General Administration

L. Simpson presented the following proposed changes (underlined areas are additions):

Sec. 11 Performance Evaluations

Performance evaluations (Appendix A) are based on specific job-related factors and indicate what progress you have made in learning your job duties, how well you are performing those duties and what improvements, if any, you need to make. Employees are evaluated annually after six months on the job or three months after a change in duty assignment. Your immediate supervisor will discuss the evaluation with you before it becomes part of your personnel file. You will be asked to sign it and if you disagree or have comments they may be attached for examination by the Executive committee.

Sec. 12 Compensation

Compensation for all employees will be set by the Executive Budget Committee and approved by the full Commission. Jobs are grouped according to the similarity and degree of skill required (job classifications). Job classifications, as well as job descriptions are

determined by the Executive Committee and are recorded in the Commission files. Each classification is assigned a title and salary range based on its complexity.

Pay increases are determined by the Executive Committee based on the following:

- Cost of Living: An annual pay increase to be determined by State and federal actions.
- Merit Raise: An increase which is dependent upon job performance evaluation and the availability of funds.
- Promotions: Change in status of job classification.

Editorial revisions for Section 5 were presented to add the positions of SEAMAP Coordinator and Program Coordinator and to remove the following underlined words.

Overtime is time worked by an employee in excess of eight hours per day or 40 hours per week within the basic work week covering the employee, except as provided in Sec. 5.3.

* J. R. Nelson motioned to approve the changes. H. Swingle seconded. The motion carried.

Council Update

L. Simpson reported that there are three major issues the Council is currently addressing. The first is the Secretary of Commerce's Red Drum Management Plan that went into effect December 23, 1986. The Council has decided to develop an amendment to the plan versus developing a new one. Provisions in the amendment will include:

- division of federal waters (EEZ) in the Gulf into a primary management area, those waters off Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, and two secondary management areas, waters off Florida and off Texas;
- no retention of red drum from either secondary area;
- closure of the primary area of the EEZ to commercial harvest until the Gulf States have implemented rules which provide a minimum level of escapement of juveniles of 20 percent;
- a recreational bag limit of two fish per trip, landed in conformance with State laws.

- an incidental allowance of 200,000 lbs for the shrimp industry and of 100,000 lbs for other non-directed commercial fisheries to be landed in conformance with State laws;
- allocation of allowable catch between user groups;
- changes in allocations, if any, shall be accomplished by plan amendment.

Other issues being addressed by the Council include changes in the Spanish Mackerel FMP regarding a four fish per person limit; and, changes in the Texas Closure to 15 miles.

Title III, P.L. 659 - Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (IFA)

E. Joyce discussed problems that might happen under Title III, Section 304(a) unless funds can be certified as quickly as possible so that a disruption in personnel and projects does not occur. With the cumbersome Congressional authorization process it is possible that personnel and projects would be eliminated unless a mechanism was developed to award funds with pre-cost agreements. Dr. Leard agreed that funding authority should be defined so that it would be federal law that funds would not be lost. Regulations are necessary to give continuity to state activities.

Other areas of Title III were discussed as well as concern by the States regarding \$25 million of the Department of Interior's Wallop-Breaux funds being used by FWS to support other programs.

* E. Joyce motioned that the Executive Director look into these issues and others that may adversely affect the States and that he prepare a draft letter to be sent to NMFS and the Gulf Congressional delegation for review by all Commissioners prior to distribution. R. Leard seconded. The motion carried.

Future meetings

L. Simpson reported that the Commission would meet jointly with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission in Key West, Florida at the Casa Marina Hotel on October 19-23, 1987. Florida Department of Natural Resources is assisting with funds and planned activities.

GSMFC - Public Image

* S. Mitchell suggested that the Commission staff actively seek ways to get information of what the Commission is and what it does to the general public; perhaps more news releases, brochures, speeches, etc.

Status of Texas GSMFC Contributions

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on the problems with GSMFC contributions from the State of Texas. He has been trying to correct a misunderstanding in the Texas House (of Representatives) since October, 1986. It seems that the Texas House believes that the Commission supports federal pre-emption of State landing laws. This is not the case and copies of testimony, letters, etc. have been sent to the appropriate persons to clarify the Commission's position. At this time, with the assistance of Frank J. Patti and Tati Santiesteban, a rider to remove the objection to Texas participation in the Commission has been approved in the Senate and now awaits House action. Hopefully, House opposition to Texas's participation has changed and Texas will again be active with the Commission.

Other Business

L. Simpson reviewed history of legislation being introduced by Congressman Walter B. Jones entitled "National Oceans Policy Commission Act of 1987". Basically, the legislation would establish a 17-member panel that would represent a wide range of marine interests that would make recommendations to Congress and the President regarding ocean policy. This is a new bill and it may affect interest of the States within the next ten years. No action is required at this time.

* F. Patti introduced a resolution (attached) against mandatory use of TED's in the Gulf of Mexico. After discussion, H. Swingle motioned to approve the resolution and to distribute it to the appropriate persons and agencies. R. Leard seconded. The motion carried with Florida opposing. J. R. Nelson stated that Dr. Gissendanner had told him that his opposition was not against shrimpers but situations in Florida warranted use of TED's in specific zones.

* L. Simpson presented the FY86 audit report for the Commission. The report showed no need for recommendations and was favorable. The report was approved unanimously.

* L. Simpson reported that T. Harper had been appointed Chairman of the Alabama House Ways and Means Committee. The Commissioners' unanimously requested L. Simpson send T. Harper a letter of congratulations on his appointment.

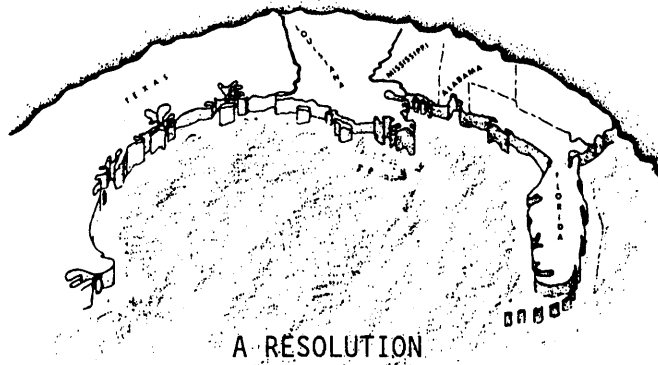
H. Swingle complimented the staff for an outstanding meeting and for the work on the talent show. F. Patti endorsed his compliment.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES

ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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

WHEREAS, striped bass (Morone saxatilis) historically inhabited river systems from Texas to the Suwannee River, Florida, and

WHEREAS, native striped bass populations have declined due to environmental alterations in the form of water control structures, extensive channelization, and industrial and agricultural pollution, and

WHEREAS, the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system is the only remaining dependable source of Gulf race striped bass, and

WHEREAS, a demonstrated ability to produce hatchery-reared striped bass has been exhibited, and

WHEREAS, the desirability of the striped bass as a commercial and recreational species is well known and documented, and

WHEREAS, all five Gulf States have contributed to the development of a Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan and have a demonstrated need for Gulf race striped bass as established by the Plan, and

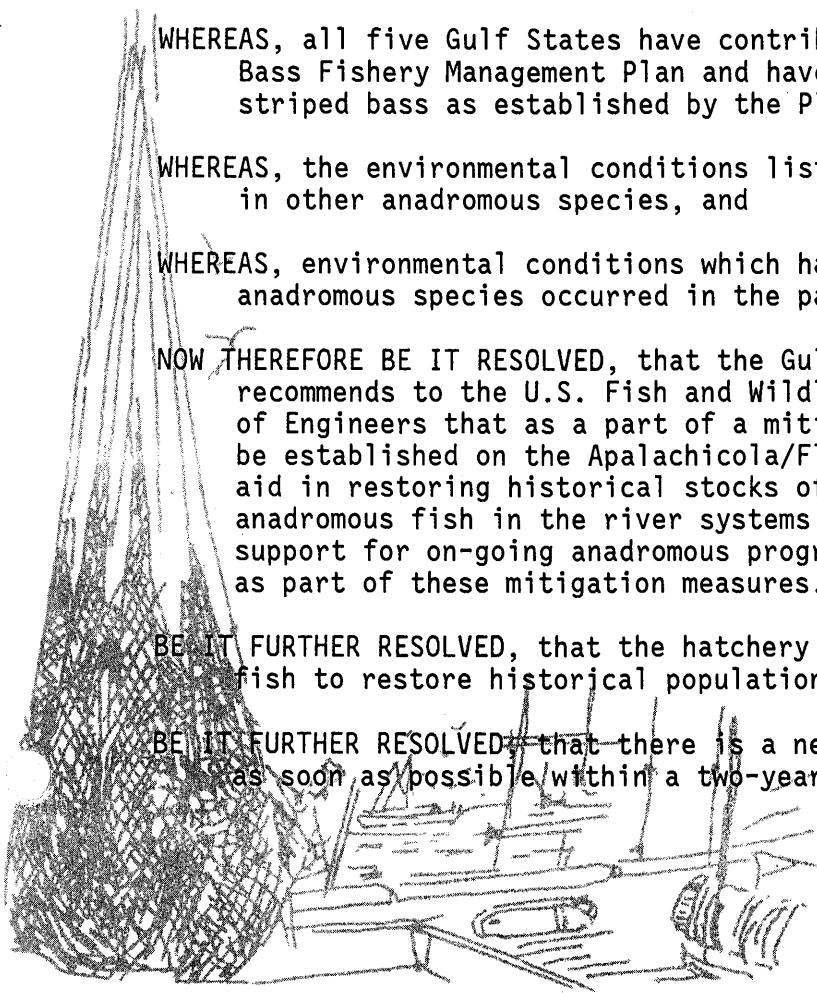
WHEREAS, the environmental conditions listed above have also caused a decline in other anadromous species, and

WHEREAS, environmental conditions which have been detrimental to the anadromous species occurred in the past and have never been mitigated.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission recommends to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that as a part of a mitigation program a hatchery facility be established on the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system to aid in restoring historical stocks of striped bass and the other anadromous fish in the river systems described above and that financial support for on-going anadromous programs in the Gulf States be provided as part of these mitigation measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hatchery be capable of supplying anadromous fish to restore historical populations in the five Gulf States.

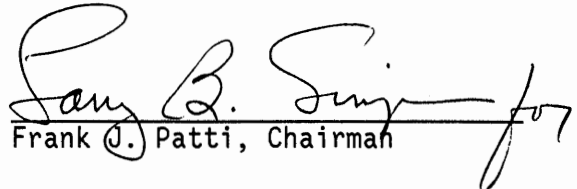
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there is a need for this work to be accomplished as soon as possible within a two-year period either through enabling



legislation or mitigation as provided for by the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and that operation of said hatchery facility will in no way detrimentally affect existing anadromous programs within the Gulf States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and that copies be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States.

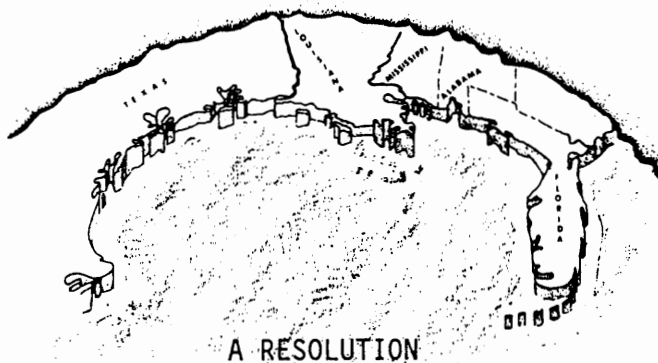
Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.


Frank J. Patti, Chairman

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES

ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
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A RESOLUTION

AGAINST MANDATORY USE OF TED'S IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

WHEREAS, the shrimp fishery of the Gulf of Mexico is the most important fishery in the United States with respect to dollar value, and

WHEREAS, the shrimp industry has taken measures to decrease the mortality of sea turtles by using shorter towing times, educating shrimpers relative to resuscitation and release of incidentally caught sea turtles, and

WHEREAS, the shrimp industry has encouraged the turtle headstart program and continued voluntary technology transfer of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) to the industry, and

WHEREAS, the shrimp fishery is one of the smallest contributors to sea turtle mortality in the Gulf of Mexico and internationally, and

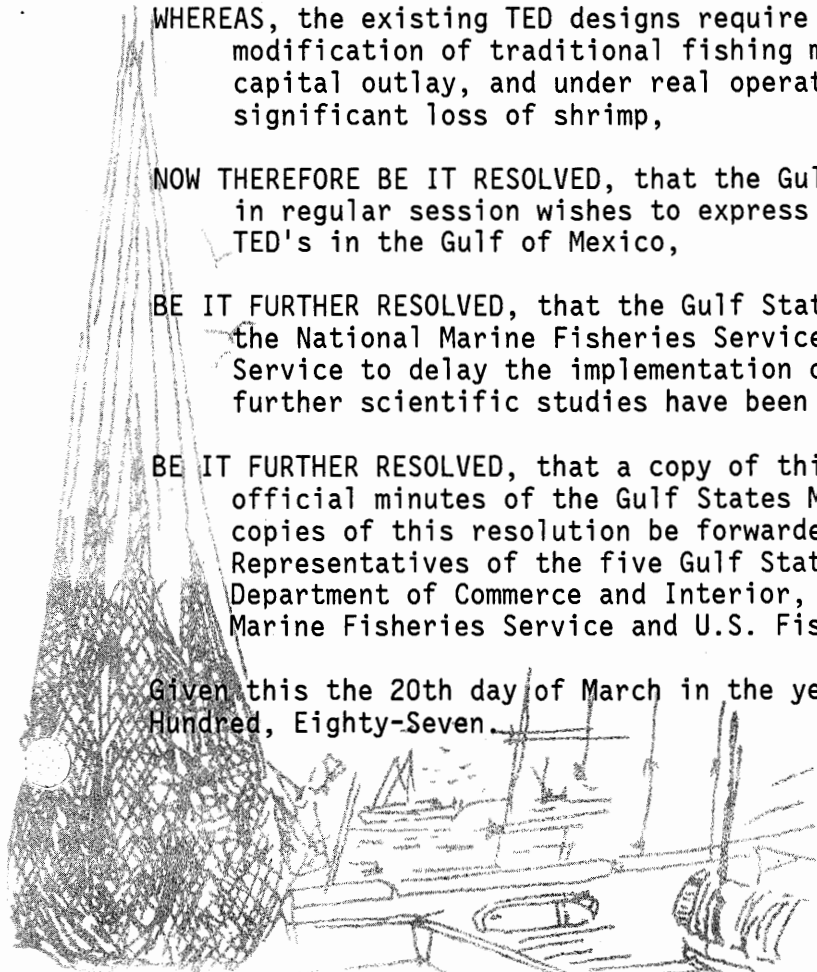
WHEREAS, the existing TED designs require a significant change and modification of traditional fishing methods, represent a high initial capital outlay, and under real operating conditions represent a significant loss of shrimp,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission in regular session wishes to express their opposition to mandatory use of TED's in the Gulf of Mexico,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission urges the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to delay the implementation of the mandatory use of TEDs until further scientific studies have been conducted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States, to the Secretaries of the U.S. Department of Commerce and Interior, and to the Directors of the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

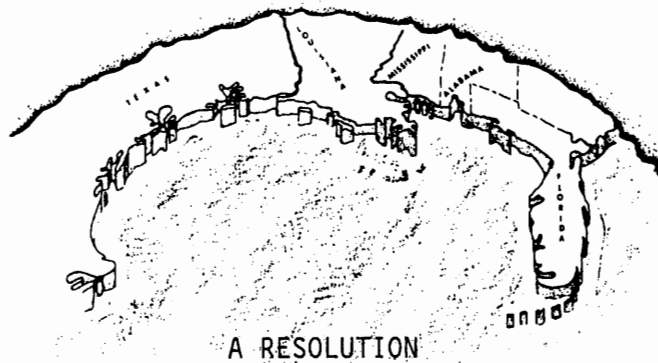
Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.



Frank J. Patti
Frank J. Patti, Chairman

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
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WHEREAS, the striped bass historically occurred along the northern Gulf and provided a significant fishery. This population declined in the 1950's and 1960's to a very low level, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 89-304, "The Anadromous Fish Act" to provide funds to restore valuable anadromous fish resources in the nation, and

WHEREAS, the States of Mississippi and Alabama developed cooperative projects in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reestablish the striped bass, and

WHEREAS, the five Gulf States, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have jointly developed a regional striped bass management plan in 1986 to continue the orderly restoration and rehabilitation of the striped bass resources in the northern Gulf, and

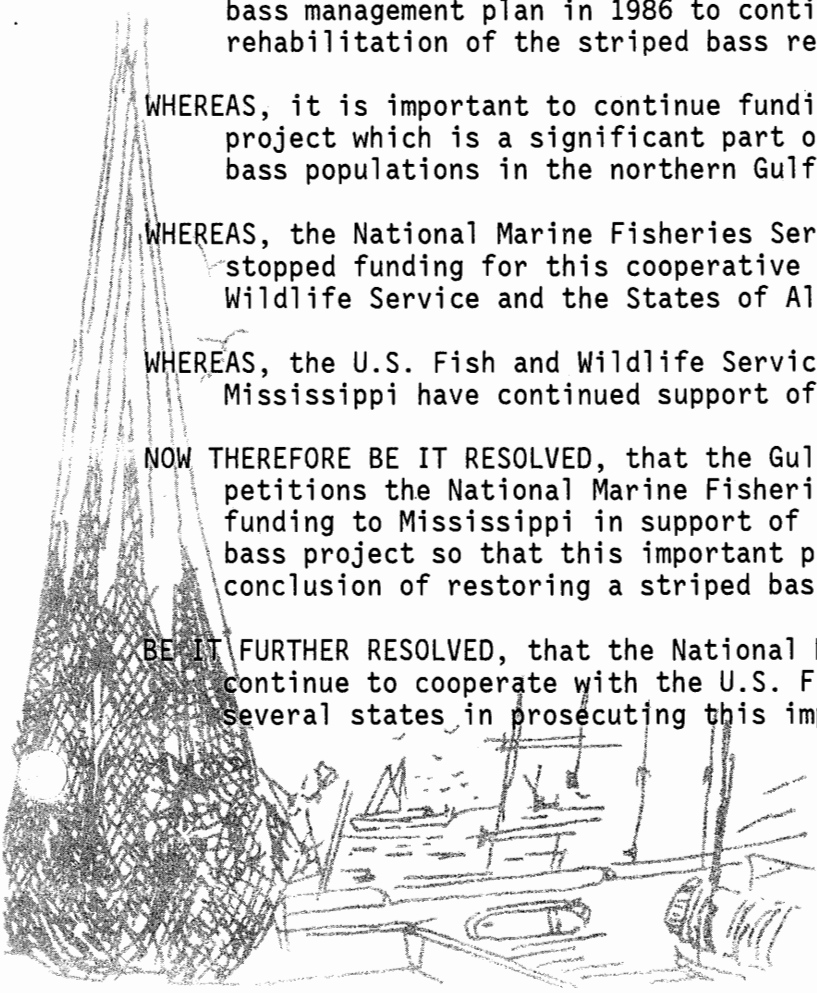
WHEREAS, it is important to continue funding the multi-state P.L. 89-304 project which is a significant part of the effort to reestablish striped bass populations in the northern Gulf, and

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service at its Washington office stopped funding for this cooperative project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the States of Alabama and Mississippi, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the States of Alabama and Mississippi have continued support of this project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission petitions the National Marine Fisheries Service to continue to provide funding to Mississippi in support of the cooperative P.L. 89-304 striped bass project so that this important program may continue to a successful conclusion of restoring a striped bass fishery in the northern Gulf.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Marine Fisheries Service be asked to continue to cooperate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the several states in prosecuting this important restoration effort.

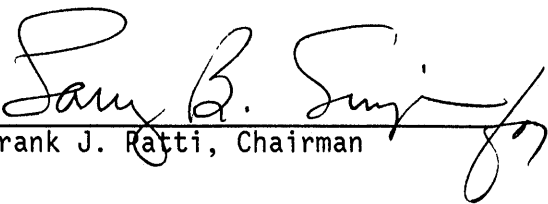


RESOLUTION

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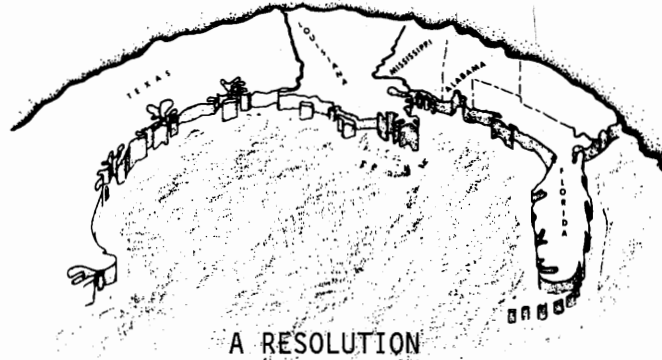
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and that copies be forwarded to the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States.

Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.


Frank J. Ratti, Chairman

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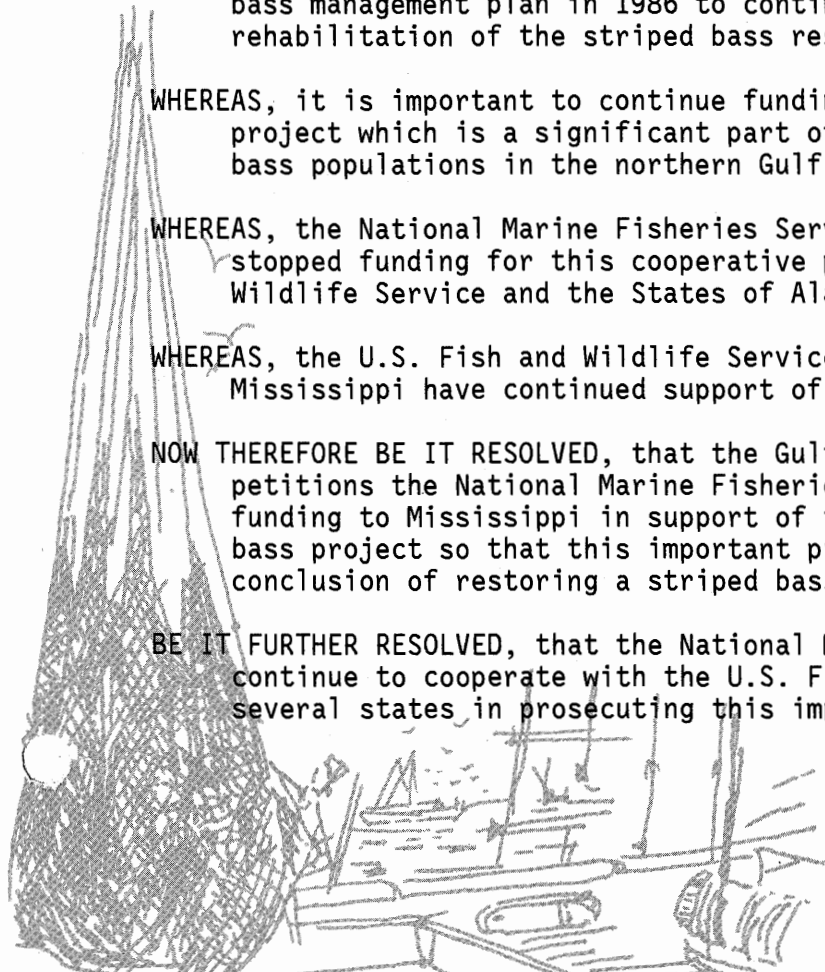
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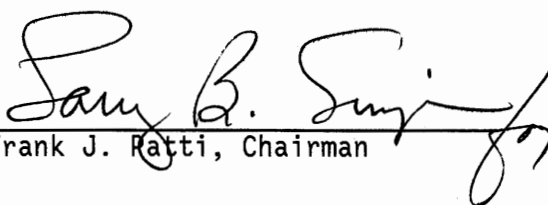
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RESOLUTION
Page - 2 -

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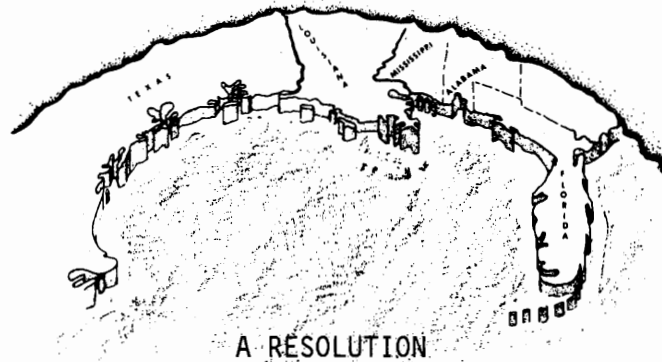
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Frank J. Ratti, Chairman

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WHEREAS, striped bass (Morone saxatilis) historically inhabited river systems from Texas to the Suwannee River, Florida, and

WHEREAS, native striped bass populations have declined due to environmental alterations in the form of water control structures, extensive channelization, and industrial and agricultural pollution, and

WHEREAS, the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system is the only remaining dependable source of Gulf race striped bass, and

WHEREAS, a demonstrated ability to produce hatchery-reared striped bass has been exhibited, and

WHEREAS, the desirability of the striped bass as a commercial and recreational species is well known and documented, and

WHEREAS, all five Gulf States have contributed to the development of a Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan and have a demonstrated need for Gulf race striped bass as established by the Plan, and

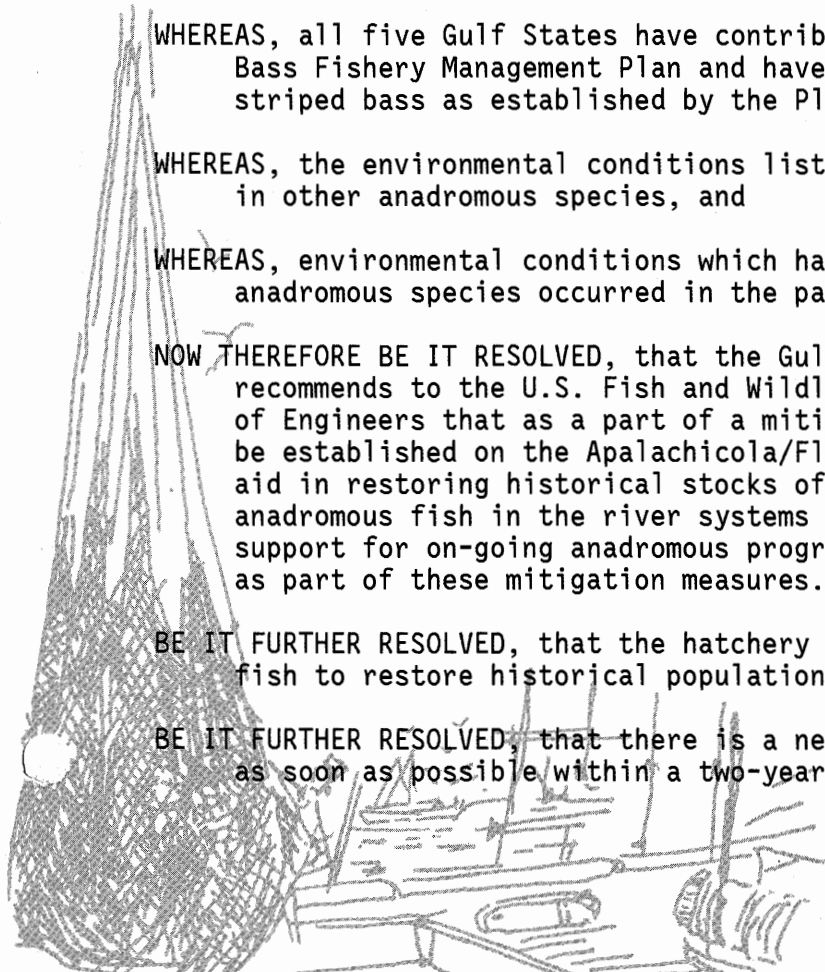
WHEREAS, the environmental conditions listed above have also caused a decline in other anadromous species, and

WHEREAS, environmental conditions which have been detrimental to the anadromous species occurred in the past and have never been mitigated.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission recommends to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that as a part of a mitigation program a hatchery facility be established on the Apalachicola/Flint/Chattahoochee River system to aid in restoring historical stocks of striped bass and the other anadromous fish in the river systems described above and that financial support for on-going anadromous programs in the Gulf States be provided as part of these mitigation measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hatchery be capable of supplying anadromous fish to restore historical populations in the five Gulf States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there is a need for this work to be accomplished as soon as possible within a two-year period either through enabling



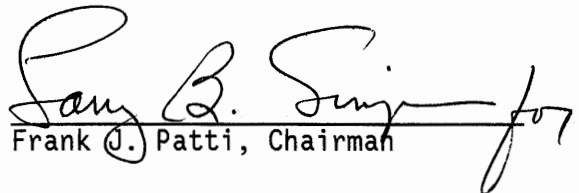
RESOLUTION

Page - 2 -

legislation or mitigation as provided for by the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 and that operation of said hatchery facility will in no way detrimentally affect existing anadromous programs within the Gulf States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and that copies be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States.

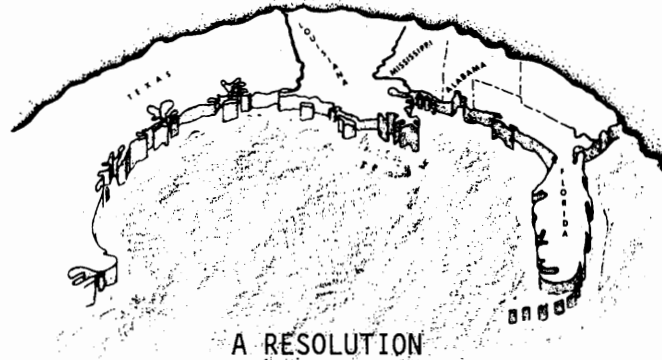
Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.


Frank J. Patti, Chairman

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

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AGAINST MANDATORY USE OF TED'S IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

WHEREAS, the shrimp fishery of the Gulf of Mexico is the most important fishery in the United States with respect to dollar value, and

WHEREAS, the shrimp industry has taken measures to decrease the mortality of sea turtles by using shorter towing times, educating shrimpers relative to resuscitation and release of incidentally caught sea turtles, and

WHEREAS, the shrimp industry has encouraged the turtle headstart program and continued voluntary technology transfer of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) to the industry, and

WHEREAS, the shrimp fishery is one of the smallest contributors to sea turtle mortality in the Gulf of Mexico and internationally, and

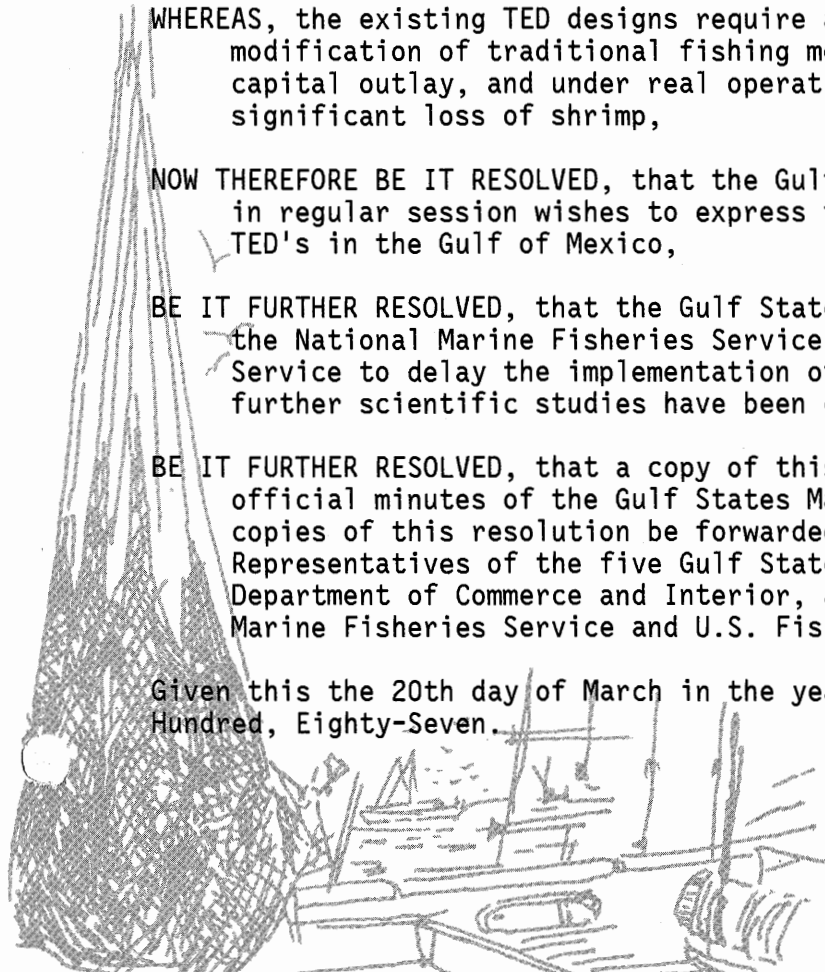
WHEREAS, the existing TED designs require a significant change and modification of traditional fishing methods, represent a high initial capital outlay, and under real operating conditions represent a significant loss of shrimp,

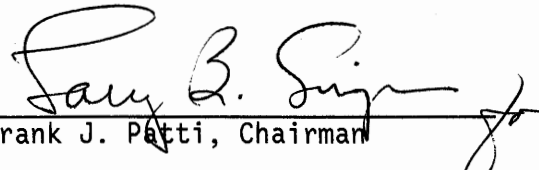
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission in regular session wishes to express their opposition to mandatory use of TED's in the Gulf of Mexico,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission urges the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to delay the implementation of the mandatory use of TEDs until further scientific studies have been conducted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the U.S. Senators and Representatives of the five Gulf States, to the Secretaries of the U.S. Department of Commerce and Interior, and to the Directors of the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Given this the 20th day of March in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.




Frank J. Patti, Chairman

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 13/
Thursday, May 14, 1987

DRAFT

MARFIN Program Management Board
Wednesday, May 13/Thursday,
May 14, 1987
Tampa, Florida
MINUTES

The meeting held in the conference room of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council was called to order by Chairman Tom Murray at 1:18 pm. The following were in attendance:

Members

- Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
- Tom Murray, GASAFDFI, Tampa, FL
- ¹Wayne E. Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
- Dan Furlong, NMFS non-voting (designee), St. Petersburg, FL
- Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
- William S. "Corky" Perret, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, LA
- Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
- Randy Bright, Recreational Industry (designee), Houston, TX
- Ralph Rayburn, Commercial Industry (designee), Austin, TX
- ²Paul Hooker, GMFMC (designee), Tampa, FL

Staff

- Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
- Lucia O'Toole, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

- ¹Ron Schmied, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
- ¹Ed Burgess, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
- Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
- ³Craig O'Connor, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

- ¹Attendance on May 13 only.
- ²GMFMC designee on May 14 only.
- ³Attendance on May 14 only.

Adoption of Minutes

* R. Rayburn moved that the minutes (June 27, 1986 conference call; October 2-3, 1986 PMB meeting; January 20, 1987 conference call) stand approved contingent upon supplemental information provided within the two-day meeting. The motion carried.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Regional Director's Comments on MARFIN Activities

D. Furlong announced that Craig O'Connor has been asked to continue to serve as Acting Regional Director until the end of the fiscal year and stated that Mr. O'Connor would attend the PMB meeting on the following day. D. Furlong said that primarily Mr. O'Connor's "management style" is one of direct involvement. Mr. O'Connor, as the accountable program official, will be directly involved in the deliberation processes of the PMB. He will fill the non-voting NMFS position on the PMB and will reserve the right to veto recommendations. D. Furlong said that he himself did not see any significant changes in terms of what the intents are of the PMB; to provide advice, to examine the fisheries from all different perspectives, and to provide recommendations as to what should be done. Mr. O'Connor is seeking the PMB's feelings on his views.

A. Kemmerer asked if D. Furlong saw the emphasis of the MARFIN program shifting from development. D. Furlong responded that the needs of today are management-related and he felt that there would be a shift away from the development arena into the management arena to address immediate information and research needs.

D. Furlong informed the PMB that Mr. O'Connor is taking the people out of the economic unit (within the SERO) and bringing them up as staff to the Acting Regional Director so that they are accessible not only to development but to management and habitat as well.

A. Kemmerer asked if Mr. O'Connor was maintaining support of the programmatic approach to MARFIN utilization as opposed to project orient. D. Furlong said that Mr. O'Connor philosophically agrees to that as a management approach to doing business but political aspects sometimes undermine and a project may have to be addressed specifically without regard to where it fits into a larger program.

Distribution of Annual Report and Executive Summary for 1986

D. Ekberg distributed the FY86 draft Annual Report. N. Bane is in the process of summarizing the information to compress it into a draft Executive Summary (also distributed) for publication and circulation to constituents in the near future. N. Bane is acting as a support role

from the SEFC to the SERO on MARFIN. D. Ekberg views the larger draft as a reference document for the PMB. The PMB was asked to submit by the end of May their comments on the drafts to D. Ekberg as well as an idea of the number to be published.

C. Perret commented that the introductory remarks for FY87's Annual Report may be much different if the direction of the program changes from development to management. J. Cato asked if the direction of the MARFIN program could be legally changed from development to management. A. Kemmerer said that C. O'Connor would have to answer the legalities but that the three major goals of the program were maintenance, recovery, and development -- maintenance and recovery being essentially management.

Major comments of the PMB will be discussed with members and D. Ekberg and N. Bane will finalize the Executive Summary for printing in order to expedite.

FY1987 Financial Assistance Procedures

D. Ekberg stated that the Federal Register Notice was published on April 15 and that proposals are due by June 1, 1987 at 6 pm. (Only two proposals have been received to date). The funding priorities have been added; the procedures are basically the same as last year. It took four months to get the Notice through the system and published, yet only two paragraphs were changed.

Multi-year proposals were discussed. Those proposals submitted last year as multi-year will have to be resubmitted this year. D. Ekberg will notify the PIs. "Standard Terms and Conditions" are now mailed out with all Financial Assistance Awards and come straight down from DOC. The main point to note is that quarterly reports and final reports for all financial assistance awards and the dates reports are due are included. First report is due in January - one month after the first quarter ends, etc.

There was discussion regarding circulation of project quarterly reports. The PMB trusts that projects are being monitored properly and did not desire as a whole to receive all reports. Anyone desiring to receive specific reports will request them from D. Ekberg. D. Ekberg and N. Bane have begun a tracking system for project reporting.

Discussion of Operations Manual Outline and Procedures - Including
MARFIN Project Information Dissemination

A proposed outline and time-frame for development of the Operations Plan was distributed (attachment 1). C. O'Connor has asked N. Bane to proceed with development of the Plan. A. Kemmerer suggested that the PMB review the outline and identify major issues for discussion to the point of clarification in order to help N. Bane and D. Ekberg in preparing a draft.

Section II-C of the outline (develop mechanism and procedures for generating resource research plans) was discussed at length. R. Rayburn suggested rather than developing plans around specific resources, using information from the Annual Report to fill in the "resource needs" blocks shown in the original MARFIN document. J. Cato agreed with the suggestion and stated that the intent is to clearly show that MARFIN is a unique program and therefore needs to continue in its unique role.

It should be explicit in the Plan that it is not the intent to make all of the money available for competition, with some amount held back for contracts and in-house.

* CASC's role should be spelled out in the Plan. C. Perret moved that the PMB formally invite Jean Martin-West to attend meetings and be involved in an advisory capacity in the development of the Plan. The motion carried unanimously. D. Ekberg will write a letter inviting J. West to be an ex-officio member of the PMB.

An ad hoc task force composed of NMFS personnel and Tom Murray (representing the PMB) will develop a strawman section on "the management organization, responsibilities" for review by the PMB.

Issues discussed regarding "competitive review and award procedures, policies" included multi-year projects, review process time (3-4 weeks) and external (outside NMFS) reviews, and how to avoid either the perception of or real conflicts of interest. Principal investigators may be asked to suggest potential reviewers and the PMB may recommend reviewers. It is the responsibility of NMFS to make sure the reviews are done. T. Murray said the liability of the PMB members involved in administering the program should be researched.

Only CASC is authorized to terminate multi-year projects (on the recommendation of the program officer). The PMB should be notified of

any problems or current status with quarterly summaries. D. Ekberg will bring the project listing to the next meeting. Dissemination of technical information could be accomplished through the publication of a newsletter.

"Program and project review and evaluation procedures" were discussed. It was the consensus of the PMB that the issue be at least addressed in the Plan. A simple statement that the program will be evaluated periodically may suffice.

The first day's session adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Thursday, May 14, 1987

Chairman Tom Murray called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. The minutes of the October 2-3, 1986 meeting were amended on page 3 to read ...insist the proposals also be sent outside NMFS for thorough technical review.

A motion was made and withdrawn to approve the three sets of minutes. Approval of the minutes was tabled to allow a few days for PMB members to submit comments.

Discussion of Sea Turtle/TED Plan

D. Ekberg stated that the draft plan "MARFIN Management Plan to Minimize Sea Turtle Recovery Impacts on the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery" was the result of the PMB organized planning meeting. The goal of the meeting composed of experts was to identify the type of research and development which the PMB should support for funding. The program planning meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana on April 16, 1987 was chaired by PMB Chairman Tom Murray and hosted by Don Ekberg, NMFS MARFIN Coordinator. D. Ekberg composed the rough draft and forwarded it to the SEFC for comments. Those comments were incorporated into the draft which was distributed. Participants (task force) at the meeting are listed at the back of the Plan.

The two major goals are to minimize adverse economic impacts of sea turtle conservation measures on the Gulf of Mexico shrimp trawl fisheries; and to enhance scientific understanding of the status of sea turtle populations in the Gulf of Mexico and of management measures and alternatives. Short and long-term objectives are identified.

The PMB discussed the short-term objectives of the Plan. Table 1 reflects the task force recommendations (12 projects) but not necessarily the dollar figures. Only those projects proposed by NMFS are to be considered at this time by the PMB.

D. Ekberg outlined the monies approved for NMFS projects to date totaling 625.1K; the amount listed in the Federal Register Notice for competition was \$2.0 million. The remainder is 875K. Seven NMFS projects totaling 338.3K remain to be considered for approval. Multi-year projects which were funded last fiscal year will have to be resubmitted for approval; second year efforts total approximately 744.2K.

Discussion of NMFS MARFIN Projects for FY1987

The seven NMFS proposals (see attachment 2) which had been delayed for review until the competitive season were brought up for discussion.

* Following much discussion on project L11 (biological impacts of underwater explosions), C. Perret moved to table approval of the project and have the staff write the PI suggesting he seek funding from MMS and if the PI is unsuccessful in that source then the PMB would reconsider. The motion was seconded. R. Rayburn amended the motion to include a time frame for the opportunity to fund the project through MMS and once receiving a negative response then MARFIN would fund the project. The amended motion carried with NMFS abstaining.

* R. Rayburn expressed industry support of project L12 (expansion of head starting Kemp's ridley sea turtles) and moved the PMB approve. The motion carried with NMFS abstaining.

* J. Cato moved to delay consideration of project L13 (non-natural sources of turtle mortality) until the competitive season. The motion carried with NMFS abstaining.

Chairman T. Murray ceased review of the NMFS MARFIN turtle projects and welcomed Craig O'Connor, Acting Regional Director. C. O'Connor expressed a two-fold concern regarding MARFIN. He wants to get the program rolling, monies spent, and have something to show for the contributions Congress has made for the problems in the Gulf by way of

funding; and to take the burden of initiation off of the PMB and take it upon himself, using the PMB as the advisory board.

C. O'Connor is being directed by Dr. Calio to principally perform a conservation role with regard to fisheries management and back out of allocation role within fisheries management - that is up to the Council. The Regional Director is responsible to be in a position where he can adequately assess status regarding conservation issues on natural resources and provide a necessary information base for making intelligent and meaningful allocative decisions with regard to those resources. C. O'Connor stated he will be the Acting Regional Director until October 1, 1987. L. Simpson asked if he had submitted his application for the Regional Director position. He responded positively.

It is also the Regional Director's responsibility to know the upcoming problem areas and seek the PMB's advice on what needs to be done. The PMB will be given meaningful tasks with regard to responding to what needs are. It was asked if the Regional Director would dictate to the PMB or if the PMB would be allowed to give viable advice on program direction. It is C. O'Connor's feeling that the PMB would guide the program with the Regional Director directly involved with the program activities as the Federal official ultimately responsible for the program. C. O'Connor stated his definition of conservation -- to assure that a species of fish is to be maintained at a level where continued recruitment can be assured. He is relying not only on the manpower of NMFS but of the States, Sea Grant, and industry to build the data base as all involved have a common problem - what's going on in the Gulf of Mexico.

R. Bright questioned how the economic, recreational, etc. data bases are to be strengthened. C. O'Connor responded that Dr. Evans has gone forward with a restructuring program which will bring the scientific and regional structure under one head, the principle driving force of the NMFS is going to be management support (information).

Concern was expressed by A. Kemmerer that if the MARFIN program takes a management turn and moves away from development then support for the program may be lost. C. O'Connor said he feels that a necessary

component of supporting development is having an understanding of what is out there but that he appreciates the political reality.

Selection of Meeting Date for Proposal Review

Tentative dates of July 15-16 were scheduled for the next PMB meeting. The location will be either Tampa or St. Petersburg, Florida. The PMB will be notified as details are firmed up.

Selection of NMFS Projects

* R. Rayburn moved to approve L14 (augmented shrimp data collection) for funding. The motion carried with NMFS abstaining.

Following much discussion on projects L15 and L16 (extension of sea turtle stranding and salvage network; sampling for stranded turtles in western Gulf of Mexico) L. Simpson moved to defer consideration until the competitive review. The motion carried with NMFS abstaining.

* R. Rayburn moved to approve L17 (TED technical information center) addressing the issue of communication between states and industry so that testing would be coordinated as to areas and locations. The motion carried with NMFS abstaining.

* Project L11 (biological impacts of underwater explosions) was again discussed. It was the consensus of the PMB that if MMS does not fund then the PMB will reconsider in July.

The total of these approved projects is 195.8K.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

MARFIN OPERATIONS PLAN; PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- I. Introductory Section
 - A. Source material: 1985 GSMFC MARFIN document, updated
 - B. Contents:
 - 1. Purpose
 - 2. Historical perspectives, current considerations
 - 3. Initial program accomplishments (1985-87)
 - 4. Program Benefits
 - 5. Program goals, objectives
 - 5. Interaction with other programs
 - C. Completion: Mid-May
- II. Research Needs/Priorities Section
 - A. Source material: MARFIN document, ad hoc input (SEFC, SERO program managers, current FMP's, research plans, etc.)
 - B. Brief summaries of major resource groups:
 - Coastal pelagics; reef fish; ocean pelagics; estuarine fish; coastal herrings and butterfish; bottomfish; crabs and lobsters; shrimp; menhaden; marine mollusks; marine mammals and turtles; others
 - C. Develop mechanism and procedures for generating resource research plans
 - D. Develop mechanism and procedures for emergency research needs implementation
 - E. Completion: June 30
- III. Program Management Section
 - A. Proposed management organization, responsibilities
 - 1. SERO
 - 2. SEFC
 - 3. CASC
 - 4. Program Management Board
 - 5. Other components (Commissions, etc.)
 - B. Review of proposed structure at ad hoc task force meeting
 - 1. Composition: O'Connor, Kemmerer, Greenfield, Brown, Ekberg, Furlong, Murray, Byrd, Bane
 - 2. Suggested date: Mid-June
 - C. Competitive review and award procedures, policies
 - D. Program information dissemination procedures, products
 - E. Project progress reporting system
 - F. Data management procedures (cooperative tagging, other data)
 - G. Resource program (e.g., red drum, mackerels, etc.) coordination procedures
 - H. Program and project review and evaluation procedures
 - I. Completion: June 30
- IV. Relevant Laws and Procedures Section
 - Completion: June 30
- V. First draft Operations Plan Review by ad hoc task force: July 1
- VI. Revised draft review by Program Management Board: August 15
- VII. Publication of final Plan: October 15

GROUP	NO.	K\$REQ	K\$MATCH	ORG	PI	PROPOSAL
SEFC	+ 1	25.	74.1	MIAMI	W. NELSON	RED DRUM STOCK ASSESS. ANALYSIS
SEFC	+ 2	40.	70.	MIAMI	W. NELSON	CENTRAL TAGGING FOR RED DRUM
SEFC	+ 3	155.	595.	PASCAGOULA	S. NICHOLS	RED DRUM MARK AND RECAPTURE
SEFC	+ 4	169.3	0.	PANAMA CITY	G. NAKAMURA	KING AND SPANISH MACKEREL RESEARCH
SEFC	+ 5	70.	55.	GALV/MIAMI	KLIMA/JONES	SOCIOECON IMPACTS IN/OFFSHORE SHRIMP MANAGEMENT
SERO	+ 6	38.5	0.	ST.PETE	R. SCHMIED	EDUC. TOOLS TO PROMOTE USE AND CONSER. IN GULF REC
SERO	+ 7	75.	0.	ST.PETE	D. EKBERG	MARFIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT & COORD.
GSMFC	+ 8	52.3	0.	OC.SPRINGS	L. SIMPSON	MARFIN BOARD SUPPORT
SEFC	L 11	32.5	0.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	BIOL IMPACTS OF UNDERWTR EXPLOSIONS
SEFC	L 12	75.	0.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	EXPANSION OF HD STARTING KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLES
SEFC	L 13	30.	0.	MIAMI	N. THOMPSON	NON-NATURAL SOURCES OF TURTLE MORTALITY
SEFC	L 14	20.8	0.	MIAMI	AL JONES	AUGMENTED SHRIMP DATA COLLECTION
SEFC	L 15	40.	0.	PANAMA CITY	L. OGREN	EXT OF SEA TURTLE STRANDS AND SALVAGE NETWORK
SEFC	L 16	40.	0.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	SAMPLING FOR STRANDED TURTLES IN W GOM
SEFC	L 17	100.	0.	PASCAGOULA	W. SEIDEL	TED TECHNICAL INFO CENTER

+ = Approved project

L = Submitted for approval

Total of approved projects = \$625.1K

Total of submitted projects = \$338.3K

Remaining MARFIN funds = \$3.5M - 0.625M = \$2.875M

Financial assistance requirement = \$2.0M

Remainder for approval = \$875K

APPROVED BY:



COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, May 28, 1987
Gulf Shores, Alabama

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, May 28, 1987
Gulf Shores, Alabama
MINUTES

The meeting held in the conference room of the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center was called to order by Chairman Roy Williams at 8:14 am. Those in attendance were:

Members

Eugene L. Nakamura, SEFC-Panama City Lab, Panama City, FL
Roy O. Williams, Florida MFC, Tallahassee, FL
Walter M. Tatum, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Joseph A. Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Maj. Jerald K. Waller, ADCNR/MRD Enforcement, Dauphin Island, AL

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Lucia O'Toole, Publication Specialist

Others

Mario Berrios, U.N.A.H., Honduras, C.A
Mark Van Hoose, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Hugh A. Swingle, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Henry G. Lazauski, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Brad Durling, GCCA, Lillian, AL

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held March 17, 1987 in Biloxi, Mississippi were changed on pages 3, 4, 5, and 6 to read R. Williams instead of "R. Martin" and adopted as corrected.

Update of Spanish Mackerel Situation

R. Williams reported that both the Gulf and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils have agreed to a 2.5 million pounds TAC (total allowable catch) on Spanish mackerel with a 3 fish bag limit imposed on recreational fishermen. The recreational bag limit will become 0 when the recreational catch reaches 43% of the TAC. The commercial fishery will be closed when the commercial catch reaches 57% of the TAC. Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana representatives said their states would not adopt a 3 fish bag limit but some may consider a bag limit of

10. W. Tatum said that bag limits are a better means of conservation than are size limits. R. Williams stated that he would like to see a more steady hand when dealing with bag limits and recreational fishermen.

A draft paper entitled "Age and Growth of Spanish mackerel (Scomberomorus maculatus) in the Northern Gulf of Mexico" by T.E. Helser of Auburn University was distributed by W. Tatum.

Review of the Plan by Section

The draft Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan was reviewed page by page. Discussions of the Subcommittee led to significant changes in the draft Plan. R. Lukens will review literature and additional comments to be mailed in by members and incorporate with the changes discussed at the meeting into the next draft. R. Williams will rewrite Sections 3.7, 3.8, and 3.9 for review by the Subcommittee. For assistance in updating charter boat information in Section 7 (Socioeconomics) MARFIN quarterly progress reports on projects concerning charterboats will be requested from the MARFIN Program Coordinator.

Discussion of Regulatory Aspects of the Plan

Following much discussion it was the consensus of the Subcommittee that another meeting would be devoted to the development of regulatory aspects. R. Lukens will draft the framework for the section listing the existing regulations and options by using the Stock Assessment Report.

Future Tasks

The Subcommittee members will come to the next meeting with thoughts on regulatory measures.

The report of the mackerel panel stock assessment meeting (March 18-20, 1987) will be reviewed at the next meeting.

It is the goal of the Subcommittee to have the Plan as near to completion as possible by the October meeting of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Future Meeting Dates

A date for the next meeting was tentatively scheduled for September 10 beginning at 8:00 am at the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center in Gulf Shores. It was suggested that a two-day meeting may be necessary. Details will be forwarded to members as plans are finalized.

Someone from the stock assessment group (Joe Powers or Jerry Scott were suggested) may be invited to the September meeting to describe the data base and answer any questions.

Other Business


H. Lazauski, fishery statistician for ADCNR/MRD, stated he thought there was currently enough data available from the length frequencies to show there is a problem occurring with Spanish mackerel and that going to a VPA (virtual population analysis) was not necessary. He further stated that monitoring the fishery is the key because the data base is inadequate. The States have in place or have plans for programs to monitor the fishery.

R. Williams said that the Subcommittee could ask for continuation of the VPA and also ask another group of state representatives to monitor catch rates, size frequencies, and perhaps develop fishery-independent surveys. H. Lazauski, Chairman of the GSMFC Data Management Subcommittee, said that particular Subcommittee could address the issue at their next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
Conference Call
Wednesday, June 3, 1987
MINUTES

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Roll was called at 10:10 a.m. Those present on the call were:

Members

Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
J. Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Scott Nichols & Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Gary Matlock, TPWD, Austin, TX
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL

Staff

Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Eileen Benton, Staff Assistant

W. Tatum and A. Kemmerer briefed the Subcommittee on recommendations from the programmatic review ad hoc committee. The committee recommends Dr. Howard Clonts, Resource Economist, Auburn University, to head the review team. Other participants on the review team include Mr. Jim McCallum, Staff, Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries (pending approval by Congressman Jones) and Mr. Dick Hennemuth, NMFS, Woods Hole, MA. The program review will begin at the end of June with a conference call between the review team, NMFS Program Manager, Chairmen of the SEAMAP committees, and SEAMAP Coordinators. This meeting will arrange schedules and coordinate a tentative work plan. Meetings will then be scheduled in Ocean Springs, Mississippi and Charleston, South Carolina to meet with SEAMAP representatives. A report will be presented to the SEAMAP committees at the Joint August meeting. Anticipated cost of the review will be approximately \$4,000 plus travel expenses for the review team.

T. Van Devender stated that the GSMFC could provide the needed travel funds, however would not have the additional \$4,000 required for the review.

A. Kemmerer stated that NMFS could provide the additional funds to GSMFC by possibly amending GSMFC's cooperative agreement. A. Kemmerer and T. Van Devender will work out the details on transferring these funds.

* A. Huff moved to proceed with the programmatic review and work out expenses with GSMFC. D. Waller seconded.

After discussion on the different approaches the review team would take, the motion passed unanimously.

T. Van Devender reminded the Subcommittee that the August Subcommittee meeting will be held in Puerto Rico August 25-27, 1987.

The conference call ended 10:35 a.m.

APPROVED BY:

Ferry C. Nicholson
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, July 14, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, July 14, 1987
Biloxi, Mississippi

Larry Nicholson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m., with the following people present:

Members

I. B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Jim Barkuloo, USFWS, Panama City, FL
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Madison Powell, ADNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Arthur Williams, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Frank Richardson, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Forrest Ware, FGFWFC, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Nancy Marcellus, Staff Assistant

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted after an approved change to allow Frank Richardson, on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to present a slide presentation on the National Recreational Fisheries Policy.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Monday, March 16, 1987 in Biloxi, Mississippi were adopted as written.

Discussion of "Phase II Fingerling Requirements"

L. Nicholson asked the committee for any updates, changes in requirements or stocking locations for the Phase II fingerlings. Each member stated their requirements:

A. Williams noted that Sabine was misspelled and all other information was correct as stated.

L. Nicholson commented that the Mississippi data was satisfactory.

M. Powell requested that the Tombigbee be added with 100,000 and the Alabama River system increased to 1,000,000 fingerlings.

F. Ware requested that the Apalachicola be elevated to 600,000.

Georgia and Texas were not represented, but Texas was provided with the information.

F. Richardson suggested that Charles Wooley (Fish and Wildlife Service, Annapolis) be invited to the October Commission meeting in Key West to give a briefing on the Atlantic coast situation to the Anadromous Subcommittee. It was the consensus of the committee to invite him to this meeting.

Discussion of "Habitat Criteria" Project

L. Nicholson discussed the progress of the habitat criteria project. It is proposed that each state take the river systems they wish to work with and compare the criteria of those river systems to what has already been established for striped bass. It is anticipated that a publication will result from this study that will fill in some of the data gaps in the management plan.

L. Nicholson then asked for discussion on river systems to be addressed and any changes in the proposed format.

J. Barkuloo asked that miles of continuous riverine habitat be considered as a criteria.

L. Nicholson advised not to eliminate any systems that have been worked on or are currently being worked on just because it is believed that it will not sustain a population. This project is strictly information gathering. All of this information will be stored on computer in the Gulf States office thereby providing easy access to the data. However, the Gulf States office will not act as a repository.

F. Ware asked that thermal refuge be defined since it is the most critical aspect of the adult striped bass population in the Gulf.

I.B. Byrd suggested that R. Lukens take this information from the TVA publication and copy the definition of thermal refuge for the group.

After much discussion a reporting format was agreed upon. For each state, go through the criteria listing and discuss or critique each river system or subsystem (2-3 pages per system) and include a summary for all systems. Devote a separate chapter on thermal refuges for each river system, identifying thermal refuge areas for June, July, August and September. Include station maps for each system with thermal refuges noted.

A. Huff added that it is important to use as much of the U.S. Geological Survey data that is available.

F. Richardson gave a slide presentation on the National Recreational Fisheries Policy and discussed its current status.

Set Time Frame for Completion

Each state's data should be to R. Lukens no later than September 16 in order to have the first complete rough draft by the October meeting. The completion date for the entire project is April 1988.

Discussion of Future Projects

L. Nicholson suggested that the subcommittee consider drafting regulations for the Striped Bass Management Plan. It was decided that the subcommittee be prepared to make recommendations at the October meeting.

I. B. Byrd added that the most important thing the subcommittee could address is thermal refuges. Investigate and very clearly identify these areas since it is the whole key to the success of what the subcommittee is trying to accomplish. Also pursue funding for this study. Potential funding sources include anadromous fish funds, Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act or Wallop-Breaux. It was the desire to have a draft cooperative proposal developed which will be discussed at the October meeting.

Other Business

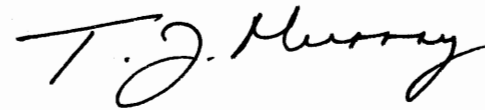
J. Barkuloo briefly discussed development on the hatchery proposal, with a draft to be submitted on October 1 and final completion by December 1.

Another study Barkuloo mentioned was some experimental work using a chemical to mark Phase I striped bass.

F. Ware discussed the genetic tag study and performance evaluation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

MARFIN Program Management Board
Wednesday, July 15/
Thursday, July 16, 1987
MINUTES
Tampa, Florida



The meeting held in the conference room of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council was called to order at 8:45 am by Chairman Tom Murray. The following were in attendance:

Members

Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Tom Murray, GASAFDFI, Tampa, FL
Wayne E. Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
William S. "Corky" Perret, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
Bob Ditton, Recreational Industry, College Station, TX
Bob Jones, Commercial Industry, Tallahassee, FL
Jean Martin-West, NOAA, Kansas City, MO

Staff

Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Pat Howell, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Linda Stevens, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lucia O'Toole, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Tom McIlwain, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Ron Schmied, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ed Burgess, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
Craig O'Connor, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Brad Brown, NMFS, Miami, FL
*Richard Raulerson, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

*Attendance on July 16 only.

Adoption of Minutes

Three sets of minutes which had been previously tabled (6/27/86, 10/3/86, 1/20/87) and the minutes of the last meeting held May 13-14, 1987 were approved.

There was no formal agenda. T. Murray informed members that the same procedure would be followed as last year for review and approval of projects for FY87 and that a simple majority was necessary to retain or delete proposals in the first cull.

Review of Competed Proposals

D. Ekberg explained the columns on the score sheets (3 page listing of proposals, funds requested, review scores, etc.) Seventy-four proposals were submitted for a total of approximately \$4.8 million. He noted that the number of reviews on each proposal ranged from one to five. The proposals were sent outside NMFS for review this year and then went through an in-house peer review. The SEFC had a two-day meeting during which they developed a series of recommendations on the proposals.

The funding of multi-year projects was discussed. The PMB has the option to approve funding multi-year projects in total or approve funding for one year at a time. It was the consensus of the PMB that unless specifically noted, multi-year projects would be approved for funding one year at a time.

The first cull was begun by D. Ekberg describing each individual proposal's rank and score, followed by A. Kemmerer stating the SEFC's comments and positive or negative recommendation. During the first round there was considerable discussion on releasing names of reviewers to the PMB. This year's reviewers had been told that their names would be held in confidence. Next year's reviewers will be advised that their names will be released to the PMB. At the end of the first cull 27 proposals (list following) had been deleted. 1) Univ. of AL (Field Eval. of Lng/Diesel Shrimp Boat), 2) Univ. of Miami (Synthesis of Info. from Avail. Lit. Relating Shrimp Prod. to Environmtl. Cond.), 3) Turtle Cove Biol. Res. Station (Anal. of Environmtl. Factors Affectg. Patterns/Catch of Shrimp in Estuarine Wtrs.), 4) TX A&M Res. Found. (Forecastg Com. Harv. of Mar. Shrimp Usg. Markov Chain Mdls.), 5) LSU (Growth & Surv. Larval Menhaden & Sciaenids West LA in Relation to Hydrophc. Features), 6) TX A&M Res. Found. (Effect of Mososcale Circ. on Dist. of Larval Menhaden GOM), 7) LSU (Analysis of KMackereel Catch/Effort in Mexico), 8) LSU (Acoustical Approach to Assess/Mangmt of Herrings/Btrfish), 9) FL Sea Grant (Dev. of Harvtg/Managmt Info. on Multispecies Longline Fisheries), 10) Univ. of S AL (Compar. Eval. of

Nitrogenous Compounds in Shark Tissues Which Affect Qual/Public Accept.), 11) Univ. of SC (Fishg. Tech. to Reduce Billfish Bycatch), 12) LSU (Dist. Size/Age Freq. Struct. of Pop. of Deepwater/Golden Crabs on Cont. Slope of NGOM), 13) Sonic Excluder Devices Res/Dev Team (Sonic Excluder Device Res/Dev - Turtle), 14) LSU (Dynamics of Oxygen Transport in Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle), 15) Racal Survey, Inc. (Habitat Sel. Habit. by HD Started Kemp's Ridley Turt., Released in GOM), 16) LSU (Optimization of Recirculatg Systems for Rearing Immature Kemp's Rid. Seaturt.), 17) MS SW Dept. (Migration Studies of Red Drum Pop. in MS), 18) LA Tech Univ. (Red Drum Ident. from X-Ray Microanalysis of Scales), 19) MS WC Dept (Migration & Growth Studies of Mulletts in MS), 20) Univ. of TX (Loc. of Spawng Sites & Proc. of Immigration to Nursery Grnds in Red Drum), 21) Mote Marine Lab (Ident. of Critical Hab. Req. & Rel. of Early-Juvenile Red), 22) Univ. of S MS (Patterns of Rec Angler Part. & Econ. Impact in G Red Drum), 23) FDNR (Pop. Assess. of Bait Fish Complex off Central W FL Coast), 24) American Fisheries Society (Publ. of Sympsm Vol: Math. Anal of Fish Stk Dynamics), 25) Sport Fishing Institute (Compile/Analyze Econ. & Social Data for Use in Fisheries Managmt in GOM Region), 26) City of Apalachicola (Apalachicola Bay Fisheries Management Plan), and 27) LSU (Biochemical Indicator of Phys. Cond. & Growth, RNA/DNA Ratio, Mangmt Tool in GOM Fish). Forty-seven proposals were held for further consideration with a combined requested total of approximately \$3 million.

Before beginning the second round D. Ekberg informed the PMB that to his knowledge five recipients of last year's funds had not turned in quarterly progress reports. There was discussion regarding the insertion of NMFS proposals within the proper species groups during the second round. It was the consensus of the PMB to review the NMFS proposals as a group later during the day when Craig O'Connor would be present.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LDWF's proposal (LA Shrimp Mark-Recapture Proj.) at the requested level of \$29,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for GASAFDFI's proposal (Cont. Intro. of TEDS & Enhancemt. of Shrimp Trawl Sel. GOM) at the requested level of \$575,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LSU's proposal (Econ. Assess. of LA Inshore Shrimp Fishery) at the requested level of \$50,159. The motion was seconded. Following much discussion it was decided that C. Perret would speak with the PI about including the recreational sector in his analysis. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for TX A&M Research Foundation's proposal (Shrimp Fisheries Mangmt. to Increase Econ. Returns) at the requested level of \$60,000. The motion carried with one opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LSU's proposal (Expanded King Mack. & Reef Fish Bioprofile & Catch/Effort Data Collect/Analy. in LA) at the requested level of \$28,485. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB drop the Univ. of Miami's proposal (Stock Assess./Forecastg. Model for Managmt. Guidance of S. Mack. in GOM). The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for MDWC's proposal (MS/NMFS King and Spanish Mackerel Samplg. Prog.) at the requested level of \$7,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for TPWD's proposal (King Mackerel Tagging off TX) at the requested level of \$19,000. The motion carried with one opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for the Univ. of Miami's proposal (Length Freq. & CPUE for Spanish Mackerel off W FL) at the requested level of \$40,929. The motion carried unanimously.

Length (number of years) of multi-year proposals was discussed. Next year's Federal Register notice will spell out a three-year maximum time frame for multi-year projects.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LDWF's proposal (K. Mack. Tagging/Muscle Tissue Col. off LA Coast) at the requested level of \$29,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for Mote Marine Lab's proposal (K/S Mack. Migration/Stock Assess. Study in S GOM) at the requested level of \$65,427. The motion carried unanimously.

* Following much discussion, a motion was made that the PMB drop Univ. of Miami's proposal (Dev. K. Mack. Standg. Stock Est. Meth. Based on Aerial Svy) and reconsider the work next year. The motion carried unanimously.

J. West wanted to go on record as advising the PMB to consider the technical reviewers' ranking of proposals and note the number of projects receiving low scores which the PMB had approved. A. Kemmerer stated that the program managers had evaluated the technical reviews as well as proposals in the past two days in order to take out the differences in the way different people rank projects. D. Ekberg said that the score sheet was only a strawman and the PMB does the final ranking/rating.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for ADCNR's proposal (Supl. Collection of Vital Statistics of Rec. Caught King Mackerel and Spanish Mackerel Land. in AL) at the requested level of \$20,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for Univ. of Florida's proposal (Biol. Fishery/Prod. Assess. of Keoghfish, GOM Resource) at the requested level of \$69,119. The motion was seconded. There was discussion of the reviewers' comments. T. Murray called the question. The motion carried with one opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for Univ. of Florida's proposal (Structure/Econ. of Charter/party Bt. Fishg. Fleet off FL) at the requested level of \$68,642. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB drop the LMR Fisheries Res., Inc. proposal (Econ. Eval. of Prod/Proc (Canning) Pelagic Fish in E Gulf). The motion carried unanimously.

* It was strongly recommended the PMB approve funding for the Nor'eastern Trawl Systems, Inc. proposal (Dev. of High-Speed Pelagic Trawl for Samplg. C. Herring) at the requested level of \$12,000. There was a unanimous consensus to approve the project.

* A. Kemmerer recommended the PMB approve funding for LSU's proposal (Biol. & Catch/Effort Data Col. from Tuna Longline in NGOM) but suggested the geographical area be extended. He further recommended that their fifth objective might be deleted and the observations expanded. A motion was made that the PMB approve the proposal and suggest that Objective 5 be deleted and observations increased. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for Univ. of Florida's proposal (Fish. Dev. of Deep-Sea Golden Crab; Geo. & Seas. Prod. in GOM) at the requested level of \$158,517. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB request E. Carolina University's proposal (Limited Entry in Stone Crab/Spiny Lobster Fisheries) be resubmitted next year. The motion carried unanimously.

* Following a lengthy discussion on reviewers' comments, a motion was made that the PMB drop Texas A&M Research Foundation's proposal (Causes of Death Among Stranded Sea Turtles). The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB drop NC State University's proposal (Turtles, TEDS & Trawl Fish. in GOM/Model & Forecastg. Sea Turtle Pop. Dynamics) at this time with a strong recommendation to resubmit next year. The motion carried with one opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LDWF's proposal (A Survey of Seaturtles in LA Waters) at a reduced level of \$30,000 with deletion of the aerial survey and asking for their cooperation with NMFS stranding network. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for FDNR's proposal (Est. Total Mortality from Syst. Samplg. for Strnded. Turtl.) at the requested level of \$40,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for GSMFC's proposal (Coord./Plning/Prog.-Rptg. Activ. of the State/Fed. Plan for Red Drum) at the requested level of \$7,000. The motion carried, L. Simpson abstained.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for ADCNR's proposal (Age Class Struc. of Exploited Red Drum in N/C GOM) at the requested level of \$130,000. The motion failed for lack of a second. A motion

was made that the PMB approve funding for ADCNR's proposal at a reduced level of \$100,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made the PMB approve funding for GCRL's proposal (Life Hist. Studies of Red Drum Pops. in MS) at the requested level of \$45,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for the GCRL and University of New Orleans joint proposals (Ident. Red Drum Fishy. Stocks & Estab. Multivariate Model for Growth & Body Cond.) at the requested levels of \$47,963 and \$11,069, respectively. The motion carried with two in opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject Texas A&M Research Foundation's proposal (Red Drum Stock Assess. Using Mitochondrial DNA). The motion carried with three in opposition.

* Following much discussion a motion was made that the PMB reject GCRL's proposal (Trophic Patterns of Red Drum in N GOM) as it appeared to be premature. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject the University of Florida's proposal (Genetic Stock Indent. Red Drum Pop in FL). The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve for funding FDNR's proposal (Tag/Recapture Prog. for Red Drum in NW FL) at the requested level of \$29,519. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve for funding ADCNR's proposal (Ass. of Mullet Landgs. & ID of Ess. Pop Indicat. & Eco. Data) at the requested level of \$68,900. The motion carried unanimously. It was moved that the PMB reconsider their decision on the project pending consideration of the other mullet and report from the contract monitor on progress of last year's work. The motion to delay the decision carried unanimously. There was much discussion on developing some comprehensive control over the mullet studies.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LSU's proposal (Fishery Indep. Char. of Pop. Dyn. & Life Hist. of Striped Mullet in LA) at the requested level of \$48,402 and a recommendation made that in awarding funds for mullet work, the PI's be asked to coordinate work with the other work being done on the species. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for the University of Florida's proposal (Anal. of Potential Reg. Changes on Econ. Structure of E GOM Finfish Ind.) at the requested level of \$47,500. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for FDNR's proposal (Pop. Assess. of Black Mullet in E GOM) at the requested level of \$144,902. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LSU's proposal (Age Structure & Growth Rates & Reprod. Biol. of Black Drum in N GOM off LA) at the requested level of \$47,784. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject Louisiana Tech University's proposal (Stock Inventories of Red Drum, Spotted Seatrout & Black Drum in GOM). The motion was seconded. Following discussion, a substitute motion was made that the PMB approve funding for the proposal at the requested level of \$37,646. The substitute motion carried with one opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LDWF's proposal (LA Red Drum Research) at the requested level of \$141,818. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for FDNR's proposal (Age Validation of Adult Red Drum in FL) at the requested level of \$2,970. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for LSU's proposal (Fish. Ind. Data on Coastal Herrings, Carangids, & Red Drum from N GOM) at the requested level of \$136,587. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject Texas A&M Research Foundations proposal (Policy Anal. of Com./Rec. Finfish Harvstg in G Coast). The motion carried unanimously.

* Following much discussion, it was the consensus of the PMB to defer decision on the University of Southern Mississippi's proposal (Derivation of Empirical Red Drum Catch) until the following day when the PMB could receive in-depth comments by Richard Raulerson on the project.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject the E. Carolina University proposal (Prog. to Increase Demand for Underutilized Species Among Rec Fishm in SE). The motion carried with two oppositions.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for Florida Sea Grant's proposal (Video Trng. Prog. for Fish. Tournament Dir. & Managers to Facilitate Safety/Res. Aware./Suc. in Fishg. Tourn.) at the requested level of \$54,690. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject LSU's proposal (Biochem. Genetic Stud. of Black Drum/Sheepshead in N GOM). The motion carried with one opposition.

At the end of the second round the amount of proposals remaining totaled \$2,364,567 (including two deferred projects). The first day's session adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Thursday, July 16, 1987

Chairman Tom Murray called the meeting to order at 8:45 am. L. Stevens and P. Howell distributed new sheets listing 35 remaining projects as well as a breakdown showing the number of projects per category.

The two deferred projects were brought up for discussion. J. West reported the status according to the Grants Office on ADCNR's proposal (Ass. of Mullet Landgs. & IDF of Ess. Pop Indicat. & Eco. Data) as having reports turned in on schedule. A. Kemmerer said the contract monitor for the project would vote for funding because the work was on target but note that the proposal was very poorly written.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for the ADCNR project at the requested level of \$68,900. The motion carried unanimously.

R. Raulerson was asked to comment on reviewers remarks on the remaining deferred project (USM - Derivation of Empirical Red Drum Catch). He stated that all reviewers found the project to be using the right technique but said the project might achieve more precise results if the recreational fishing survey were already enhanced.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for the USM project at the requested level of \$45,351. The motion carried unanimously.

The cut resulted in \$364,566 over the amount available for competition (2 million) as stated in the Federal Register notice. It was the consensus of the PMB to review the NMFS proposals before continuing with the competed proposals.

* D. Ekberg distributed a listing of NMFS proposals (Attachment 1) which had been deferred for consideration at this time. SEFC project No. 9 (Biol. Impacts of Underwtr. Explosions) was discussed at length. B. Brown stated that the monies could not be spent in this fiscal year on this project. A motion was made that the PMB fund \$40,000 for this project for FY88 if funding from another agency was not possible. The motion carried unanimously.

* Following much discussion project 11 (SERO - Ident. & Reduction of Non-Natural Sources of Turtle Mortality) was withdrawn by C. O'Connor.

* Project 12 (SEFC - Augmented Shrimp Data Collection) had received PMB approval but not yet the Regional Director's approval. C. O'Connor wanted to know why the SEFC was not doing the work already. B. Brown informed the PMB that the data is being collected but data entry can only be accomplished when funds are approved. C. O'Connor approved the project.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 13 (SEFC - Ext. of Sea Turtle Strandg. and Salvage Network) at the reduced level of \$20,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 15 (SERO - TED Tech. Trans. and Certification, a combination of two proposals for a reduced amount) at the requested level of \$110,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* Following much discussion a motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 17 (SEFC - Dev. Recruitmt Indices for Important Com. & Rec. Fishes) at a reduced level of \$100,000 and note that out-years' work should come out of NMFS budget. The motion failed with four oppositions and one abstention.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 18 (SEFC - Dev. of Info. on Frankfurters Containg. Minced Menhaden) at a reduced level of \$8,500. The motion carried with one opposition.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 19 (SEFC - Electronic Data Col. & Entry for Field Samplg. of Fisheries) at the requested level of \$34,900. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 20 (SEFC - Offsetting Shrimp Habitat Losses in NW GOM Estuaries) at a reduced level of \$5,000 with the idea of approving \$60,000 in FY88. The motion failed with four in opposition.

E. Burgess briefed the PMB on project 21 (SERO - Enhanced Recreational Survey) and responded to their questions. The proposal was developed at the request of C. O'Connor. Prior to development a meeting was held between NMFS and GMFMC staff members in order to determine what work was time critical. At this point in time monies can not be found elsewhere to fund the project but NMFS feels that the States will support out-years' funding when the full potential of the survey is realized. Many options for funding part or all of the project were discussed.

* A motion was made that the PMB approve funding for project 21 at a reduced level of \$280,000. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reject project 22 (SERO - Fishery Management Information System). The motion carried with two oppositions and two abstentions.

After NMFS projects had been discussed, the total amount for projects which currently had PMB approval was \$109,000 over available funds.

* A motion was made that the PMB delete project 18 (SEFC - Dev. of Info. on Frankfurters Containg. Minced Menhaden) in the amount of \$8,500. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reduce by \$40,000 the GASAFDFI proposal (Cont. Intro. of TEDS & Enhancemt. of Shrimp Trawl Sel. GOM) to a level of \$535,000. The Foundation would reduce the Sea Grant and industry subcontracts equally. The motion carried unanimously.

* A motion was made that the PMB reduce by \$20,000 the ADCNR proposal (Ass. of Mullet Landgs. & ID of Ess. Pop. Indicat. & Eco. Data) to a level \$48,900. The motion carried unanimously.

- * A motion was made that the PMB reduce by \$16,587 the LSU proposal (Fish. Ind. Data on Coastal Herrings, Carangids, & Red Drum from N GOM) to a level of \$120,000. The motion carried with one opposition.
- * A motion was made that the PMB reduce by \$14,902 the FDNR proposal (Pop. Ass. of Black Mullet in E GOM) to a level of \$130,000. The motion carried unanimously.
- * A motion was made that the PMB reduce by \$8,642 the University of Florida proposal (Structure/Econ. of Charter/Party Bt. Fishg. Fleet off FL) to a level of \$60,000. The motion carried unanimously.

The preceding motion was the final cut. Attached is a final listing of the approved projects. J. West will notify those whose projects were reduced.

C. O'Connor congratulated the PMB on a job well done while T. Murray expressed the PMB's appreciation to C. O'Connor.

Other Business

D. Ekberg reported that N. Bane will have the Executive Summary ready for the press shortly. N. Bane said that she will mail out some policy statements for review and that she is about 40 hours away from the first draft of the Operations Manual.

J. West informed the PMB of new policy stating that recipients of funds who do not turn in quarterly reports on time receive letters of warning, and after three warnings the project is terminated. The PMB will be sent copies of such letters.

Next Meeting

A meeting is being planned for early September to define priorities for next year's funding and to review the Operations Manual. Details on the meeting will be mailed PMB members as plans are finalized.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm.

SEFC	x	1	25.	74.1	MIAMI	W. NELSON	RED DRUM STOCK ASSESS. ANALYSIS
SEFC	x	2	40.	70.	MIAMI	W. NELSON	CENTRAL TAGGING FOR RED DRUM
SEFC	x	3	155.	595.	PASCAGOULA	S. NICHOLS	RED DRUM MARK AND RECAPTURE
SEFC	x	4	169.3	0.	PANAMA CITY	G. NAKAMURA	KING AND SPANISH MACKEREL RESEARCH
SEFC	x	5	70.	55.	GALV/MIAMI	KLIMA/JONES	SOCIOECON IMPACTS IN/OFFSHORE SHRIMP MANAGEMENT
SERO	x	6	38.5	0.	ST.PETE	R. SCHMIED	EDUC. TOOLS TO PROMOTE USE AND CONSER. IN GULF REC
SERO	x	7	75.	0.	ST.PETE	D. EKBERG	MARFIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT & COORD.
GSMFC	x	8	52.3	0.	OC.SPRINGS	L. SIMPSON	MARFIN BOARD SUPPORT
SEFC	A	9	32.5	0.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	BIOL IMPACTS OF UNDERWTR EXPLOSIONS
SEFC	x	10	75.	0.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	EXPANSION OF HD STARTING KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLES
SERO		11	74.8	0.	ST.PETE	C. ORAVETZ	IDENT. & REDUCTION OF NON-NATURAL SOURCES OF TURTLE MORTALITY
SEFC	C	12	20.8	0.	MIAMI	AL JONES	AUGMENTED SHRIMP DATA COLLECTION
SEFC	B	13	40.	0.	PANAMA CITY	L. OGBEN	EXT OF SEA TURTLE STRANDG AND SALVAGE NETWORK
SEFC	x	14	40.	0.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	SAMPLING FOR STRANDED TURTLES IN W GOM
SERO		15	110.	0.	ST.PETE	C. ORAVETZ	TED TECH TRANS AND CERTIFICATION
SEFC	B	17	159.4	208.7	MIAMI	F. CROSS	DEV. RECRUITMT INDICES FOR IMPORTANT COM.&REC. FISHES
SEFC	B	18	14.8	26.8	CHARLESTON	M. HALE	DEV. OF INFO. ON FRANKFRUTERS CONTAINING MINCED MENHADEN
SEFC	B	19	34.9	135.	BEAUFORT	G. HUNTSMAN	ELECTRONIC DATA COL. & ENTRY FOR FIELD SAMPLG OF FISHERIES
SEFC	B	20	20.	140.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	OFFSETTING SHRIMP HABITAT LOSSES IN NW GOM ESTUARIES
SERO		21	350.	0.	ST.PETE	E. BURGESS	ENHANCED RECREATIONAL SURVEY
SERO		22	17.	0.	ST.PETE	P. HOWELL	FISHERY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

x = Approved project

A = To be considered at next Board meeting if MMS will not fund

B = Defer to next Board meeting

C = Board approved, not yet approved by Regional Director

Footnotes: B 11 \$30K - N. Thompson replaced by \$74.8K - C. Oravetz
C 15&16 \$100K - W. Seidel + 30K C. Oravetz replaced by \$110K - C. Oravetz

GROUP	NO.	K\$REQ	ORG	PI	PROPOSAL
SEFC	1	25.	MIAMI	W. NELSON	RED DRUM STOCK ASSESS. ANALYSIS
SEFC	2	40.	MIAMI	W. NELSON	CENTRAL TAGGING FOR RED DRUM
SEFC	3	155.	PASCAGOULA	S. NICHOLS	RED DRUM MARK AND RECAPTURE
SEFC	4	169.3	PANAMA CITY	G. NAKAMURA	KING AND SPANISH MACKEREL RESEARCH
SEFC	5	70.	GALV/MIAMI	KLIMA/JONES	SOCIOECON IMPACTS IN/OFFSHORE SHRIMP MANAGEMENT
SERO	6	38.5	ST.PETE	R. SCHMIED	EDUC. TOOLS TO PROMOTE USE AND CONSER. IN GULF REC
SERO	7	75.	ST.PETE	D. EKBERG	MARFIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT & COORD.
GSMFC	8	52.3	OC.SPRINGS	L. SIMPSON	MARFIN BOARD SUPPORT
SEFC	10	75.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	EXPANSION OF HD STARTING KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLES
SERO	11	30.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	TURTLE NECROPSY CONTRACT
SEFC	12	20.8	MIAMI	AL JONES	AUGMENTED SHRIMP DATA COLLECTION
SEFC	13	20.	PANAMA CITY	L. OGREN	EXT OF SEA TURTLE STRANDG AND SALVAGE NETWORK
SEFC	14	40.	GALVESTON	E. KLIMA	SAMPLING FOR STRANDED TURTLES IN W GOM
SERO	15	110.	ST.PETE	C. ORAVETZ	TED TECH TRANS AND CERTIFICATION
SEFC	19	34.9	BEAUFORT	G. HUNTSMAN	ELECTRONIC DATA COL. & ENTRY FOR FIELD SAMPLG OF FISHERIES
SERO	21	280.	ST.PETE	E. BURGESS	ENHANCED RECREATIONAL SURVEY

K\$REQ Sum = 1235.8

PROJ#	REC	YR/YRS	CONTACT	APPNAME	PROJNAME	POFFICER	PPHONE
87MAR01.0.6	\$29,000.00	2/2	BOWMAN PHILIP	LA DEPT W&F	LA SHRIMP MARK-RECAPTURE PROJ.	KLIMA ED, GALV.	409/766-3501,8-526-6500
87MAR01.1.7	\$535,000.00	1/2	MURRAY TOM	GL&SAFDF	CONT.INTRO. OF TEDS & ENHANCENT. OF SHRIMP TRAWL SEL.GOM	ORAVETZ CHUCK, ST.PETE	813/893-3366,8-826-3366
87MAR01.3.5	\$50,159.00	1/2	KEITHLY WALTER	LA STATE UNIV.	ECON. ASSESS. OF LA INSHORE SHRIMP FISHERY	POFFENBERGER JOHN, MIAMI	305/361-4263,8-350-1263
87MAR01.3.8	\$60,000.00	2/3	MILLER CHARLENE	TX A&M RES. FOUND.	SHRIMP FISHERIES MANGMT TO INCREASE ECON. RETURNS	VONDUSKA JOHN, ST.PETE	813/893-3830,8-826-3830
87MAR03.1.04	\$28,485.00	2/2	RUSSELL SANDRA	LA STATE UNIV.	EXPANDED KING MACK.&REEF FISH BIOPROFILE & CATCH/EFFORT DATA COLLECT/ANALY. IN LA	KUMPF HERMAN, PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR03.2.02	\$7,000.00	5MO	BUCHANAN MICHAEL	MS WC DEPT	MS/MNFS KING AND SPANISH MACKEREL SAMPLG PROG	KUMPF HERMAN, PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR03.2.05	\$19,000.00	5MO	MATLOCK GARY	TX PARKS & WILD DEPT	KING MACKEREL TAGGING OFF TX	GRIMES CHURCHILL,PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR03.2.06	\$40,929.00	1/3	EHRHARDT NELSON	UNIV. OF MIAMI	LENGTH FREQ & CPUE FOR SPANISH MACKEREL OFF W FL	SCOTT GERRY, MIAMI	305/361-4530,8-350-1530
87MAR03.2.09	\$29,000.00	1/1	SHEPARD JOSEPH	LA DEPT W&F	K. MACK. TAGGING/MUSCLE TISSUE COL. OFF LA COAST	GRIMES CHRUCHILL, PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR03.2.10	\$65,427.00	14MO	MAHADEVAN S.	MOTE MARINE LAB.	K/S MACK. MIGRATION/STOCK ASSESS. STUDY IN SGOM	NAKAMURA, EUGENE, PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR03.5.01	\$20,000.00	4MO	TATUM WALTER	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	SUPL COLLECTION OF VITAL STATISTICS OF REC CAUGHT KING MACKEREL AND SPANISH MACKEREL LAND IN AL	KUMPF HERMAN, PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR04.0.2	\$69,119.00	1/2	BURGESS GEORGE	UNIV. OF FL	BIOL. FISHERY/PROD. ASSESS. OF KEOGHFISH, GOM RESOURCE	GUTHERZ ELMER, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR04.2.1	\$60,000.00	1/1	HOLLAND STEPHEN	UNIV. OF FL	STRUCTURE/ECON. OF CHARTER/PARTY BT. FISHG FLEET OFF FL	POFFENBERGER JOHN, MIAMI	305/361-4263,8-350-1263
87MAR05.2.1	\$12,000.00	1/1	WEST BILL	NOR'EASTERN TRAWL SYSTEMS, INC	DEV. OF HIGH-SPEED PELAGIC TRAWL FOR SAMPLG C HERRING	WATSON JOHN, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR06.1.2	\$45,187.00	1/1	RUSSELL SANDRA	LA STATE UNIV.	BIOL & CATCH/EFFORT DATA COL. FROM TUNA LONGLINE IN NGOM	NELSON WALTER, MIAMI	305/361-4225,8-350-1225
87MAR08.1.1	\$158,517.00	2/2	CATO JAMES	UNIV. OF FL	FISH.DEV. OF DEEP-SEA GOLDEN CRAB; GEO&SEAS. PROD. IN GOM	GUTHERZ ELMER, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR10.1.5	\$30,000.00	14MO	BOWMAN PHILIP	LA DEPT W&F	A SURVEY OF SEATURTLES IN LA WATERS	OGREN LARRY, PAN.CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR10.1.8	\$40,000.00	1/1	HUFF/TORRES	FL DNR	EST. TOTAL MORTALITY FROM SYST. SAMPLG. FOR STRNDED TURL.	THOMPSON NANCY, MIAMI	305/361-4487,8-350-1487
87MAR11.0.23	\$7,000.00	2/3	SIMPSON LARRY	GSNFC	COORD./PLNING/PROG.-RPTG ACTIV. OF THE STATE/FED PLAN FOR RED DRUM	KEMMERER ANDREW, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.1.03	\$100,000.00	2/3	SWINGLE HUGH	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	AGE CLASS STRUC. OF EXPLOITED RED DRUM IN N/C GOM	KEMMERER ANDREW, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.1.04	\$45,000.00	2/3	MCILWAIN THOMAS	GULF COAST RES. LAB	LIFE HIST. STUDIES OF RED DRUM POPS IN MS	NICHOLS SCOTT, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.1.05A	\$47,963.00	33MO	POSS STUART	A)GULF COAST RESEARCH LAB AND B)UNIV. OF NEW ORLEANS	IDENT RED DRUM FISHY STOCKS & ESTAB MULTIVARIATE MODEL FOR GROWTH & BODY COND.	NICHOLS SCOTT, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.1.05B	\$11,069.00	33MO	ROGERS JAMES	FL DNR	IDENT RED DRUM FISHY STOCK & ESTAB MULTIVARIATE MODEL FOR GROWTH & BODY COND.	NICHOLS SCOTT, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.1.21	\$29,519.00	2/3	TORRES LINDA	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	TAG/RECAPTURE PROG. FOR RED DRUM IN NW FL	NICHOLS SCOTT, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.2.01	\$48,900.00	2/3	SWINGLE HUGH	LA STATE UNIV.	ASS. OF MULLET LANDGS & ID OF ESS. POP INDICAT. & ECO DATA	MERRINER JOHN, BEAUFORT LAB	919/728-8708,8-670-9708
87MAR11.2.07	\$48,402.00	1/3	THOMPSON BRUCE	LA STATE UNIV.	FISHERY INDEP. CHAR. OF POP. DYN. & LIFE HIST. OF STRIPED MULLET IN LA	MERRINER JOHN, BEAUFORT LAB	919/728-8708,8-670-9708
87MAR11.2.13	\$47,500.00	2/2	DEGNER R.L.	UNIV. OF FL.	ANAL. OF POTENTIAL REG. CHANGES ON ECON. STRUCTURE OF E GOM FINFISH IND.	WARD JOHN, ST.PETE	813/893-3830,8-826-3830
87MAR11.2.19	\$130,000.00	2/2	TORRES LINDA	FL DNR	POP ASSESS OF BLACK MULLET IN E GOM	MERRINER JOHN, BEAUFORT	919/728-8708,8-670-9708
87MAR11.3.12	\$47,784.00	1/1	BECKMAN DANIEL	LA STATE UNIV.	AGE STRUCTURE & GROWTH RATES & REPROD. BIOL. OF BLACK DRUM IN NGOM OFF LA	KEMMERER ANDREW, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.3.22	\$37,646.00	1/1	BOLZ CHARLES	LA TECH UNIV.	STOCK INVENTORIES OF RED DRUM, SPOTTED SEATROUT & BLACK DRUM IN GOM	FABLE WILLIAM, PAN. CITY	904/234-6541,8-965-7611
87MAR11.3.25	\$141,818.00	2/3	SHEPARD JOSEPH	LA DEPT W&F	LA RED DRUM RESEARCH	NICHOLS SCOTT, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.4.20	\$2,970.00	2/3	TORRES LINDA	FL DNR	AGE VALIDATION OF ADULT RED DRUM IN FL	KEMMERER ANDREW, PASCAGOULA	601/762-4591,8-499-4251
87MAR11.5.14	\$120,000.00	2/3	SHAW RICHARD	LA STATE UNIV.	FISH. IND. DATA ON COASTAL HERRINGS, CARANGIDS, & RED DRUM FROM NGOM	RICHARDS WILLIAM, MIAMI	305/361-4249,8-350-1249
87MAR11.9.15	\$45,351.00	1/1	GREEN TRELIS	UNIV. OF S. MS	DERIVATION OF EMPIRICAL RED DRUM CATCH RATE ELASTICITIES FOR REC. ANGL. IN GOM	POFFENBERGER JOHN, MIAMI	305/361-4263,8-350-1263
87MAR12.2.6	\$54,690.00	1/1	CLARKE MARION	FL SEA GRANT	VIDEO TRNG. PROG FOR FISH. TOURNAMENT DIR. & MANAGERS TO FACILITATE SAFETY/RES. AWARE./SUC. IN FISHG TOURN.	SCHMIED RONALD, ST.PETE	813/893-3141,8-826-3141

APPROVED BY:



COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, July 30, 1987
New Orleans, Louisiana

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, July 30, 1987
New Orleans, Louisiana

Due to the absence of the Chairman, R. Lukens called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. The following persons were present:

Members

Vittore Reggio, MMS, New Orleans, LA
Frank Richardson, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Bruce Cartwright, CCA, Houston, TX
Gerald Adkins, LDWF, Bourg, LA
Norville Prosser, Sport Fishing Institute, Washington, DC
Virginia Vail, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Nancy Marcellus, Staff Assistant

Others

John Cirino, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Mark Reeffer, IAFWA, Washington, DC
Malon Scogin, American Reef Corporation, Lafayette, LA
Wayne Kewley, Conoco, Inc., New Orleans, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted after an approved change to allow Frank Richardson, on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to present a slide presentation on the National Recreational Fisheries Policy.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, March 17, 1987 in Biloxi, Mississippi were adopted as written.

Summary of NE Gulf Artificial Reef Conference

V. Vail reported that the conference was held in late May at the Walkula Springs State Park. It was sponsored by Sea Grant and the Organization for Artificial Reefs, which is a private group based out of Tallahassee interested in artificial reefs and fishing issues in the Big Bend area of the Florida coast. The goal of the conference was to exchange information and stimulate communication among the reef builders. It was to provide the reef builders and the reef administrators with pertinent information for future reef development.

projects in the northeastern gulf region. It was confirmed that there is a need for guidelines provided by the state for both reef planning and reef development, and to encourage the monitoring and the assessment of established reefs. Research is still the missing link in terms of management needs and management actions. Liability was a big issue and is becoming bigger, but it still remains a vague and unknown entity because it is untried. The economic benefits to the local economy seemed to be fairly small but significant enough to encourage local governments or even private clubs to continue investing in artificial reef construction. It was determined that this conference was a prelude to future meetings that would have a smaller scope and address only single topics.

F. Richardson gave a slide presentation on the National Recreational Fisheries Policy and discussed its current status.

Discussion of State Artificial Reef Situations

G. Adkins gave a slide presentation on Louisiana's artificial reef program. The Louisiana Fishing Enhancement Act was passed with no opposition by the 1986 legislature. After the Act was passed, the Louisiana Artificial Reef Council was formed. The program was later called the Louisiana Artificial Reef Initiative. Adkins encouraged any state or organization who wish to adopt such a program to look very closely at the National Fishing Enhancement Act and then pattern their program after it so that everything is uniform from state to state. He also mentioned the need to establish uniform guidelines for artificial reefs.

F. Richardson added that it would be appropriate for this committee to take a position on artificial reefs, using Louisiana as a model and make a recommendation to the Commission to improve the other programs in the states.

V. Vail further commented that the individual states should be encouraged to become aware of what is happening in their own waters and adjacent waters. The state has to be aware and take some responsibility for what is being done in an area they are responsible for protecting.

R. Lukens stated that this is the first effort of this committee and the Commission to get involved in artificial reef issues. A stand or position as a Commission on this issue needs to be established.

Considering the importance of the role of the Corps of Engineers, which is the permittee of the federal government for reef development, V. Reggio asked if it would be appropriate to invite the Corps to join the committee. V. Reggio made the motion to contact the four districts of the Corps of Engineers and ask them to nominate one individual who could coordinate with the other districts to serve on this committee. The motion was seconded by G. Adkins.

V. Vail asked if they would serve as actual members on the committee or as advisors to the committee.

R. Lukens replied that they would be invited as non-voting members of the committee to offer their expertise.

V. Reggio agreed to amend his motion to invite them as a non-voting advisor to the committee and was again seconded by G. Adkins. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Cirino discussed Mississippi's offshore artificial reef efforts. Mississippi's program is run through a non-profit organization, Mississippi Gulf Fishing Banks. It was started in the early 60's and its membership is open to the general public for \$5.00 a year dues. Beginning in 1984, the Fishing Banks initiated a monitoring and assessment study of the five existing artificial reef sites to assess what structures were still there and what condition they were in. It is basically a physical parameter monitoring effort where each piece of material at a site is measured approximately twice a year.

F. Richardson indicated that it would be beneficial to the committee to have Cirino attend future meetings addressing artificial reef issues to provide information relating to such issues in Mississippi. Being placed in the form of a motion, V. Reggio seconded, and it passed unanimously. Lukens indicated that it would not be necessary to make Cirino a member, but to have him serve as an advisor to the committee on Mississippi artificial reef activities.

V. Vail reported on Florida's artificial reef program which was created by the legislature in the late 70's. The artificial reef program was created by statute to be a grants-in-aid to local government

programs. Some state funding is received which is used as match for Wallop-Breaux monies from the Fish & Wildlife Service to provide grants to local governments who have submitted an application for funds to build artificial reefs. The money is limited in its use since it can only be used for transportation of materials to a staging area and/or to the site offshore. It will also cover a few engineering costs, not to exceed \$1,000. At this time no monitoring is required by the state program.

Discussion of Perspectives on Monitoring and Assessment of Artificial Reefs

R. Lukens discussed monitoring and assessment of reef materials and why this issue needs to be addressed. According to the National Artificial Reef Plan there are two primary reasons for establishing monitoring programs. The first is compliance monitoring which is mandatory in the permit to make sure requirements of the permit are followed. The second is performance monitoring which is not required; however, it is strongly urged by the National Artificial Reef Plan. Performance monitoring includes measurement and analysis of reef materials and reef design variations. While monitoring can be expensive it is necessary to determine if artificial reefs are having the intended effect and if the effort is warranted on both short and long term.

Lukens asked for the consensus of the committee that this is indeed an important aspect of a reef program which needs to be addressed in each state. Ultimately it is the desire to have this committee draft a set of guidelines for monitoring and assessing reef materials.

Lukens then discussed a proposal to MAR, Inc. of Mississippi to do a side scan sonar survey of Mississippi's reefs. The reason Mississippi's reefs were chosen is because information is available from which to make comparisons. The results of this study will compare the side scan information to actual in situ measurements. Lukens requested the approval of the committee to pursue a proposal and at a later date to review the proposal.

F. Richardson made the motion to send the proposal out, address it at the October meeting in Key West and take a position then. The motion was seconded by V. Reggio and passed unanimously.

Discussion of Other Artificial Reef Priorities

M. Reef discussed socio-economic benefits from artificial reefs and the need to address that issue also.

R. Lukens distributed copies of the Gulf artificial reef data to each state member present. Joe McGurkin of Atlantic States requested that they update the data and make any changes desired.

Other Business

F. Richardson questioned the charge of the recreational committee and if dealing with artificial reefs would create a problem with the Commission.

R. Lukens discussed the appropriateness of the committee to deal with artificial reefs but in no way restricting it to artificial reefs. Most people associate artificial reefs with the recreational sector.

V. Vail suggested that an agenda item be to define the role of the committee in order to give the committee direction and so the issues can be approached realistically.

N. Prosser reported that National Fishing Week would take place June 6-12, 1988. This year the focus of events will be the National Recreational Fisheries Policy.

The committee was made aware that Joe McGurkin has left SFI to work with Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Steve Phillips has joined the SFI staff to replace Joe McGurkin.

V. Reggio discussed the appropriateness of the committee to request the Corps of Engineers to include certain information in permits they wish to have reviewed. Reggio and Reef agreed to define the steps they wish to Corps to address in their public notices and present them at the October meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

GULF AND SOUTH ATLANTIC SEAMAP COMMITTEES
JOINT MINUTES
August 26, 1987
Mayaguez, Puerto Rico

Walter Tatum
Disk: TV3
Joint Seamap minutes

SEAMAP-Gulf Chairman, Walter Tatum, called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

✓ Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Warren Stuntz, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Ken Savastano, NMFS, NSTL, MS
Buck Sutter, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Tom McIlwain, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Phil Bowman, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Wayne Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
J.Y. Christmas, GSMFC TCC Chairman, Ocean Springs, MS
J. Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Roger Puliese, SAFMC, Charleston, SC
✓ Mike Street, NCDMR, Morehead City, NC
David Cupka, SCWMRD, Charleston, SC
Bob Van Dolah, SCWMRD, Charleston, SC
George LaPointe, ASMFC, Washington, DC

Staff

Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP-Gulf Coordinator
Nikki Bane, SEAMAP-South Atlantic Coordinator
Eileen Benton, GSMFC Administrative Assistant

Others

Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Karen Jo Foote, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Perry Thompson, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Charlie Barans, SCWMRD, Charleston, SC
David Camp, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
G.P. Patil, Pennsylvania State University

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the joint meeting held in Biloxi, Mississippi, Monday, March 16, 1987 were approved as written.

The minutes of the SEAMAP-Gulf Conference Call held on Wednesday, June 3, 1987 were approved as written.

Overview of SEAMAP-South Atlantic Activities

A. Huff reported on the accomplishments of the South Atlantic Committee as follows:

- Organization of the Passive Gear Workshop
- Bottom-Mapping Study completed
- Meeting in Charleston with Program Review Team
- Trawl Calibration Study completed
- Formed a work group to study blue crabs
- Formed a passive gear work group, first meeting in January 1988
- North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia cooperative agreements are in place and began July 1
- Manuscript completed on Geryon crabs.

Overview of SEAMAP-Gulf Activities

W. Tatum reported on the activities of the SEAMAP-Gulf Subcommittee as follows:

- Completed four surveys including:
 - Squid/Butterfish Survey -- cruise objectives were to note differences between 123-ft Shuman trawls vs 80-ft trawls and between fishing vessels.
 - Spring Ichthyoplankton Survey -- cruise objective was to determine abundance and distribution of bluefin tuna eggs and larvae within FCZ.
 - Louisiana Spring Day/Night Trawl Survey -- R/V PELICAN took day/night trawl samples between the mouth of the Mississippi River and the Atchafalaya River out to 20 fm.
 - Summer Shrimp/Bottomfish Survey. Sampling strategy was to work from the eastern Gulf to the Texas/Mexico border sampling during or prior to migration of brown shrimp from bays to the open Gulf area.
- Work Groups that met after the March joint meeting included the Red Drum Work Group, Plankton Work Group, Environmental Data Work Group, Squid/Butterfish Work Group and the Shrimp/Bottomfish Work Group. In addition, the SEAMAP-Gulf Subcommittee held a conference call in June to outline the programmatic review.

- Plans for the two Polish plankton specialists have been finalized with arrival in New Orleans set for September 1.

Status of Publications

T. Van Devender reported on the status of publications for SEAMAP-Gulf as follows:

- Real-time data summaries began in June and were distributed for seven weeks. Mail out of approximately 260 summaries each week.
- SEAMAP Shipboard Handbook was developed and distributed to Subcommittee and those involved in cruises.
- SEAMAP Marine Directory is completed and currently at the printers. Anticipate distribution in the next two weeks.
- 1985 Environmental and Biological Atlas is in preliminary stages, anticipate publication by early 1988.

N. Bane reported on the following publications for the South Atlantic:

- Joint Annual Report will be published and distributed at the March GSMFC meeting.
- Trawl Calibration Final Report is completed and copies are available from N. Bane.
- Bottom Mapping Report is currently at the printers and will be distributed directly to agencies.
- Geryon Crab Report is in manuscript stage and the final should be ready within the next month.
- Proceedings on the Passive Gear Workshop is targeted for Winter 1987-88

* A discussion was held on the real-time data summaries. B. Barrett moved to place this item on the agenda for the October SEAMAP-Gulf meeting and requested that the Coordinator provide a breakdown of costs as well as locality of interested recipients. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Publication of a SEAMAP Quarterly Newsletter

M. Street stated that in order to give SEAMAP more exposure, he suggested that a joint newsletter be developed that would contain

upcoming meetings, cruise schedules, contact people for data, and a report on current publications. The recipients of the newsletter would consist of state agencies, Sea Grant, universities and marine laboratories, and possibly the Gulf and South Atlantic congressional delegations.

* M. Street moved that a joint quarterly newsletter of the SEAMAP programs be produced effective with the first calendar quarter of 1988. The initial mailing list would total 150-200 recipients. Seconded.

A discussion was held regarding the cost, personnel time and contents of the newsletter. M. Street noted that hopefully the results of the newsletter would be to increase the use of SEAMAP data and to increase participation at SEAMAP meetings.

B. Barrett requested that in addition to already discussed items, he would like to see information regarding cruises (dates, vessel, purpose of cruise, type of gear and location of samples). He noted that this would not necessarily have to be included in the newsletter, but perhaps a one-page formatted cruise report could be developed, completed by cruise participants, sent to the Coordinator for compilation and then distributed to Committee members.

* A substitute motion was accepted by M. Street, that a joint quarterly newsletter of the SEAMAP program be produced for two quarters. Costs and benefits could then be reassessed as to continuation of the joint newsletter. Seconded and passed unanimously.

W. Tatum, A. Huff, N. Bane and T. Van Devender will meet to develop the first SEAMAP quarterly newsletter format.

Status of Programmatic Review

A. Kemmerer reported that the external review team has prepared a draft review and will distribute ^{are} ~~(to those)~~ SEAMAP ad hoc review participants before a final report is complete. This would ensure that there ^{are} ~~is~~ no oversights or misinterpretations of facts. A. Kemmerer recommended that a conference call be set up in September to give comments on the review so that the final report can be distributed in late October.

Request for FY89 Increased Congressional Allocation for SEAMAP

A discussion was held on the need for an increased allocation for the SEAMAP program. N. Bane suggested that a joint resolution be passed and forwarded to the appropriate ^{joint}overseeing committees of SEAMAP (TCC and SA Management Board) to gain Commission endorsement. A document would have to be prepared identifying funds, success of program, challenges that remain unfilled and the proper cost in achieving those areas.

In addition to the discussion on the initiative the committees discussed the possibility of including the formation of SEAMAP-Caribbean.

The following action was taken:

* A. Huff moved that an initiative be started to develop a supplemental to the SEAMAP Executive Summary and that this document be prepared in order to obtain an increased Congressional allocation for FY1989. Seconded and passed unanimously.

* A. Huff moved that an ad hoc group be formed to develop the document. This membership would consist of: a representative from each of the two SEAMAP components, a representative from the Council and a representative from NMFS. Seconded and passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the committee that the two SEAMAP Chairmen be the representatives on the ad hoc committee.

* D. Cupka moved that the Chairmen of the existing program components discuss with the appropriate Caribbean officials whether or not they want possible involvement in the SEAMAP program initiative thereby being part of the basis for justifying additional funds. Seconded and passed unanimously.

* M. Street moved that this SEAMAP group provide guidance to the ad hoc committee charged to prepare the supplemental initiative by defining three priorities for the initiative. (Listed in order of priority) (1) improvement in the existing South Atlantic and Gulf SEAMAP component; (2) additional activities in the Gulf and South Atlantic as defined in their respective Operations Plan and (3) addition of a Caribbean SEAMAP component. Seconded.

After discussion on the reasons for prioritizing these items, a vote was taken. Motion failed 4-3.

* M. Street moved that the above motion be reconsidered as to providing the guidelines but deleting the prioritization. Seconded and passed with one opposing vote.

Determination of 1988 Joint Meeting

M. Street moved that the next joint SEAMAP meeting be held in the Washington, D.C. area with ASMFC hosting the meeting. Seconded and passed unanimously.

Status of FY88 State/Federal Funds

Proposed NMFS Activities and FY88 Budget Needs

A. Kemmerer distributed a report detailing funding comparisons between FY1986 and FY1987 and showing how funds were spent in FY87. In FY1988 he noted that the only reduction he is aware of is the 5% congressional cut. He anticipates no NOAA reduction. NMFS requirement for FY1988 is \$275,000.

Proposed Gulf Activities and Budget Needs

Proposed South Atlantic Activities and Budget Needs

*Moved to
top of
pg. 2*

W. Tatum reported the following budget requirements for the SEAMAP-Gulf component:

GSMFC	\$ 98,000
Texas	46,000
Louisiana	123,000
Mississippi	114,000
Alabama	85,000
Florida	<u>77,000</u>
 TOTAL	 \$543,000

N. Bane reported the following budget requirements for the South Atlantic component:

Administration	\$ 30,000
Bottom Mapping	95,000 (includes cost of data management module)
Shallow-Trawling	165,000
Florida Cost	20,000 (includes archiving and data compilation)
TOTAL	<u> </u> \$310,000

The three groups' budget requirements exceeded the congressional allocation by \$178,000. Therefore, it was necessary for the three groups to meet independently to try and reduce budget requirements.

A. Kemmerer reported that no adjustments could be made in NMFS budget, therefore NMFS requests \$275,000.

N. Bane reported that the following adjustments would be made in the South Atlantic budget:

Data Management Module - cut	\$5,000
Bottom-Mapping project - cut	\$25,000
Trawl Calibration Study - cut	\$15,000
Florida data compilation - cut	\$6,000
TOTAL REDUCTION	<u>\$51,000</u>

W. Tatum reported that the Gulf would drop the squid/butterfish work, resulting in a \$43,000 cut.

The results of the independent meetings still put the SEAMAP budget \$84,000 over the congressional allocation.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of adjusting the budget year for some of the South Atlantic states. It was noted that this would involve rescheduling and planning of the South Atlantic's activities, however it could possibly alleviate the \$84,000 overbudget amount. This would result in the following budgeted amounts for FY1988:

NMFS	\$275,000
Gulf	500,000
South Atlantic	<u>175,000</u>
TOTAL	\$950,000

W. Tatum noted that since details would have to be worked out for the South Atlantic he requested that the Committees consider a "gentlemen's agreement" that they would try and work out details of changing some of their cooperative agreements' fiscal years and to keep in mind that the Gulf will have to submit their cooperative agreements on October 1 based on the above outlined budget.

Other Business

W. Tatum requested that the Gulf members vote on requests from the Plankton Work Group as follows:

- Requests that Joanne Shultz be appointed Work Group Leader
- Requests that Don Hoss replace Bill Richards on the work group
- * A. Huff moved to accept requests from the Plankton Work Group.

Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

MARFIN Program Management Board
Tuesday, September 1/
Wednesday, September 2, 1987
MINUTES
Biloxi, Mississippi



The meeting held in the Broadwater Beach Hotel was called to order at 1:04 pm by Chairman Tom Murray. The following were in attendance:

Members

Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Tom Murray, GASAFDFI, Tampa, FL
Wayne E. Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
William S. "Corky" Perret, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, LA
Jim Jones, Sea Grant (designee), Ocean Springs, MS
*Ralph Rayburn, Commercial Industry (designee), Austin, TX
Bob Ditton, Recreational Industry, College Station, TX
Jean Martin-West, NOAA, Kansas City, MO

Staff

Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lucia Hourihan, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Kathy Hensley, NOAA, Washington, DC
Dan Furlong, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
**J.Y. Christmas, GSMFC/TCC, Ocean Springs, MS

*Attendance on September 1 only.

**Attendance on September 2 only.

Adoption of Agenda

The tentative agenda was amended by deleting the first item as the 86 Executive Summary was not completed and by moving the last item (Development of FY88 funding priorities) to be the second item covered. The agenda was adopted as amended.

Adoption of Minutes

T. Murray asked that every project reviewed by the PMB in the first round elimination be referenced in the minutes. There was discussion regarding whether or not makers of motions need to be identified in the minutes. W. Swingle suggested that the summary minutes be amended to

not identify makers of motions as the tapes stand as the official record. D. Ekberg will research the legality of so doing. A motion was made to hold approval of the minutes until the next PMB meeting at which time guidance could be given by SERO regarding the legalities. The motion carried.

The minutes of the meeting held July 15-16, 1987 in Tampa, Florida were tabled.

Status of 87 MARFIN Projects

J. West reported that as of August 31 all proposals and any information or changes requested from recipients had been received in the office. A problem with response coming in from the program officers was discussed. Six proposals have been sent forward to the legal office and West said that Legal is happy with the proposals coming in staggered rather than all at once. West stated her goal was to have all proposals out of the office by September 4. FARB has been made aware that these proposals are coming and knows that awards should be made by September 30.

There was discussion on program officer responsibilities and time constraints. A suggestion was made that the same persons within NMFS who review projects be selected to monitor those projects.

K. Hensley informed members that she saw no problems with awards being made by September 30. She stated FARB's objective is to get everything out that is received by them at least two days before the end of the fiscal year and they have even worked at night on things which have come in on the last day.

Development of FY88 Funding Priorities

D. Ekberg pointed out that there were two major items in the draft Operations Plan, development of a matrix and the review process, which should be discussed by all PMB members if possible. Ekberg and N. Bane proposed a process to set priorities for the various fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico which would require the PMB to develop a matrix grouping research units into four categories. These four groupings would then be ranked with regard to biology, socioeconomics, management studies, and

other requirements. Following considerable discussion of this approach it was decided by consensus to take last year's Federal Register notice and expand and refine it for this year.

Section II (Funding Priorities) of the Federal Register notice was discussed and amended. Most changes were made by general consensus. The resultant draft in order of species discussed is as follows:

Shrimp. (1) Development of improved gear efficiency, on-board handling, grading, sorting and preservation methods, (2) determination of social and economic impact of turtle excluder devices (TED's), (3) economic evaluation of alternative harvesting (other than otter trawls), handling and processing systems, (4) identification of types of fishing vessels and gear now in use, trends in this fleet characterization, and use of shrimp trawlers in other fisheries, (5) characterization (catch, effort, size, etc.) and determination of economic impacts of the bait shrimping industry, (6) characterization (catch, effort, size, etc.) and determination of economic impacts of recreational shrimping, and (7) assessment of impact of imported shrimp on domestic price structure and the economics of the domestic industry.

Menhaden. (1) Economic enhancement of products (surimi, oil, and food additives) for human consumption, and (2) prey predator relationships.

Coastal Pelagics. (1) Determination of recruitment indices for king and Spanish mackerel, (2) identification of king and Spanish mackerel management units, (3) development of methods to solve problems between recreational and commercial fishermen, and (4) economic analysis of fishing strategies to harvest blue runners, little tunny, and related species.

The PMB deferred discussion of reef reef in order to cover marine mollusks before C. Perret had to leave the meeting. Perret expressed the wishes of the five Gulf States marine agency directors to see research on oyster depuration, expanding oyster grounds, and indicator organisms for openings and closures of areas. He stated that the American eel is also gaining interest in Louisiana.

The first day's session adjourned at 5:09 pm.

Wednesday, September 2, 1987

Chairman Murray called the meeting to order at 8:04 am. J. West informed members that five more MARFIN projects had gone forward on September 1.

Development of FY88 Funding Priorities

The process of expanding and refining the Federal Register notice was resumed.

Marine mollusks. (1) Development of methods for onshore and offshore oyster depuration systems, and (2) development of guidelines for oyster reef expansion and rehabilitation.

Crabs and Lobsters. (1) Determination of safe harvest potential for deepwater crabs, (2) development of limited access system for stone crab fishery, and (3) development of methods to quantify the recreational blue crab fishery.

Reef Fish. (1) Determination of methods to solve problems of competition between commercial and recreational fishermen and methods to solve problems, (2) determination of recruitment processes for shallow and deepwater reef fish, (3) development of a limited entry system for reef fish, (4) identification of reef fish management units, and (5) development of methods to solve problems between recreational and commercial fishermen.

Coastal Herrings. (1) Handling and processing, shoreside methods, and product development (2) resource surveys and gear development, (3) economic analysis of harvesting, handling, and processing systems, and (4) predator-prey relationships -- particularly recreational and commercial impacts.

Ocean Pelagics. (1) Development of selective fishing gear and longline methods, (2) determination of socioeconomic impacts of alternative fishing methods, and (3) development of methods to determine recreational fishing participation.

A suggestion was made to list projects (titles) which were funded last year for all categories and dollar amounts for categories in order to convey to potential proposers what work was being done. It was decided to show a break out of dollars by major category for the last two years.

Bottomfish. (1) Assessment of impact of shrimp trawling on bottomfish stocks, (2) determination of yield potentials, stock estimates, and life history of Gulf butterfish, (3) development of methods to reduce incidental catch of bottomfish, (4) assessment of biologic, social, and economic impacts of incidental catch reduction.

The use of MARFIN monies for marine mammals and endangered species including TED-related research was questioned and discussed. It was stated that the most critical problem in the Gulf now is sea turtles and it is having more of an economic impact on fisheries than anything else.

A motion was made that the PMB indicate in the Federal Register notice MARFIN's continuing commitment to marine mammals and endangered species but that at this time new proposals are not sought. The motion failed for lack of a second.

* A motion was made to leave item 1 under marine mammals and endangered species and add an item 2: assessment of non-shrimping mortalities of sea turtles. The motion was seconded. The PMB discussed using opportunities to reduce project costs. The motion was amended and wording changed to read (1) Assessment of non-shrimping mortality of sea turtles using available data, and (2) development of methods to survey endangered sea turtles using platforms of opportunity, such as aircraft or vessels in use for other projects. The amended motion carried.

The remaining priority areas were changed by consensus.

Estuarine Fish. (1) Stock assessment and identification (occurrence of separate stocks) of red drum, (2) improve estimates of age structures and catch of red and black drum, (3) enhance knowledge of red drum life history and offshore recruitment, (4) social and economic analysis in support of fisheries management, (5) development of socioeconomic aspects of alternative fishing strategies such as purse seines versus gill nets, and (6) determination of methods to develop eel fishery.

General. (1) Conduct social and economic research applicable to each Gulf of Mexico fishery.

It was decided by consensus to add the first paragraph (concerning priorities) from page 3-85 of the MARFIN document to the Federal Register notice. A suggestion was made that D. Ekberg develop a list of documents which serve as a background for MARFIN and their source for distribution to interested parties upon request.

The Federal Register notice will state that approximately \$2.5 million is available for financial assistance, which includes \$68,000 for continuing projects. Cost sharing requirements were discussed. Investigators who list in-kind support on proposals must account for those monies. Clarification will be put in statements of responsibility.

K. Hensley stated two points that everyone should be aware of: (1) any equipment bought with grant funds, title vests in the Federal Government unless legislation says otherwise. (2) A102 for states and local governments has been revised and published in the Federal Register. Final publication is expected in March of 1988 and if it stands as now written will significantly change equipment and procurement standards.

The draft priority listing for the Federal Register notice will be sent to PMB members by September 11. Members should return comments by September 18. The goal of the SERO is to have the notice out of their office by October 1, 1987.

Operations Plan Discussion

Due to time constraints of members it was decided to address those factors which affect the RFP. Program evaluation criteria were discussed. K. Hensley requested that the PMB use DAO 203-26 (Department of Commerce Grants Administration) when developing evaluation criteria. She will supply copies. DAO 203-26 is very explicit on award selection criteria and what is to appear in the public notice. N. Bane said that where specifics apply those specifics will be quoted in the Operations Plan.

The conflict of interest issue was discussed at length. D. Ekberg and N. Bane will outline the controls and the actual steps involved in the review process and how the PMB fits into that process. W. Swingle was appointed to spend one half-day reviewing the documentation of the evaluation process as written by Ekberg and Bane before the end of September. PMB members were encouraged to submit any comments on the Operations Plan to Ekberg. He and Bane will continue work on the draft which will be discussed at the next PMB meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 8-9, 1987
Gulf Shores, Alabama

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, September 8 and 9, 1987
Gulf Shores, Alabama

The meeting was called to order by R. Williams, Chairman, at 10:30 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Members

Jerry Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Joe Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Alex Jernigan, FCA, Islamorada, FL
Walter Tatum, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Eugene Nakamura, NMFS, Panama City, FL
Roy Williams, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

J.Y. Christmas, Chairman, TCC
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Brad Durling, GCCA, Lillian, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the subcommittee following a request by R. Lukens that a vice-chairman be elected.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of May 28, 1987 at Gulf Shores, Alabama were adopted unanimously.

Election of Vice-Chairman

Walter Tatum was unanimously elected as vice-chairman of the TCC Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee.

State Updates

Florida - R. Williams reported that FMFC adopted Spanish mackerel measures as adopted by the Councils. Those measures will be official when passed by the Governor and Cabinet. He also discussed the allocation for the Atlantic coast, the Gulf coast (peninsula), and the Florida Panhandle.

Alabama - W. Tatum discussed the adoption of 3½" gill net mesh for Alabama's front beach area. The recreational creel survey will be discontinued as of October 1, 1987. A more limited program will be initiated as a follow-up. W. Tatum said that the effects of management measures instituted in Florida can be felt in Alabama. Tatum said that the Department would not be in favor of adopting a three fish bag limit, but would be in favor of a somewhat higher bag limit, perhaps ten.

Mississippi - R. Waller stated that there were good anecdotal reports from recreational fishermen stating that Spanish mackerel were abundant. Currently no management measures exist for Spanish mackerel in Mississippi except a commercial size limit of 14 inch FL and the gill net mesh sizes that exist. Waller discussed the legislative mandate that the Mississippi Bureau of Marine Resources derive MSY for all recreational and commercial species in Mississippi by ~~either~~ 1988 ^{or to} 1990.

Louisiana - J. Shepard stated that the LDWF adopted a 14 inch TL size limit on Spanish mackerel effective September 23, 1987. Louisiana has 3½ inch mesh (stretch) for all commercial nets other than purse seines which are legal for menhaden only. Shepard indicated catching a lot of small (young of the year) Spanish mackerel in their samples suggesting a strong year class. A. Jernigan wanted to know why states implement mesh sizes and size limits together if mesh sizes are intended to regulate the size of fish you catch. Discussion ensued and it was determined that most states do that, but it is important to note that mesh size affect other species as well as Spanish mackerel.

Texas - Texas was not represented at the meeting.

Review of the Plan by Section

The draft Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan was reviewed page by page. Discussions of the Subcommittee led to significant editorial changes in the draft Plan. R. Lukens will continue to review literature and confer individually with Subcommittee members and incorporate changes into the next draft. R. Williams will rewrite sections 3.7, 3.8 and 3.9 for review by the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee was unable to review section 6.0 or further due to time constraints, and consequently, it was decided that R. Lukens and

R. Williams would get together to complete the review process, the results of which would be made available to the Subcommittee for review.

Discussion of Regulatory Aspects of the Plan

After considerable discussion of the existing state and federal regulations, the Subcommittee began to formulate possible management measures for consideration in the proposed GSMFC FMP. A copy of ~~the~~ ^{discussed} two options ~~decided upon~~ is appended to these minutes.

Future Tasks

The Subcommittee will provide further thoughts and direction on management measures at the next meeting.

R. Lukens will provide complete scenarios of the two options discussed by plugging in theoretical numbers for TAC and determining historical catch levels. Discussion of this document will take place at the next meeting.

It is the goal of the Subcommittee to have a completed draft copy of the "profile" segment of the Plan available at the October meeting.

Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the TCC Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee is scheduled for October 19, 1987 in Key West, Florida in conjunction with the GSMFC fall meeting.

Other Business

No other business was addressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. on September 9, 1987.

SPANISH MACKEREL MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Option 1

1. Set fishing year.
2. Stock Assessment Panel sets TAC.
3. Allocate state quotas -- based on combined historical landings of commercial and recreational sectors.
4. Individual states suballocate within the state:
 - A. Set gear restrictions
 - B. Set quotas
 - C. Set bag limits.
5. States close their fishery when state allocation is reached.

Option 2

1. Set fishing year.
2. Stock Assessment Panel sets TAC.
3. Allocate recreational and commercial quotas for the Gulf.
4. Define incidental catch as 500 lb or less in any one trip.
5. From commercial allocation, subtract historical incidental catch (Gulf-wide) from TAC.
6. Develop suballocation for the Florida peninsula at 80% and the rest of the Gulf at 20%.
7. Institute Gulf-wide minimum stretch mesh of 3½ inches for the directed harvest.
8. Incidental catches do not count toward the suballocations, but are deducted from the TAC the following fishing year.
9. As the suballocation for each area is reached, the fishery would be closed.
10. Calculate historical percentage of recreational landings by state.
11. Set each state recreational subquota from the Gulf quota based on the historical percentage of landings of that state.
12. Set Gulf-wide bag limits.
13. As each state's recreational subquota is reached the recreational fishery in that state would be closed.

10
TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Friday, September 25, 1987
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Ocean Springs, Mississippi

APPROVED BY:

Walter Tatum
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

A special budget meeting was called by the Subcommittee Chairman, Walter Tatum and scheduled for Friday, September 25, 1987.

The following members were present:

Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Staff

Larry Simpson, Executive Director
V.K. Herring, Executive Assistant
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator

Others

Karen Foote, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Perry Thompson, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Andrew Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS

The Chairman convened the meeting at 11:10 a.m. and in opening remarks noted that the entire meeting would be devoted to discussion of program and budget needs for FY88.

The Coordinator distributed to Subcommittee members draft copies of the National Status and Trends (Cycle I) Benthic Surveillance Project report produced by the NMFS Beaufort Laboratory.

Complete minutes from the joint SEAMAP-Gulf and South Atlantic meeting held in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico will be distributed for approval prior to the next joint SEAMAP meeting, tentatively scheduled for early March 1988; however a preliminary FY88 budget breakdown for state/ commission/federal funds was distributed to Subcommittee members (attachment).

At the Chair's suggestion a state-by-state presentation of program plans and budget needs was made by participants. With a reduction of FY88 funds available to the SEAMAP-Gulf component, squid/butterfish activities were omitted from NMFS, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana plans. Discussion was held on Louisiana's plans to sort ichthyoplankton

samples in-house, according to standard SEAMAP protocols. An additional \$5K was requested for this activity. Following a discussion of invertebrate sorting costs at the Polish Sorting Center, budgeted at \$5K during FY87, D. Waller moved to fund Louisiana's request with a corresponding reduction in the NMFS funding level. The motion was seconded and passed.

The following FY88 appropriations for SEAMAP-Gulf participants were agreed upon by consensus of the Subcommittee:

GSMFC	\$ 95,000
Texas	45,000
Louisiana	118,000
Mississippi	101,000
Alabama	69,000
Florida	77,000
Total SEAMAP Gulf	<u>\$505,000</u>
 NMFS	 \$270,000

During a working lunch, A. Kemmerer presented a brief report on the SEAMAP Program Review Plan meeting held September 23, 1987 in Atlanta, Georgia, with a more detailed overview to be presented at the October meeting.

The need for a method to better track actual SEAMAP survey activities, by participant was discussed. Use of a standard NMFS cruise log or state cruise reports would allow for distribution of sampling activities and areas to state and federal agencies and interested researchers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

SEAMAP BUDGET COMPARISON
FY 1987 and FY 1988 (Proposed)

August 1987

	<u>AMOUNT (\$K)</u>		
<u>Allocation</u>	<u>FY 1986</u>	<u>FY 1987</u>	<u>FY 1988</u>
Appropriation	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
Reductions	<u>40.0</u>	<u>55.6</u>	<u>50.0</u>
Available Funds	<u>960.0</u>	<u>944.4</u>	<u>950.0</u>
National Marine Fisheries Service	303.7	262.0	275.0
Gulf of Mexico States			
Commission (includes \$2.5K for passive gear workshop)	93.1	98.5	95.0
Texas	46.1	46.0	46.0
Louisiana	118.6	118.0	113.0
Mississippi (includes SIPAC)	107.8	114.0	101.0
Alabama	78.4	75.0	69.0
Florida	<u>73.1</u>	<u>77.0</u>	<u>77.0</u>
Subtotal	517.1	528.5	501.0
South Atlantic States			
Commission	20.0*	30.0*	
Florida	9.8	12.0	
Georgia	29.4	5.0	
South Carolina	60.8	108.9**	
North Carolina	<u>39.2</u>	<u>35.0</u>	
Subtotal	139.2	160.9	175.0

* Funds carried over from FY 1985 (not included in subtotal).

** Includes Passive Gear Workshop.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, October 19, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman Larry Nicholson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
The following persons were in attendance:

Members

Gary Saul, TPWD, Austin, TX
Frank Richardson, FWS, Atlanta, GA
I.B. Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Jim Barkuloo, FWS, Panama City, FL
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Staff

Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

Mike Hightower, TX A&M Sea Grant
Gary Edwards, FWS, Washington, DC
Bob Sousa, FWS, Washington, DC
Dick Applegate, FWS, Albuquerque, NM
John Cirino, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Austin Magill, NMFS, Washington, DC
Lou Villanova, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Bob Cooke, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Tom Backman, FWS, Washington, DC

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held in Biloxi, Mississippi were approved as written.

Discussion of "Habitat Criteria" Project

G. Saul stated that in Texas river systems there are 31 USGS gaging stations downstream of the most seaward dam. L. Nicholson asked that G. Saul go through the steps he took to compile the data that he had provided toward the "Habitat Criteria" project so that the others could benefit from it. Saul also provided a format to follow in putting the data together. Data is important in these categories: 1) eggs, 2) larvae, 3) juveniles, and 4) adults, because different parameters are

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Others

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Bob Sousa, FWS, Washington, DC
Dick Applegate, FWS, Albuquerque, NM
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Austin Magill, NMFS, Washington, DC
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Tom Backman, FWS, Washington, DC

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significant for each category. Variables within each category, as per the original proposal, are temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and stream velocity. Saul indicated that a good way to look at the data was to determine how frequently and at what times of the year are specific parameter requirements of striped bass violated. In Texas the critical time period for eggs is March through May, for larvae March through June, for juveniles and adults the whole year.

L. Nicholson reminded the group that it was the choice of each state representative to choose the river systems within that state that would be addressed by this study. Lukens suggested that the format used by Saul to this point should be adopted by the other committee members so that the data would be developed the same way. Lukens then discussed the information provided by M. Powell from Alabama. Saul indicated that there needed to be some uniform mechanism for selecting river systems to address. It was reiterated that it was up to each state representative to make that selection, based on ability to do the work.

Nicholson asked representatives of FWS if it may be feasible to get an extension on the March 1, 1988 deadline for the project. It was deemed feasible but not necessarily a good idea.

A. Magill said that he would provide to Lukens copies of the emergency striped bass research studies which address pollutants affecting striped bass. Nicholson indicated that chemists at GCRL were able to isolate a series of chemical compounds that were of interest to the project but it later became clear that the source of the data relative to those chemicals (USGS "Storette") would not be adequate for the purposes of the project.

G. Saul indicated that the USGS data provides river discharge figures while velocity is more pertinent to the study. He asked if there was any way to get velocity figures from the discharge calculations. Lukens said he would pursue that, and Saul said he would write a letter requesting that data.

L. Nicholson indicated that each state representative needs to get the latitude and longitude location of the most seaward dam on each river system which is to be analyzed. Also the number of riverine miles

is important. Nicholson directed the committee to have materials to R. Lukens by the end of December.

Discussion of "Thermal Refuge" Proposal

R. Lukens began the discussion of the proposal to identify striped bass thermal refuges in coastal streams and rivers. Copies of the proposal were provided to the entire committee. Several questions relating to the acquisition of the data were raised, such as does the remote sensing unit which is proposed to measure only surface water and why is the survey proposed for winter when the target is to look for isolated cold water pockets. Lukens, after having met with a representative of NASA to discuss the remote sensing technique, was able to clarify much of the concern. B. Byrd raised the concern that the remote sensing technique might be untested to the point that it may produce more problems in locating thermal refuges than it would solve. Also the return for the cost might be a problem. Lukens explained that the technique is well developed and applied in many other disciplines, but it has not yet been applied in fisheries management. Another major concern was raised by G. Saul that if thermal refuges are located and fish are concentrated at those sites, the fishing public may learn of the sites and significantly impact striped bass populations. It was suggested that management agencies would have to play a role in protecting the resource.

Lukens then discussed the budget for the proposal, and it was suggested by the Subcommittee that the proposal be tabled for future discussion so that Lukens would have an opportunity to investigate other techniques that might be more reasonably priced. J. Barkuloo indicated that there was a new heat sensitive infrared film now available that may be suitable for this purpose.

Election of Chairman

It was agreed by the Subcommittee that Larry Nicholson would continue to act as chairman.

Other Business

F. Richardson indicated that the FWS was currently reviewing their policy on striped bass and asked that the Program Coordinator send copies out to the Subcommittee.

F. Richardson also suggested that Gary Edwards of the FWS update the Subcommittee on the development of the National Recreational Fisheries Policy. Edwards indicated that a document outline had been finalized and a first draft was soon to be completed. It would then be sent out for public review in the Federal Register. After all subsequent revisions are made, the document will be considered for adoption at a conference to be held in Washington, DC during the 1988 National Fishing Week celebrations. Ultimately, it is intended that the Policy be ratified by Congress and the President of the United States.

Austin Magill briefly discussed the emergence of a group called the United Sport Fishermen, which consists of a representative from the major conservation and recreational fishing organizations around the country. That group has been discussing future directions of recreational fisheries management with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

G. Edwards suggested that the Subcommittee members think about ways in which the FWS can better assist the states in their striped bass restoration efforts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, October 19, 1987
Key West, Florida

TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, October 19, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman Henry G. "Skip" Lazauski called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Henry G. "Skip" Lazauski, AMR, Dauphin Island, AL
Albert Jones, NMFS, Miami, FL
Joey Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Frank "Stu" Kennedy, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Maury Osburn, TPWD, Austin, TX

Staff

Eileen M. Benton, Administrative Assistant

Others

Tom Dawley, NMFS, New Orleans, LA
Gary Kinkle, NMFS, Miami, FL
John Poffenberger, NMFS, Miami, FL
B.G. Thompson, NMFS, Washington, DC
Ernie Snell, NMFS, Miami, FL
Ken Harris, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Mary Anne Treadway, NMFS Miami, FL
Carole Goodyear, NMFS, Miami, FL
Lloyd Muccio, NMFS, Miami, FL

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written with one change in order of items; Item 4 to be discussed after Item 5.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held in New Orleans, LA, on Tuesday, October 14, 1986 were approved as written.

The minutes of the meeting held in Biloxi, MS, on March 16, 1987 were approved as written with one abstention.

Cooperative Tagging Program Presentation

N. Bane reported that the Cooperative Tagging Program is very close to completion and introduced Carole Goodyear and Lloyd Menico to give a brief presentation on the program.

C. Goodyear reported that the main objective of the program design has been intergration. They have worked to integrate into one single

database the records from the existing cooperative gamefish program with the data from the new cooperative research program. They tried to integrate the varied parameters from a number of different projects into a comprehensive database that will be easy to use for data analysis by all participants and have worked to integrate both the present data and the past historic data into a system that will be useful in the future without major modification. The results of the effort have been 1) a main database that contains the variables that were of primary interest to most of the users and 2) a custom design data entry process. L. Menico proceeded to give a step-by-step guide to using the system including a few examples of how the database could be used.

A discussion followed the presentation with the following topics discussed:

- (1) Telecommunications
- (2) Data Storage problems -- anticipated no problems
- (3) Timeliness of data and person responsible for coordination of system
- (4) States (Texas and Florida) have sufficient system at present time however might consider in future.
- (5) Confidentiality of system

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Subcommittee unanimously approved the motion for H. Lazauski as Chairman and F. Kennedy as Vice-Chairman.

Confidential Statistics

A. Jones presented and distributed a statement on confidential fishery statistics which contained language which will meet the new regulations and will essentially establish the agreement between each State and NMFS. He noted that if this language is included in the cooperative agreement document and procedures followed then this would be in accordance with the law.

A. Jones stated that for those cooperative agreements where equivalency has been established by a legal determination with NOAA General Counsel then:

- (1) identify such in the document with the supporting documentation
- (2) identify in document that this is a grantee situation
- (3) identify the person on the State side who is responsible for protection of data (generally, the state fisheries statistician)
- (4) identify that person at the State level who will be responsible for selecting the person in the State who is involved with confidential data collecting, processing, or assessing and obtaining a signed statement from each of the people who are accessing the information.

This procedure will comply with the new regulations.

1988 Cooperative Statistics Program

A. Jones reported that the State-Federal Workshop was held the week of June 8 in Miami; among items presented were a hands-on data management workshop, data collection sessions, and grants administration sessions.

A. Jones also informed the Subcommittee on the chain of command for the cooperative program as follows:

- (1) Area supervisors
- (2) Mary Anne Treadway, Data Management Support
- (3) Nikki Bane, Program Officer
- (4) Ernie Snell, Chief of Statistics
- (5) John Poffenberger, Division Chief
- (6) Al Jones, Office Director

A. Jones distributed and reviewed a proposed FY1990 SEFC Initiative and a proposed Resolution of Cooperative Fishery Statistics. He requested that the Subcommittee consider and approve the resolution and forward to the TCC for acceptance.

A discussion was held concerning the need for additional funding and the need for emphasizing program design.

* Motion was made to present the resolution (including modifications; see attached) to the TCC and that the Data Management Subcommittee start developing support documentation for the proposed resolution. Passed with one opposing vote.

Data Management

M. Treadway reported that they have been working hard on the tagging system and are going to begin work revamping the TIP system. She noted that they are hoping to produce a document that will list the purpose of TIP, why it was conceived, and problems currently with the program. She anticipates the results of the initial system analysis of TIP by the March 1988 meeting.

The contact person for retrieving TIP data will continue to be Jim Ziefel and/or John Poffenberger. She also noted that the backlog on TIP data is caught-up and on-line.

The Subcommittee concurred on the fine accomplishments that the data management department has obtained.

Discussion of the Data Management Subcommittee's New Role/ Responsibilities

H. Lazauski reported that at the March 1987 GSMFC meeting, the TCC passed a motion to expand the Statistical Subcommittee's jurisdiction and authority to include review and oversight of all data management activities and statistics within the GSMFC.

He also reported that the TCC passed a motion to change the Statistical Subcommittee's name to the Data Management Subcommittee. The Subcommittee concurred with the TCC's motion.

* Motion was made and passed to change the Subcommittee's name to the Statistics and Data Management Subcommittee.

A discussion was held concerning the new role of the Subcommittee and the Subcommittee concurred that it was the Subcommittee's role to review the use and sources of data in formulating management plans in making stock assessments.

Pending Items by Texas

Proprietary Data

M. Osburn proposed to make this an agenda item for the March 1988 meeting. She requested that members bring statements on their basic rules for proprietary data (who publishes it? who do you give it to? etc.)

Letter to National Statistics Review Committee

M. Osburn reported that at the time this letter was discussed, the Subcommittee agreed that there was problems with the National

Recreational Survey but failed to submit suggestions to her. Texas, however pursued this on their own, sending a letter to Mark Holiday and noting their concerns with the recreational survey.

The Subcommittee discussed the National Recreational Survey and agreed to hold a workshop on the Survey pending participation by associates of the Survey. This workshop is scheduled to be held at the GSMFC March 1988 meeting and it was also agreed that if this workshop was to be held at a different time, funding would be required for participants.

B.G. Thompson noted that he would try to put together a outline of the presentation and forward to the Subcommittee for comment before the March presentation.

Other Business

D. Gregory stated that he attended a Data Processing Advisory Committee that the SEFC convened in February 1985. He noted that it involved representatives from NMFS laboratories, sea grant, states and councils and that he would like the Subcommittee to recommend another meeting of the Advisory Committee.

M. Treadway suggested that perhaps SEFC could extend the June meeting and coincide her data management meeting with the June workshop. A. Jones and M. Treadway will explore this possibly and report back to the Subcommittee in March. They also requested that the Subcommittee submit agenda topics to H. Lazauski. H. Lazauski will also contact the Atlantic States members for their input.

F. Kennedy reviewed the NMFS Initiative which was distributed previously in the meeting. He noted that if additional funding is obtained, he would agree with a portion going to the Marine Recreational Survey, however he disagrees with it being a permanent portion of the additional funding. The Subcommittee further discussed the Marine Recreational Survey, but took no action.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING COOPERATIVE FISHERY STATISTICS

WHEREAS, Fishery resources of the Gulf and southern Atlantic states are the basis of important recreational and commercial fisheries which are vital to the economies of many local communities, and

WHEREAS, Increasing concern has been expressed about the health and continued productivity of many of these resources, and

WHEREAS, State and Federal agencies have been tasked with the responsibility of safeguarding these resources and managing their utilization for the benefit of all citizens, and

WHEREAS, State and Federal agencies have joined efforts in the Cooperative Fishery Statistics Program to collect the fishery-dependent data essential for management of these resources, and

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Statistics Program is currently unable to meet the present requirements for statistical information because of an increased work load resulting from a growing number of fisheries requiring management, without a concomitant funding increase since its inception in 1982, and

WHEREAS, Funding to adequately address these data needs is unlikely to be secured through existing State and Federal budgets,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission/Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1. Acknowledge the need for the Cooperative Statistics Program to expand its data collection activities, and
2. Urge State and Federal agencies to support a resolution seeking increased funding for collection of fishery statistics through their respective organizations, and
3. Request NMFS to take a cooperative role with the Data Management and Statistical Committees of the Commissions in the coordination of fishery data collection efforts, in order to maximize the efficient use of existing and such added resources as may result from this resolution.

Walter Tatum

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, October 19, 1987
Key West, Florida

Walter Tatum, SEAMAP Subcommittee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members and guests were present:

Members

Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Jerry Clark (proxy for G. Matlock), TPWD, Austin, TX
J. Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Dick Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
J.Y. Christmas, TCC Chairman, Ocean Springs, MS

Staff

Larry Simpson, GSMFC Executive Director
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator

Others

Andrew J. Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Phil Bowman, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Ken Savastano, NMFS, NSTL, MS
Tom McIlwain, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Nikki Bane, NMFS, Miami, FL
Joanne Shultz, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Terrance R. Leary, GMFMC, St. Petersburg, FL
Eugene Nakamura, NMFS, Panama City, FL
Randy Edwards, Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL
Russell Thompson, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes for the last Subcommittee meeting on September 25, 1987 in Ocean Springs, Mississippi were discussed. On page 2, the fourth line, the words "to fund Louisiana's request with" were omitted and the corrected minutes accepted.

Administrative Report

The Coordinator presented an Administrative Report through September 30, 1987. It was noted that from remaining funds (\$22,333.83) expected expenses before December 31, 1987 included two work group

meetings, the present Subcommittee meeting, and publication of the 1987 Joint SEAMAP-Gulf and South Atlantic Annual Report, and of the 1985 SEAMAP Atlas.

SEAMAP publications to date include:

- 1987 SEAMAP Marine Directory
- Annual Report to the TCC
- Sciaenops - the monthly newsletter on red drum research activities
- SEAMAP Operations Manual - for shipboard procedures
- Data Management System Requirements Document
- Data Management System Design Study

A trial quarterly SEAMAP "newsletter," covering activities for both the Gulf and South Atlantic programs is planned for distribution in January and April 1988.

Status of FY88 Funds

A. Kemmerer presented a proposed SEAMAP Budget Summary for the Gulf, South Atlantic and NMFS allocations. Based on an appropriation of \$1,000K and an assumed reduction of \$50K, the remaining monies would be allocated at \$270K to NMFS; \$505K to SEAMAP-Gulf; and \$175K to the South Atlantic program.

At the special SEAMAP budget meeting in September, Gulf participants agreed to proposed funding of:

Gulf States Commission	\$ 95,000
Texas	45,000
Louisiana	118,000
Mississippi	101,000
Alabama	69,000
Florida	77,000

(Florida receives additional \$14K from South Atlantic Program)

A. Kemmerer noted that if Congress cannot pass a federal budget by January 1, funding of all programs under a "continuing resolution" situation may result in only partial funding, i.e. quarterly, for all Cooperative State/Federal programs - including SEAMAP.

Status of FY88 Cooperative Agreements

SEAMAP Program Officer, N. Bane, reported that FY88 Cooperative Agreements for Louisiana, Alabama and the Commission had been received and were in the review process. All states were urged to complete their applications within the next two weeks to allow for necessary federal review processes and still receive funding by the January 1, 1988 start-up date.

Cooperative Tagging Program Presentation

The Subcommittee jointed the meeting of the Data Management Subcommittee for a demonstration and presentation of the proposed Cooperative Tagging System by the NMFS Miami Laboratory. A detailed report on the software programs developed and their application for red drum, king mackerel and other tagging programs was given by Carol Goodyear and Lloyd Muccio. It was noted that much of the design of the interactive system was based on the SEAMAP Data Management System design.

Passive Gear Workshop

The Gulf and South Atlantic coordinators presented a report on the Passive Gear Assessment Workshop held August 27 and 28, 1987 in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, in conjunction with the Puerto Rico Sea Grant Program. Three major sessions totaling 14 presentations and panel discussions were held over the two-day workshop. Publication of the Proceedings is planned for the spring of 1988. The Chairman noted that at the joint meeting an invitation was issued by the Gulf and South Atlantic SEAMAP programs to the Caribbean group to form a Caribbean SEAMAP component.

Work Group Reports

Shrimp/Bottomfish Work Group

P. Bowman reported on the August 13, 1987 work group meeting to plan the Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey. Additional items recommended:

- update the SEAMAP Operations Manual;
- continue day/night trawling;

- identical survey designs for Spring and Fall surveys, thus shortening the Fall survey;
- reaffirm the use of 16-ft trawls for sampling areas 5 fm and shoreward; and 40-ft trawls from 5 fm, seaward;
- obtain permits to exempt SEAMAP survey vessels from upcoming TED regulations.

* D. Waller moved to accept the work group report. The motion passed.

Environmental Data Work Group

S. Nichols reported for work group leader W. Stuntz. The backlog of SEAMAP survey environmental samples is currently being analyzed and all 1985 chlorophyll samples have been completed. Discussion was held on a recommendation that bottom grabs be initiated during the 1987-88 cruise surveys, however funding for analysis of the samples was not identified.

Red Drum Work Group

T. McIlwain reported on an October 13, 1987 meeting whereby methods to address the 20% escapement issue of red drum from estuaries to the offshore stock was discussed. It was agreed that the quickest method of measuring escapement rates would involve mark/recapture of juvenile fishes in year classes 0 through 5. Work group members agreed to write a detailed field protocol for marking procedures and standardize, where practical.

Concern was expressed by the work group that NMFS may not be funded to continue offshore mark/recapture activities and aerial surveys of red drum schools.

The work group requested that another Red Drum Conference, similar to that presented at the GSMFC March 1987 meeting in Biloxi, be held during the March 1988 GSMFC Annual Spring meeting.

* D. Waller moved to accept the report and the request for the March 1988 conference. The motion passed.

Data Coordinating Work Group

K. Savastano reported that all environmental data for 1985 has been verified and entered into the data system and tables are now being generated for the 1985 SEAMAP Atlas.

A total of 59 requests for SEAMAP data have been received; 57 have been filled and work is being performed on those remaining.

Procurement for hardware to be used in the new SEAMAP Data Management System Design is underway, with delivery of five new machines expected in November.

* D. Waller moved to accept the report and the motion passed.

Plankton Work Group

J. Schultz reported on the September visit of two scientists from the Polish Sorting Center to southeast U.S. laboratories, the first direct communication between PSC scientists and their counterparts in the Gulf. SEAMAP representatives from Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana State University, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, NMFS-Pascagoula Laboratory, Florida Department of Natural Resources, NMFS-Panama City Laboratory and South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department were able to host the visiting scientists and provide relevant materials -- specimens for reference and scientific literature -- for sorting SEAMAP samples.

Specific recommendations of the plankton work group developed from a meeting held October 14, 1987 included:

- Ear-marking monies specifically for invertebrate sorting only when an acceptable number of samples can be sorted (one per day per sorter) by the PSC.
- Investigation into an additional plankton sorting center, as the backlog at the PSC mounts.
- An audit of PSC progress and use of previously recommended protocols.
- Exchange of monthly telexes between the PSC and the NMFS-Southeast Fisheries Center.
- Cruise reports be provided to the archivists, listing plankton sample locations, and that the SEFC Miami Laboratory provide archivists a list of samples at the time of shipment to Poland.
- Reiterate that SEAMAP plankton protocol requires bongo and neuston samples be taken at each collection site.
- Consider future reductions in SEAMAP plankton sampling efforts.

Discussion followed on the backlog of samples held at the Polish Sorting Center and the long delays in receiving plankton data. The Chairman suggested the Subcommittee hold a one day meeting, prior to the end of the year, devoted entirely to plankton issues. A. Kemmerer noted that a representative from the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Center and/or a member of the U.S.-Polish Sorting Center Advisory Committee be invited to attend such a meeting to answer questions concerning PSC operations.

* D. Waller moved to hold a special plankton-oriented Subcommittee meeting before the end of the year and invite a representative from the NEFC. A. Huff seconded and the motion passed.

Cruise Log

The Coordinator provided two examples of cruise reports for possible adaption to SEAMAP purposes. Discussion centered on the need for a simplified cruise log to track number of samples, location and types of gear employed and associated hydrological parameters taken. Designated field party chiefs for surveys would be responsible for submission of a cruise log to the Coordinator who would then distribute the information to the Subcommittee SEAMAP Data Manager and Curators.

K. Savastano recommended that with additional informational headings including "agency," "date submitted," and "submitter" the Louisiana Cruise Lab example would be adequate for data tracking.

The Coordinator will incorporate the additional data headings and develop a SEAMAP Cruise Log for presentation at the next Subcommittee meeting.

Program Review

A. Kemmerer presented a brief overview of the preliminary report of the SEAMAP Program Review Panel. Draft copies were made available to Subcommittee members during the presentation of recommendations of the Review Panel. All fifteen objectives set forth in the contract's Statement of Work were addressed by the Panel under the headings of Program Structure, Program Operations and Documentation and Evaluation.

Following the presentation of recommendations for each objective to the Subcommittee, A. Kemmerer noted that the ad hoc Program Review Group would meet Tuesday, October 20, 1987 to identify any problems and determine future actions regarding the report.

Other Business

Chairman Tatum distributed a draft resolution prepared by a committee consisting of himself, A. Kemmerer and A. Huff, calling for a joint SEAMAP Work Group to prepare a budget initiative for full implementation of the program. With editorial changes in the final paragraph, B. Barrett moved to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. (See attached resolution.)

At the request of B. Barrett, the Coordinator presented a breakdown of the 1987 Shrimp/Bottomfish near-real-time data mailouts. Approximately 275 data summaries and plots were distributed weekly at a cost of \$550 per week for printing and postage. Number of individuals, by state, receiving data plots was also given.

Errata -- The Coordinator noted an error in the 1987 SEAMAP Annual Report to the Technical Coordinating Committee. On page 45, Phil Bowman should be recognized as work group leader for shrimp/bottomfish.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Draft

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: SEAMAP

WHEREAS, fishery resources of the southeast region of the United States are the basis of important commercial and recreational fisheries which are vital to the economy of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, increasing concern has been expressed about the health and continued productivity of many of these resources, and

WHEREAS, there are a number of underutilized fishery resources in various stages of development for which information is sorely lacking, and

WHEREAS, State and Federal agencies have joined efforts in the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) to collect fishery-independent data essential for the management and wise development of fishery resources, and

WHEREAS, SEAMAP has proven its value for fishery research and management even though funded at a level much lower than planned or needed for full implementation of the Program, and

WHEREAS, a Caribbean component had been planned to become part of the Program, but insufficient funding has prevented this expansion from taking place,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission requests the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to join it in establishing a joint SEAMAP Work Group to prepare a budget initiative, in cooperation with appropriate representatives from Puerto Rico and the U. S. Virgin Islands, for distribution to members of the U. S. Congress, and

THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the initiative be designed for full implementation of the SEAMAP Gulf and South Atlantic programs, and initiation of a comparable program in the U. S. Caribbean, ~~assuming that such an initiation is deemed appropriate and advisable by NMFS and the Caribbean representatives.~~ *omit*

*Approved:
Roy Williams
1/5/88*

TCC SPANISH MACKEREL SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, October 19, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman Roy Williams called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. The following persons were in attendance:

Members

Walter Tatum, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Roy Williams, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL
Hal Osburn, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Joseph Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Eugene Nakamura, NMFS-SEFC, Panama City, FL
Jerald K. Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL

Staff

Lucia Hourihan, Publication Specialist
Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

J. Y. Christmas, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Terrance R. Leary, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Jerry E. Clark, TPWD, Austin, TX
Ken Savastano, NMFS, NSTL, MS
Scott Nichols, NMFS-SEFC, Pascagoula, MS
Gary E. Saul, TPWD, Austin, TX
Lou Villanova, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Bill Gordon, NJMSC, Fort Hancock, NJ
Austin Magill, NMFS, Washington, DC
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made to switch items 5 and 6 on the agenda. With that change approved, the agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

With some minor changes, the minutes of the previous meeting held in Gulf Shores, Alabama were approved.

State Reports

Alabama: W. Tatum reported that Alabama held a hearing on changes in the net fishery. One change was to adopt a minimum stretch mesh of

3-1/2 inches on gill nets in the Gulf, and will probably go into effect by mid November.

As of October 1, 1987 the recreational creel survey stopped and has been replaced by a more directed rather than random sampling effort. Historical catch data for areas is used to direct where sampling effort will occur. The new survey is mainly acquiring length/weight information.

Florida: Roy Williams reported that the FMFC would be meeting in a few days to consider what action it will take concerning Spanish mackerel. Currently Florida is operating under last year's rules which had a 4 fish bag limit on recreational fishermen and quotas for commercial fishermen.

Louisiana: Joe Shepard reported that LDWF is initiating some fishery-dependent data collecting working with commercial fishermen. Also they will try to continue and improve the trip interview program (TIP). The LDWF is also planning to start up a recreational creel survey by the summer.

Mississippi: Dick Waller reported that recreational catches of Spanish mackerel still appear to be high off Mississippi.

Texas: Hal Osburn reported that Texas is continuing with long-term monitoring of the sportboat fisherman at the rate of about 17,000 anglers per year. The private boat catch of Spanish mackerel is up from 5,000 fish in 1986 to about 17,000 fish in 1987. The average size of Spanish mackerel is about 20 inches TL. Texas has a 14 inch TL size limit and no bag limit.

In 1987 Texas began collecting social and economic data from sport fishermen in conjunction with their recreational creel survey. An on-site survey of commercial fishermen was also instituted in 1987. Through this program the frequency of recreational interviews has increased due to covering expanded areas. Osburn indicated that commercial shrimpers off Texas handline a considerable amount of Spanish mackerel while at anchor.

Off Galveston, Spanish mackerel begin to show up in late May and early June. Gill and trammel nets are not allowed in the Texas Gulf. Texas is considering a 3 fish bag limit for recreational fishermen.

Discussion of Regulatory Aspects of FMP

R. Lukens explained the two management options that were discussed at the previous meeting in Gulf Shores. D. Waller indicated that Dr. Leard of MBMR had prepared another option for consideration. Discussion of that option revealed that it was a management structure option rather than management measures.

* H. Osburn made a motion to separate management structure from management options and to have R. Lukens develop an options paper on various management structures to be later discussed by the Subcommittee. The motion was seconded and carried.


A discussion then ensued about the management options which had previously been brought forward. It was determined that there were a number of other ways to look at management measures, and that each committee member should develop his own scenarios for later discussion. These options will be compiled by Lukens and prepared for the next meeting. Lukens will work up some dates for the next meeting.

Election of Chairman

* Roy Williams was unanimously elected as chairman and Walter Tatum was unanimously elected as vice-chairman.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

APPROVED BY:



COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, FL

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman Jim Gilmore called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Jim Gilmore, NFI, Washington, DC
Bob Jones, SFA, Tallahassee, FL
Leroy Kiffe, GSMFC Commissioner, Lockport, LA
Jerry Sansom, OFF, Melbourne, FL
John Ray Nelson, GSMFC Commissioner, Bon Secour, AL
Sam Mitchell, GSMFC Commissioner, Chipley, FL
Ralph Rayburn, TSA, Austin, TX

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Eileen M. Benton, Administrative Assistant

Others

Leroy Wieting, Wieting Consulting-Nets International, Portland, TX
Lloyd Regier, NMFS, Charleston, SC
Jack Dunnigan, NOAA, Washington, DC
Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden, Mandeville, LA
Tom Murray, GSAFDF, Tampa, FL
Bill Gordon, New Jersey Marine Science Consortium, Fort Hancock, NJ

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written with the addition of a discussion on a Violations Survey.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held in Biloxi, Mississippi, Tuesday, March 17, 1987 were approved as presented.

Red Drum

J. Gilmore briefed the Committee on the status of the legal action by NFI and SFA against the Department of Commerce concerning the Red Drum FMP. The Gulf Council's Amendment 1 to the Secretary of Commerce's FMP became effective October 16, 1987.

Export Trade

B. Jones reported that the SFA had established an Export Company for the southeast. In the past individual companies had difficulty in exploring and meeting the import requirement to trade seafood internationally. The large orders and methods of international money exchange and product requirements had resulted in U.S. companies not being able to trade with foreign countries as a single company. By organizing the companies, this enables the export company to fill orders and deal with the mechanisms collectively. Those companies interested in participating should contact the SFA for more information.

TED's

Final regulations have been published in the Federal Register that will take effect in the Spring of 1988 in the Gulf of Mexico. The shrimp industry is greatly disturbed by the regulations and efforts by individuals, and Congress are proposed to delay the effective date of implementation. L. Simpson circulated a draft amendment to the Endangered Species Act reauthorization to delay the effective date for TED use in inshore waters for two years. Congressman Studds' staff has circulated the amendment to obtain input from interested parties.

* A motion was made to recommend that any proposed legislation delaying the implementation of TED's apply to all segments of the fishery, i.e., offshore and inshore. Passed with one opposing vote.

New Insurance Program

B. Jones reported to the Committee his activities to provide a cooperative and sound insurance program at a reasonable cost to fishing vessels in the southeast. The requirements for participation would be limited to approved vessels which requires safety inspections and education programs for the vessel and crews. B. Jones presented a education video covering the critical and problem areas onboard fishing vessels which was funded in part by an S/K contract.

Model Seafood Surveillance Program

L. Reiger presented the status of a program to develop a model program being done in cooperation with NFI and the NMFS. As a result of

recent TV expose', congressional interest, red meat and poultry interests, the seafood industry is being considered for a mandatory inspection program. The model program is based on the HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) concept. This would require monitoring of certain steps in processing and handling rather than 100% inspection. The broad areas focused on are:

- Product safety
- Food hygiene
- Economic fraud

They expect to have a product in the spring for congressional action.

Response of Gulf Fishing Industry to Adoption of Annex V to MARPOL and Efforts to Make the Gulf a Special Area

The issue of disposal of plastic debris at sea has come to the surface recently. The legislation prohibits:

- (1) the disposal of plastics anywhere in the area.
- (2) the disposal of "dunnage" (packing and crating materials used on vessels) within 25 miles of any coast.
- (3) the disposal of other garbage including glassware and ceramics within 12 miles. If ground up, it may be disposed of outside three miles from shore.
- (4) any disposal of vessel-generated garbage within three miles.

One of the reasons for such keen interest in this issue is that the number of countries ratifying the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from ships (MARPOL) is just about at the number needed for passage. If the U.S. agrees then these restrictions on disposal of plastics will probably mean ratification. The Congress has proposed several amendments to make the treaty acceptable in domestic law. Basically these are defining the geographic reach of the legislation, a five-year time frame for compliance, require U.S. vessels to maintain refuse log books and develop plans for waste management and to exclude any provisions relating to drift nets.

It seems the large transport ships, military vessels and fishing vessels will be required to bring garbage and plastics to shore for disposal in the future.

Efforts on Fishing Vessel Safety and Insurance Legislation

Last year a bill to place a cap on liability and limit payments of maintenance and cure was defeated. This year new legislation is aimed at limiting the liability for injuries. The trial lawyers were the main opponent of last year's legislation and this year the prospects for legislative relief are possible because of a better informed and sympathetic Congress.

Update on Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Activities

L. Simpson brief the Committee concerning the recent activities of the Council and plans for the future. Major activities of the councils recently were the Red Drum Amendment discussed earlier, reef fish amendments and mackerel amendments. Longlining is proposed to be an activity prohibited in areas designated as stressed and some areas are proposed for expansion and reduction as stressed areas. King and Spanish mackerel has been a topic of concern because of the low abundance of the stocks. Both the commercial and recreational king and Spanish mackerel fisheries are probable for closures this year.

Discussion of Fishermen's Contingency Fund

Title III of the Outer Continental Shelf Act is the statute creating this fund. This fund compensated fishermen for loss of gear as a result of oil and gas exploration in the EEZ. This program is funded by lease holders who plan to explore for oil and gas. The Federal Government simply administers the fund and collects the money. In the past, 750K has been used yearly for the fund, however toward the end of the year the money runs out and fishermen are delayed in receiving their compensation until the next fiscal year of the Government.

* A motion was made and approved to recommend that 1.0 million dollars be appropriated annually to the fund starting in FY89 to prevent this disruption at the end of the year in payments.

Violations Survey

An agenda item was proposed for the March meeting to discuss the feasibility and possible funding options to do an independent violations

survey in the Gulf. This survey's purpose is to aid the efforts of enforcement and document areas of major abuse.

Election of Chairman

Jim Gilmore was unanimously elected as Chairman for the next year.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

APPROVED BY:
Jerald K. Waller
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, FL

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, FL

Chairman J. Waller called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The following persons were present:

Members

Tommy Candies, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Don Ellingsen, FMP, Tallahassee, FL
Carl Covert, TPWD, Austin, TX
Jerry Gollott, MDWC, Long Beach, MS
Jerald K. Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Suzanne Montero, NMFS

Staff

V.K. Herring, Executive Assistant

Others

W. Perry Allen, NMFS
Lt. Chris Otto, USCG
Forrest Laughlin, TPWD
Terry Bakker, MDWC
Doug Gregory, GMFMC

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the addition of comments by T. Candies on Item 4.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held March 1987 in Biloxi, Mississippi were adopted as presented.

Discussion ISSC Meeting Held in Texas

D. Ellingsen and C. Covert attended the meeting and were disillusioned with the organization of the meeting and persons supposedly representing enforcement. No minutes were available for review and no action had been taken on resolutions. R. Thompson was requested to find out why no follow-up action had been taken. They reported that the resolution regarding control of oyster harvesting and growing had been revised because of terminology and the desire of the committee to separate control from patrol.

It was the consensus of the Committee to write a letter to the appropriate persons within the ISSC requesting minutes, follow-up information on resolution and Issue 6415, Part I, Section E of the Manual of Operations.

* C. Covert motioned to request the Commission to support the LEC resolution (attached) regarding the make-up of the ISSC LEC, to limit membership to enforcement personnel only. P. Allen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding uniform tagging regulations for oysters was tabled until the Committee met jointly with the ASMFC's LEC.

Report on Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee Meeting

J. Waller reported that he had attended three meetings. The Spanish Mackerel Committee is currently attempting to address regulatory aspects of plan -- uniform size and bag limits, as well as whether the State's should set these aspects or go with a region-wide agreement. He will continue to keep the LEC posted regarding this FMP for state territorial waters.

Report on Striped Bass Meeting

J. Gollott reported that he had attended this meeting in South Carolina. The single issue discussed at the meeting was the pond raising of hybrid striped bass. Striped bass are a major fishery in South Carolina, Virginia and New York. The east coast fishery is concerned about affect of cohabitating on the wild and pond raised stocks. Identification of the two stocks will create enforcement problems in the species as well as others as aquaculture programs flourish.

The discussion of these problems continued at a joint session with ASMFC. Two resolutions (attached) were approved jointly relating to regulatory and enforcement authority of aquaculture products and the proper identification of aquaculture products.

Amendments to Reef Fish Management Plan

D. Gregory with the GMFMC presented background information on Reef Fish FMP that was implemented in 1984. He stated that enforcement

problems exist. Amendments are being considered and options will be developed. He requested comments from the LEC.

After discussion it was the consensus of the committee to review the FMP when they return to their office and to work with D. Gregory in resolving enforcement problems.

D. Gregory stated that he will assist the LEC in every way possible. He will abbreviate amendments, regulations and FMP's that may be of interest to the Committee and attend LEC meetings to keep all members current on Council issues.

S. Montero will attend Council meetings and report back to the LEC members.

The LEC will continue to meet jointly with Council LEC when necessary. In addition, LEC members will attend Council meetings held in their respective states when possible.

"Marine Laws and Regulations for the Gulf States"

G. Herring and L. Hourihan distributed the first copies of "Marine Laws and Regulations for the Gulf States." L. Hourihan requested updates and comments regarding this first annual distribution which will be limited to the LEC members and the Commissioners for the time being. It was suggested that the disclaimer be expanded upon in future prints.

* D. Ellingsen motioned that the LEC Chairman formally commend and thank the Commission staff for their efforts on this project. T. Candies seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss Survey Proposal re: Enforcement Violations

L. Simpson presented an idea regarding an enforcement survey on violations, particularly during shrimp season. He requested comments as to need, how to, etc. This concept is based on industry opinions that more violations occur than are recorded, especially prior to season openings. this survey would not involve arrest.

The Committee agreed that law enforcement officers could not be involved due to the obvious violations and their duty to enforce the law but some enforcement expertise would be necessary to determine if a law had been violated.

L. Simpson stated this idea was developed to assist enforcement to accurately document violations. LEC members felt funds for such a survey may be better spent on increased enforcement efforts and may show the same results.

No actions were taken at this time. LEC members will discuss with industry people in their states.

Election of Chairman

* D. Ellingsen nominated J. Waller for Chairman for the 1987-88 year. T. Candies seconded. There being no further nominations, J. Waller was elected by unanimous acclamation.

Other Business

C. Covert reported on a project in Texas that is being done in conjunction with GCCA. The project involves enforcement officers giving in-depth seminars to coast-watchers so that they will be able to correctly identify violations and report to the appropriate persons. D. Ellingsen has also been approached in Florida. The program will be a good one as long as all involved remain objective.

* J. Waller discussed LEC members being involved in all GSMFC FMP committees. D. Ellingsen motioned to request that the Commission consider appointing a LEC member to all FMP Committees. T. Candies seconded. The motion carried.

The FDNR invited the LEC to take a tour of the area and provided a impromptu staged enforcement activity.

The GSMFC LEC adjourned at 12:05 but met later with ASMFC LEC.

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION #1
FOR THE PROPER IDENTIFICATION OF AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, aquaculture raised species create a market potential for undersized wild species that could undermine management and enforcement goals, and

WHEREAS, aquaculture raised species can be easily and quickly shipped to all parts of the country, and

WHEREAS, enforcement efforts are greatly hampered by different state regulations regarding this movement of species,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission urge all members states to identify aquaculture raised products with a tag or label, that all tags/labels have a uniform series of 12 digit numbers and letters that are recognizable throughout the country.

That the series of digits be arranged as prescribed, this series allowing over one million sequentially numbered stock to be marketed by one dealer.

This series also allows enforcement officers the ability to detect and prosecute incidents where wild species have entered the marketing system.

This series also allows a method to trace products endangering public health by contamination.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE GSMFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THIS RESOLUTION

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION #2 RELATING TO REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, resource protection agencies are responsible for protection of wild fish species, and

WHEREAS, aquaculture raising of hybrid or native fish species create a system that could be used to market undersized native fish species, and

WHEREAS, regulatory and enforcement control of the interstate movement and marketing of aquaculture raised fish by resource protection agencies is critical to the protection of wild stock, and

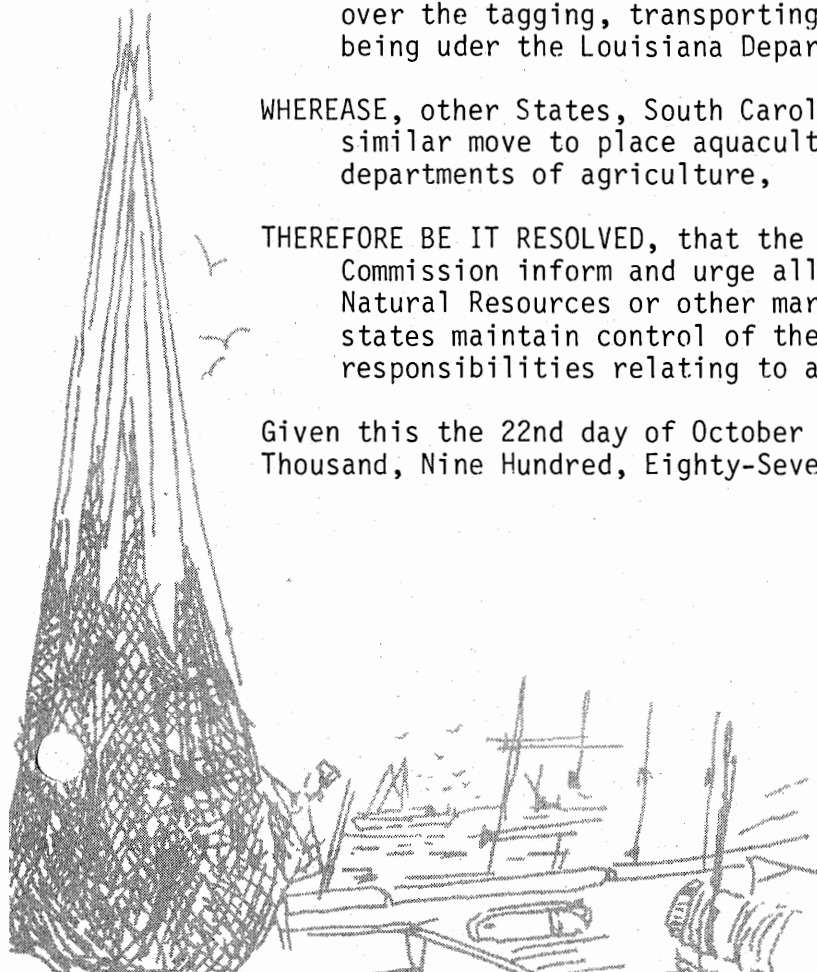
WHEREAS, Louisiana resource protection agency has recently lost control of aquaculture raised fish species and has no enforcement authority over the tagging, transporting, and marketing, this authority now being under the Louisiana Department of Agriculture, and

WHEREASE, other States, South Carolina and Maryland are considering a similar move to place aquaculture under their respective departments of agriculture,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission inform and urge all states that the Department of Natural Resources or other marine resource agencies of the various states maintain control of the regulatory and enforcement responsibilities relating to aquaculture.

Given this the 22nd day of October in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.

Frank J. Patti, Chairman



LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION #3
RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE ISSC LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the ISSC voted at their last meeting to create a Law Enforcement Committee to function similarly to the Law Enforcement Committee that is a part of the Gulf and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and

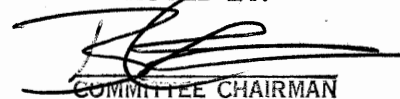
WHEREAS, no committee members have yet been appointed, and

WHEREAS, law enforcement members of both the Gulf and Atlantic States are concerned that non-law enforcement persons would be assigned to this committee,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission send a letter to ISSC person responsible for assigning committees urging that only law enforcement personnel be allowed to act as voting members on the ISSC Law Enforcement Committee.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE GSMFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THIS RESOLUTION.

APPROVED BY:



COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman Fred Deegen called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The following persons were in attendance:

Members

Mike Leech, IGFA, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Bruce Cartwright, CCA, Houston, TX
Frank Richardson, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Fred Deegen, MBMR, Long Beach, MS
Walter Tatum, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Joseph Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Hal Osburn, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Ed Burgess, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Stephen Phillips, SFI, Washington, DC
Virginia Vail, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

Kathryn Chandler, KCA Research
B.G. Thompson, NMFS, Washington, DC
John Cirino, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Albert Jones, NMFS, Miami, FL
Randy Edwards, Mote Marine Lab, Sarasota, FL
Bob Cooke, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Lou Villanova, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Bob Gilmore, FWS, Washington, DC
Bob Sousa, FWS, Washington, DC
Herb Blatt, NMFS, Washington, DC
Bill Gordon, NJMSC, Fort Hancock, NJ
Ron Schultz, NMFS, Woods Hole, MA
Ken Savastano, NMFS, NSTL, MS
Philip Bowman, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
E.L. Nakamura, NMFS, Panama City, FL
R.L. Applegate, FWS, Albuquerque, NM
Gary Saul, TPWD, Austin, TX
Jerry Clark, TPWD, Austin, TX
Ron Essig, NMFS, Washington, DC
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Tom Morrissey, NMFS, Woods Hole, MA
George Krantz, MDDNR, Oxford, MD
Gary Edwards, FWS, Washington, DC

Adoption of Agenda

Walter Tatum requested that the agenda be revised to allow him to make a motion to add a member to the committee. The agenda was then adopted as revised.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana were approved as written.

State Reports

Alabama: W. Tatum reported that since the permitting of the 360 square mile artificial reef site, over 300 loads of approved materials have been transported to the site and sunk. Also two fish aggregating devices (FAD) have been placed, one off Baldwin County and one off Mobile County. They appear to be successful.

Work continues with spotted seatrout and red drum tagging, with an effort toward quantifying fishing mortality and escapement. Year classes 0, I, and II appear frequently in the catch. After that, they don't frequently appear in the catch. By November or December, they will tag and release about 40,000 red drum as 6 to 8 inch fingerling.

The creel survey ended in October and has been replaced by a more limited and directed sampling scheme rather than random.

Florida: V. Vail reported that Florida had initiated 20 new artificial reef projects using Wallop-Breaux assistance. Three surplus ships have been acquired and one more is being sought as artificial reef material. The state is currently looking into development of a state artificial reef plan which will provide guidance to artificial reef projects.

FDNR has initiated a red drum tag and recapture study. Also the recreational fisheries statistics project is continuing to look at populations of recreationally important species. A boating access survey has also begun, looking at boating access on a county by county basis. Specifically, a population study of tarpon is in the planning stages.

Louisiana: J. Shepard reported that the first oil rig structure was to be placed on site for the Louisiana Artificial Reef Initiative as a Rigs-to-reefs project on October 24. The location is off Marsh Island 146 approximately 100 miles south of Marsh Island in 238 feet of water. There will be 125 feet of clearance above the material. Several more rigs are being discussed.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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Legislation passed in 1987 on size limits on spotted seatrout of 12 inches TL and on red drum of 14 inches TL. That will increase to 15 inches TL in 1988 and 16 inches TL in 1989. All fish must be brought to the dock with head and fins intact. Marlin was given gamefish status. The LDWF plans to initiate a recreational creel survey in the near future. Wallop-Breaux monies are being used for boating access projects.

Texas: H. Osburn reported that Texas is continuing long-term monitoring of sport boat fishermen, about 17,000 anglers per year. There appears to be a marked increase in fishing pressure and landings since the freeze which hit Texas in 1984. A socioeconomic questionnaire has been added to the angler survey. A commercial survey has also been initiated to intercept commercial fishermen at the dock.

Red drum stocking is continuing. Some tagging is planned. Snook and tarpon are under investigation to determine culture techniques with the goal of stocking these species. Striped bass are also being tagged and stocked into bays. Bag limits have been established for snook and tarpon, and hook and line is the only harvest technique that can be used.

Some limited artificial reef activity is occurring with FADS through Texas A&M. A buoying effort has also been initiated. Texas has expressed a concern over the question of liability in artificial reef programs.

Fred Deegen asked about size limits related to compliance. H. Osburn indicated that because size limits have been imposed for a long time in Texas that compliance is good, usually 95% or greater. W. Tatum asked if the goal of implementing size limits had been reached over the past 10 years. Osburn indicated that stocks of fish with size limit restrictions did appear to be increasing. Texas is conducting some fry stocking in large numbers to see if it would be more cost effective than raising fingerlings.

Mississippi: F. Deegen reported that the D-J access projects begun in 1985 had been completed. Those were two boat launches and one fishing pier. Also funded by D-J (Wallop-Breaux) monies were six low

profile artificial reefs inshore adjacent to public fishing piers and one offshore artificial reef using a barge and tug boat.

Mississippi is currently conducting a coastwide creel survey using boating access points. Three new saltwater sportfishing records have been established in Mississippi including a 34 pound 8 ounce red snapper which is also a pending world record. Deegen mentioned that he is trying to keep a gulfwide listing of fishing records.

Deegen discussed the BMR's annual workshop at which recreational and commercial fishermen come together with fishery managers, legislators, and scientists to discuss problems related to marine fishery resources. Recreational fisheries concerns were (1) a need for increased enforcement of fishing regulations and (2) a need for increased education of recreational fishermen with respect to the need for size and creel limits and proper methods to release hook and line caught fish. The BMR is planning to produce some educational materials to address these problems.

Status of National Recreational Fisheries Policy

Gary Edwards reported on the latest developments in the National Recreational Fisheries Policy. At that time an outline of the Policy had been approved. The next step was to have a first draft produced by FWS staff which would then be revised by a small group representing the Policy Working Group. The intent is to have a final copy ready for the 1988 National Fishing Week celebration. A conference will be taking place at which the Policy will be presented for adoption and ultimately ratification by the Congress or the President.

F. Richardson added that the Southeast Regional office of FWS is phasing out the warm water production facilities for private farm ponds and converting most of them to striped bass rearing facilities. Georgia, Alabama, and Florida have entered into a cooperative agreement with FWS to restore striped bass, a feasibility study for a striped bass hatchery for gulf race fish on the Apalachicola River is currently underway. Sturgeon studies are also ongoing.

NMFS Marine Recreational Fisheries Activities

Ed Burgess reported that NMFS has signed a contract to produce a 28 minute video of catch and release methods. Some shorter versions will be available. A brochure for marine recreational angler federal regulations has been sent to the printer. The tape will be available in about 6 months and the brochure will be available soon. For 1988 the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey will increase the number of intercepts and will reduce the processing time to facilitate stock assessment and mackerel management. Monthly summaries rather than every two months will be conducted.

GSMFC Marine Recreational Fisheries Action Plan

Ed Burgess introduced the idea of an action plan to be considered by the Recreational Fisheries Committee of the GSMFC. Burgess supplied the membership with a list of MRF issues developed by the Recreational Fisheries Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Burgess suggested that the GSMFC Committee develop a similar list and prioritize them in an effort to give the Committee a direction. The Committee unanimously agreed to proceed with the development of a similar list. The first step was for each member to develop an unprioritized list and send it to Fred Deegen. Deegen would compile the list and send the master list back to each member. Each member would then prioritize the master list and send it back to Deegen. Deegen would then compile the prioritizations into a new list which would be discussed for adoption at the next meeting.

Side Scan Sonar/Fathometer Proposal

* R. Lukens began a discussion of the artificial reef monitoring project which was originally discussed at the previous meeting in July in New Orleans, Louisiana. It was decided that the best approach was to conduct a concurrent SCUBA survey of the artificial reefs off Mississippi from which to compare the side scan sonar/fathometer survey. W. Tatum made a motion that the Recreational Fisheries Committee endorse the proposal and allow Lukens to proceed with procuring funding. The motion was seconded and passed with a unanimous vote.

User Conflicts with Artificial Reefs and the Special Management

Zone Concept

Bruce Cartwright opened a discussion concerning the concept of Special Management Zones (SMZs) for artificial reefs. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council has incorporated that option into its Reef Fish Management Plan. The Gulf Council has a stressed area provision as well as certain SMZ provisions. These options are capable of addressing user conflicts by restricting the type of activities which occur on an artificial reef site.

Commercial versus recreational fishing was discussed. F. Deegen indicated no conflict on shallow water, low profile, inshore reefs since commercial fishing is already prohibited on these sites in Mississippi. Mississippi's offshore reefs, however, do not fall under those rules. V. Vail briefly discussed recreational diver versus recreational fisherman conflicts in Florida. A discussion ensued concerning the SMZ request to the SAFMC which was denied. Mike Leech described his view of that action, saying that it is incumbent upon the group requesting the SMZ to have as much background information about commercial and recreational fishing activities in the area of request as is available. This would help in the decision making process.

Stephen Phillips discussed the questionnaire sent out by the ARDC of SFI which addresses the magnitude and type of artificial reef user conflicts in each state. That report will be forthcoming.

Lukens informed everyone of the upcoming Florida Artificial Reef Summit and International Conference on Artificial Habitats in Miami in November.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

* F. Richardson nominated Bruce Cartwright of the CCA as chairman which was seconded by M. Leech. Cartwright was elected unanimously.

* F. Richardson made a motion to elect a vice chairman, and nominated Hal Osburn of TPWD. W. Tatum nominated Gerald Adkins of LDWF. A vote resulted in Hal Osburn as vice chairman.

RECREATIONAL FISHERIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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Other Business

W. Tatum made a motion that Lou Villanova of the Southeast Regional Office of the FWS be added to the Committee. That motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous to include Villanova.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

APPROVED BY:

Philip Steele
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

TCC CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

Phil Steele, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.
The following members and guests were present:

Members

Phil Steele, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Vince Guillory, LDWF, Bourg, LA
Harriet Perry, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Paul C. Hammerschmidt, TPWD, Port O'Connor, TX

Staff

Nancy Marcellus, Staff Assistant

Others

Rob Erdman, USF, St. Petersburg, FL
David Cupka, SCWMD, Charleston, SC
Charles Moss, Texas Sea Grant Advisory Service, Angleton, TX
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Bob Gilmore, USFWS, Washington, DC
Paul D. Fulham, USF, St. Petersburg, FL
Norman J. Blake, USF, St. Petersburg, FL
Kenneth Savastano, NMFS, NSTL, MS
Joanne L. Shultz, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
John Hunt, FDNR, Marathon, FL ✓
Frank Kennedy, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL ✓
Mike Hightower, Texas Sea Grant Program, College Station, TX
Charles Futch, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL ✓

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with minor changes.

Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi on Monday, March 16, 1987 were approved with the following corrections:

- 1) Page 2, MISSISSIPPI: change pheromone to hormone
- 2) Page 2, MISSISSIPPI: delete the phrase "pending FDA approval".

Review of Progress of Crab Research in South Atlantic States

Mr. David Cupka from South Carolina Division of Marine Resources gave a brief overview of activities in the South Atlantic regarding crab research.

Cupka discussed a new committee formed in the South Atlantic to deal with blue crab issues. Blue crab biologists from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida met in June 1987 to address an apparent decline in blue crab stocks in the South Atlantic. A representative from each state made presentations which included landings trends, monitoring and assessment methods, and research. The meeting was valuable in bringing everyone together and facilitating the exchange of information and ideas on research and monitoring methods in the various states. It was determined that such meetings can be very valuable and should be conducted regularly. The group decided to formalize its association as the South Atlantic Blue Crab Committee with David Whitaker as chairman. The committee wished to become affiliated with ASMFC. The SEAMAP-South Atlantic Committee recognized the committee and has committed funds for at least one meeting. The committee has since decided to change the name to the South Atlantic Crustacean Committee with two members from each state.

Report on SEAMAP Plankton Sorting; Status of Polish Sorting Center (PSC) Contract

Joanne Shultz, Chairman of the Plankton Work Group, reported that the recent visit of the Polish scientists was the Gulf and Southeast regions' first direct communication with the PSC. It will go a long way to help alleviate some of the problems with the PSC which was due to a lack of personal contact and direct communication with the group. During the stay the Polish scientists visited agencies in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. It was determined that at least one sample could be sorted and processed per day, per sorter. A letter was drafted reaffirming the SEAMAP zooplankton protocol and methodology and reiterated the list of priority samples to be sorted at the PSC during the coming year. The Plankton Work Group then met on October 14, 1987 and came up with the following list of recommendations.

- 1) The \$5,000, originally set aside for zooplankton sorting would be reinstated and sent to the PSC when a serious commitment to SEAMAP zooplankton sorting was demonstrated by processing an acceptable number of samples over the next twelve months. If the PSC does not come through, the \$5,000 should be sent elsewhere to do the sorting.
- 2) Consider engaging an additional plankton sorting center. This will necessitate increasing the present SEAMAP allocation for plankton sorting. This recommendation is not meant to replace the PSC as it is still a very productive association due to the high quality of work.
- 3) It was recommended that during Joanne's trip to Poland that she audit the PSC with regard to sorting methodology and the actual number of samples that the Center is sorting. It was further recommended that SEAMAP withdraw the \$25,000 for ichthyoplankton sorting if over the next twelve months processing of SEAMAP samples falls below acceptable numbers.
- 4) Steps should be taken to improve communication between representatives of the Gulf and Southeast region and the PSC. An exchange of monthly telexes was recommended.
- 5) Improve internal communication between the two archiving centers and the SEAMAP participants with regard to the plankton sampling effort. It was recommended that the cruise report or at least a list of sample locations be sent directly to the archivist shortly after completion of each cruise.
- 6) Reiterate that SEAMAP plankton sample protocol requires one bongo and one newton net sample be taken at each collection site whenever possible.
- 7) Acknowledge the problems which may force future reductions in SEAMAP plankton sampling efforts. A meeting is tentatively planned for early March 1988 to discuss this issue. The Work Group will then draw up specific recommendations on future emphasis and scope of the SEAMAP plankton program as well as proposed reductions in scale of sampling.

These recommendations were not accepted by the SEAMAP Subcommittee after suggesting that the Work Group come up with a better accounting of the actual number of samples that had been sorted.

* H. Perry made the motion to support the recommendations of the SEAMAP Plankton Work Group, reiterate the Crab Subcommittee's position on plankton sorting in the Gulf of Mexico for blue crabs, stone crabs and Geryon larvae, and requested that any additional funding that becomes available through SEAMAP or other sources be dedicated to additional zooplankton sorting due to the backlog of samples. P. Steele moved that the motion be accepted and was seconded by V. Guillory. The motion carried.

Report on Geryon Research in Gulf and South Atlantic

H. Perry reported on the seasonal and geographic distribution of Geryon and gave a slide presentation on the Geryon cruises. This was followed by R. Erdman, University of South Florida, who gave a slide presentation and discussed the reproductive activity of Geryon.

Status of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act Funding

D. Etzold and J.Y. Christmas provided background information and answered questions concerning the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act. Since the status of this act is questionable at this time Steele asked that Etzold and/or Christmas attend the March meeting and bring the Subcommittee up to date on any progress. A crab task force will be formed to write a blue crab management plan some time in 1988.

Review of Progress of Crab Research in Gulf States

Texas: P. Hammerschmidt reported that Texas is still doing routine assessment and monitoring. A major change has been initiated this year concerning commercial landings information with on-site interviews with commercial fishermen to count the catch that will be sold.

C. Moss mentioned a study by Dr. James Cameron, University of Texas, on calcium uptake in crabs. Physiological/biochemical testing and bioassays are being done to try to identify the hormone, the peptide or enzymes which could be the triggering mechanism. This would be important to the soft shell crab industry.

A computer model is being developed to study the relationship between crab abundance and salinity based on the concept that in periods of drought there is a reduction in nursery grounds. Another study to be undertaken is to determine what influences the moon has on shedding and if it has some relationship during apogee when there is a higher percentage of shedding than at perigee. The study will probably be conducted by Texas A&M University.

Some work was also done with DuPont to develop an artificial crab bait.

Louisiana: V. Guillory reported on a project examining escape rings in crab traps. This is the second year of the study and should be completed in one month. Ring location, number, and size were examined. The impact of ghost traps is also being examined. Approval was also received for S-K funding for a project entitled "An Evaluation of Techniques to Capture Peeler Blue Crabs".

Two new laws were passed by the Louisiana legislature in 1987 regarding crabs that prohibit running traps at night and requires all crab traps attached to a line be marked.

Mississippi: H. Perry commented that standard assessment and monitoring is continuing. The soft-shell blue crab hormonal project sponsored by Sea Grant is in its final year. An extension of one year without funding has been requested to look at dosage in crabs which exceed 100mm carapace width. To get FDA approval to use the drug a vendor must be found. Contact has been made with a chemical company who is willing to vend the drug. A patent search is also being conducted.

Sea Grant has funded a cooperative project with Auburn University to look at salinity and metabolic adaptations of Menippe. This project will begin in January 1988.

Work continues on the Geryon larval rearing project.

Alabama: Alabama was not represented. P. Steele spoke with Steve Heath and reported to the Subcommittee that routine assessment and monitoring is being continued in Alabama. A new crab biologist at Dauphin Island Sea Lab is doing some basic reproductive physiology on Callinectes sapidus. A bill was introduced this year to enact legislation on regulations for blue crabs in Alabama but did not pass.

Florida: P. Steele reported on two projects being conducted by Terri Burke, FDNR. One is the assessment of stone crab population in northwest Florida investigating regional population dynamics, taxonomic affinity, biology and harvest potential in the Florida stone crab Menippe mercenaria fishery. The next involves a project with Bill Lindberg, University of Florida, to perfect a technique for projecting stone crab landings based on time series analysis of environmental parameters that could aid in forecasting stone crab landings.

P. Steele gave a slide presentation on Callinectes sapidus research in Florida.

Report on Potential Tagging Project and Funding Source

H. Perry advised that there is nothing new to report. This project will have to be regionally integrated and supported financially by each state.

Report on Smithsonian Workshop on Portunid Ecology

Both P. Steele and H. Perry presented papers at the Workshop. Steele mentioned that a lot of interesting research is being done and distributed abstracts from the workshop to the Subcommittee members.

Report on Status of Gulf of Mexico Blue Crab Fishery 1987

C. Moss distributed a report to the Subcommittee entitled "The Blue Crab Industry 1986; Report from the Gulf States: Condition of the Fishery". He then gave a brief overview of the report noting highlights from each of the states.

Report on NMFS Trawl Data

H. Perry reported on the status of the trawl data. It is a matter of sitting down and physically locating all the papers, reading those papers and putting a synopsis together. NMFS trawl data will be utilized for a series of species profiles of the most common crab species in the Gulf. Portunid crabs were selected for the first series of species profiles.

P. Hammerschmidt moved that this task be tabled until the requirements for the proposed management plan are known. Second by P. Steele. H. Perry preferred that the Subcommittee not physically table it in the event funds or extra personnel become available.

Election of New Chairman

P. Steele was re-elected Chairman of the TCC Crab Subcommittee for 1988.

Other Business

P. Hammerschmidt requested that the Subcommittee keep track of the publication on electrophoresis for the management plan.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

GS-FFMB MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman J.Y. Christmas declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:07 am. Alabama, Texas and Petrou Fisheries were not represented. The following were in attendance:

Members

Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA
F. H. Daniel Cook, Standard Products, Moss Point, MS
John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
J.Y. Christmas, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Phil Bowman, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
George Brumfield, Zapata Haynie Corp., Moss Point, MS
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Lucia Hourihan, Publication Specialist

Others

Billy Lunsford, Zapata Haynie Corp., Timonium, MD
Jack Styron, Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA
Eldon Levi, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Douglas Vaughan, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Ford Cross, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Joe Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Lloyd Regier, NMFS, Charleston, SC
David Etzold, Consultant, Pass Christian, MS
Jim Gilmore, NFI, Washington, DC
Bill Gordon, NJMSC, Fort Hancock, NJ
Connor Davis, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL
Bob Jones, SFA, Tallahassee, FL
Buck Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Tom McIlwain, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

It was the consensus of the Committee to discuss items 8 (Status of Information in Repository) and 10 (Management Plan Update) concurrently. The agenda was adopted.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, March 17 in Biloxi, Mississippi, were adopted as written.

Report on 1987 Fishing Season

D. Vaughan distributed and reviewed a report on the 1987 fishing season. Landings through September 30, 1987 were approximately 834,000 metric tons. Estimates of age composition available through September indicate that historical patterns will prevail. As of September 30, 1987, 7,274 Captain's Daily Fishing Reports have been received from Gulf fishing vessels.

Plans and Outlook for 1988 Fishing Season

J. Merriner informed members that the forecast for next year will be out in November and that at this time all signs appear favorable for another good year.

Status Report on Menhaden Surimi Plant

G. Brumfield reported that the plant is running well and made 21 production runs during September generating about 22 tons of product. The goal is to produce 2,000 pounds per day. Tests are being run on deboning pressure, wash residence time, pH adjustment and dehydration sequence. The September 30 inventory total was 38,872 lbs.

Yields of 3-10% have been disappointing. These low yields have been partly caused by fish size and varying degrees of plant processing efficiency and yield has to improve greatly for this process to be economically feasible. Samples are now being shipped to researchers interested in surimi for food.

B. Lunsford reported that Zapata has asked for an extension of the contract for another year to run the plant through another season.

Update on Charleston Lab's Oil Research and Findings

L. Regier informed members that the facility designed to produce three levels of test materials for biomedical research is complete and in operation. The first level, deodorized/vacuum stripped fish oil, has been produced and test materials are being shipped. The system to produce the second level, concentrates with 85% omega-3 (in the form of ethyl esters) is almost functional. A decision is about to be reached on which kind of system is necessary to produce small quantities of the third level of product, the highly purified (90% or higher) level.

Discussion of Any MARFIN Funded Menhaden Research Proposals Needed

The Committee voiced support for a proposal which would request funds for companies other than Zapata to transport fish in useable condition from the Gulf for surimi production.

Status of Information in Repository and Management Plan Update

D. Etzold presented a proposal and updated repository list (attached) for review and implementation of a supplement to the 1983 revision of the Menhaden Management Plan. B. Wallace moved that the Committee accept the schedule for proposed events. The motion carried. A subcommittee was appointed: Borden Wallace, chairman, John Merriner, Richard Condrey, David Etzold, and J.Y. Christmas. Members will send required input to GSMFC by November 21 and the subcommittee will meet in January to proceed with the supplement. Expected completion date is November 1988.

Discussion of Bait Fishery and Florida Menhaden Season

E. Joyce reported on 1986 menhaden landings in Florida which has no closed season. Florida has only one rendering plant (6.7 million pounds). The greatest increases in the bait fishery were in Gulf County, 12.2 million pounds, and Hillsborough County, 3 million pounds. Total state production was 26 million pounds.

B. Wallace stated that apparently the Florida fish were not that much biologically involved in the directed northern Gulf fishery but again voiced his concern over the increased interest in bait fishing in the state of Louisiana and the concern that this increased bait fishing may begin breaking up the menhaden schools and possibly affect reproduction.

P. Bowman said that the Louisiana administrative code specifically states "menhaden taken from the waters of the state of Louisiana" and makes no reference to waters outside the states territorial jurisdiction. There is bait fishing and increased interest in the EEZ and it is currently in line with state laws as long as the processing laws are not violated.

B. Wallace stated for the record that he was not opposed to a bait fishery, that it is a viable industry. He expressed concern over the need to keep track of the numbers caught for bait.

* After a discussion of the potential problems of economics, enforcement, and biology, B. Wallace moved that the Committee recommend to the State-Federal Board that they request the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to reevaluate their administrative code for the menhaden season in Louisiana and change it so that menhaden can be landed only within the set season. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Lunsford recommended that other states research the same situation and urged states to collect landings data as Florida was doing.

Election of Chairman

J. Y. Christmas opened the floor for nominations. B. Wallace presented a list of all past chairmen and reminded members that the the incoming chairman should be a representative of Zapata. D. Cook nominated George Brumfield. The nominations were closed and George Brumfield was elected chairman by unanimous acclamation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 pm.

PROPOSAL FOR REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A
SUPPLEMENT TO THE 1983 REVISION OF THE REGIONAL MENHADEN PLAN

Presented to the
GSMFC Menhaden Advisory Committee

October 20, 1987
Key West, Florida

by

David J. Etzold

- 1) Areas for Review Consideration
- 2) Updated Menhaden Repository Listing
- 3) Suggested Schedule

Areas for Review Consideration to Implement SUPPLEMENTAL Changes
to "The Menhaden Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico United States:
A Regional Management Plan", 1983 Revision

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>PARAGRAPH</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
3	1	1	854 thousand metric tons
	2	1-	MSY
	2	2/3/4/etc.	Uses/Surimi
5	3	3	--more than one stock
	15	1-/2	--Guillory, et al. (in press)
	16	1-	MSY
	16	1	Fig. 5-4
	17		Table 5-1
	18/19/20		Review
6	5	2	Update Table
7	9		Table 7-1
	10-22		
8	3		Table 8-1
	3	1	Capt. Daily Fishing Report
	4		Figs. 8.1/8.2
	8		Number of Plants
	11	6	Reorganize/Recognize
	11		Products (Surimi)

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>PARAGRAPH</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
9	2		Table 9-1
	3		Table 9-2
	4		Fig. 9-1
	6		Table 9-3
	7		Tables 9-4/9-5
	8		Tables 9-6/9-7
	9		Table 9-8
10	1	1/2	Surimi
11	1		Update?
12	1		Table 12-1
	2		Review
14	3		Review
15	1/2/3		Update
16	1-3		Review
19	6	Composition	4 members/10 members

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

MENHADEN REPOSITORY LISTING

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Suggested Schedule for Effort Completion

October 20, 1987	Presentation of Recommendations
November 21, 1987	Input From MAC Members (and Others) to GSMFC Office
December	GSMFC Will Review and Correlate Input From MAC Members
January 20, 1988	Committee Meeting (Appointed by MAC Chairman on October 20, 1987)
February 24, 1988	Preliminary Draft of Supplement to MAC Members (and Others) for Review
March 1988	GSMFC Alabama Meeting -- Review by MAC
June 29, 1988	Final Draft
October 1988	GSMFC Texas Meeting -- Approvals: MAC/GS-FFMB/GSMFC
November 1988	Issued

APPROVED BY:

Edwin J. ...
COM. CHAIRMAN

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 21, 1987
Key West, Florida

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 21, 1987
Key West, Florida

Chairman I.B. Byrd called the meeting to order at 3:12 pm. The following persons were present:

Members

I.B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Walter Tatum, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Frank Richardson, FWS, Atlanta, GA
George Brumfield (proxy - Rep. Millette), Moss Point, MS
Fred Deegen (proxy - Bill Quisenberry), Long Beach, MS
Jerry Clark, TPWD, Austin, TX
Corky Perret, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Sam Mitchell, St. Rep., Chipley, FL
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

V.K. "Ginny" Herring, Executive Assistant
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Larry Simpson, Executive Director

Others

Richard Applegate, FWS, Albuquerque, NM
J.Y. Christmas, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
John Ray Nelson, GSMFC, Bon Secour, AL
Craig O'Connor, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Bruce Cartwright, CCA, Houston, TX
Lou Villanova, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Phil Steele, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
John Everett, NMFS, Washington, DC
Herb Blatt, NMFS, Washington, DC
David Etzold, Consultant, Long Beach, MS
Tony Jiovenale, DOC/NOAA/CASC, Kansas City, KS
Bob Cooke, FWS, Washington, DC
Tom Backman, FWS, Washington, DC
W. Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA
Chuck Beck, Zapata Haynie Corporation, Hammond, LA
Bill Lunsford, Zapata Haynie Corporation, Timonium, MD
Leroy Kiffe, GSMFC, Lockport, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
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Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held March 18, 1987 in Biloxi, Mississippi were adopted as presented.

Final Report - "Data Accumulation, Planning and Administration for
Interjurisdictional Management of Marine Fisheries Resources of the
Gulf of Mexico"

L. Simpson reported that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission in accordance with provisions included in Cooperative Agreement #NA87WC-H-06017, provided for administration, travel, communication, planning and other activities for the administration and committee support of the Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board.

He took the opportunity to state that although funding is no longer available through this award it is hoped that the work done by the Board and its committees will continue with the availability of other funds. He thanked the many committee chairmen and members who worked so hard with little funds and heavy work loads in making this state-federal effort one of the most successful and cooperative that currently exists anywhere in the United States. Their efforts and those of others - Buck Byrd particularly - have all been very worthwhile and will have a positive and lasting effect on state-federal relations in the Gulf of Mexico.

Crab Subcommittee - Status Report

P. Steele reported that the Crab Subcommittee met on October 20, 1987 and continues to exchange regionwide research and efforts. They are currently looking for funding mechanisms to address a fishery management plan and tagging programs.

* W. Tatum motioned to accept the report. Seconded by F. Deegen, the motion carried.

Data Management Subcommittee - Status Report

The Data Management Subcommittee met on October 19, 1987. The TCC approved a request to hold a Subcommittee workshop in March, 1988 on the

GULF STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT BOARD
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National Recreational Survey. The Subcommittee discussed their new role as being charged with reviewing the use and sources of data in formulating management plans and making stock assessments.

Menhaden Advisory Committee - Status Report

J.Y. Christmas reported that the Menhaden Advisory Committee met on October 20, 1987 to discuss current issues of importance in the fishery. The Committee approved a proposal to supplement the 1983 revision of the Menhaden Management Plan. J.Y. Christmas recommended on behalf of the Committee that the Board request that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission reevaluate their administrative code for the menhaden season in Louisiana and change it so that menhaden can be landed only within the set season.

* F. Deegen so moved. G. Brumfield seconded and the motion carried with one abstention.

Overview - Cooperative Interstate Fishery Management in the Territorial Sea of the U.S. (D-J Administrative Agreement.)

R. Lukens reported on the progress in year I (one). He is currently working with the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee on a fisheries management plan and with the Anadromous Fish Subcommittee on a project entitled "Habitat Criteria". Other activity includes working with the Recreational Fisheries Committee, involvement in the development of the National Recreational Fisheries Policy and artificial reef projects.

R. Lukens received favorable comments from B. Byrd and F. Richardson.

* F. Richardson moved to accept the report. F. Deegen seconded and the motion carried.

Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee - Status Report

W. Tatum reported that the Subcommittee is currently working on management measures and implementation. Options will be developed for review by the Board and others as may be appropriate. He is pleased with the progress and efforts.

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* F. Richardson motioned to accept the report. Seconded by S. Mitchell, the motion carried.

Anadromous Fish Subcommittee - Status Report

L. Nicholson reported that the Anadromous Fish Subcommittee had met on October 21, 1987 to continue work on their project entitled "Habitat Criteria" which is designed to characterize the appropriateness of stream systems to support populations of striped bass. Other business included a review of a proposal entitled "Location and Identification of Thermal Refuges for Striped Bass on the Apalachicola River, Florida".

* F. Deegen motioned to accept the report. The motion was seconded by S. Mitchell and carried.

Recreational Fish Committee - Status Report

F. Deegen reported that the Recreational Fisheries Committee had met on October 20, 1987. The main topic of discussion centered around a proposal to compare side scan sonar and SCUBA observations as a means for compliance monitoring of artificial reef sites.

* S. Mitchell motioned to accept the report. Seconded by F. Richardson, the motion carried.

Discussion of A Proposal to Develop "Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Plans"

B. Byrd discussed the background of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act and reviewed the needs for fishery management plans for the Gulf States. Time frames and guidelines for plan approval were discussed. The States are still uncertain on many points, in particular implementation. Discussion was ended for lack of definitive information. It was noted that a topic of the General Session would be "The Status of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act" presented by D. Schafer of NMFS, Washington, DC.

Election of Chairman

* G. Brumfield nominated E. Joyce for chairman for the 1987-88 year. S. Mitchell seconded the nomination. With nominations closed, E. Joyce

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was elected chairman by unanimous acclamation.

* F. Richardson nominated B. Byrd for vice-chairman for the 1987-88 year. Their being no further nominations B. Byrd was elected by unanimous acclamation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Clyde Richbourg

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 21/
Thursday, October 22, 1987
Key West, Florida

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Part 1
MINUTES
Wednesday, October 21, 1987
Key West, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm by Larry Simpson. The following persons were present:

Members

W.S. "Corky" Perret (proxy for J. Angelle)	LA
R.P. Jones (proxy for T. Harper)	AL
Walter Tatum (proxy for J. Martin)	AL
George Brumfield (proxy for T. Millette)	MS
Fred Deegen (proxy for B. Quisenberry)	MS
Jerry E. Clark (proxy for C. Travis)	TX
Ralph Rayburn (proxy for L. Casterline)	TX
Sam Mitchell	FL
Tom Gardner	FL
Leroy Kiffe	LA
John Ray Nelson	AL

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
V.K. "Ginny" Herring, Executive Assistant
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator

Others

Gary E. Saul, TPWD, Austin, TX
Chuck Beck, Zapata Haynie Corporation, Hammond, LA
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL

Election of Chairman Pro Tem

L. Simpson apologized on behalf of Chairman Frank Patti who was unable to attend due to pressing obligations in Louisiana. Vice chairman Taylor Harper was also unable to attend. The floor was opened for nominations for Chairman Pro Tem.

* L. Kiffe nominated C. Perret. B. Jones seconded. The nomination was approved by unanimous acclamation.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following change: change positions of items 11 and 5.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held March 19, 1987 in Biloxi, Mississippi were reviewed and approved as written.

Proposed GSMFC FY88 Budget

* L. Simpson presented the Budget Committee's proposed FY88 budget which included a new grant (not yet awarded) for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Projects and a 3% employee raise. After brief discussion B. Jones motioned to approve the FY88 budget (attached) as presented. S. Mitchell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NMFS Budget

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on the proposed NMFS budget. He stated that the House version proposed a 5% reduction but did not specify how the reduction would be distributed. The Gramm-Rudman may be as high as 8.3% incorporating the 5% proposed reduction. Both Houses have added \$2 million for natural disasters. These funds have been historically used for oyster restoration.

HR 3341 - "Fisheries Research Funding Act of 1987

L. Simpson stated this legislation will impose fees on the harvesting and processing of fish within the exclusive economic zone. The proceeds of the fees will be used for research. The fees would be \$45.00/harvesting vessel, \$2.00/ton for processing vessels and \$15.00/recreational fishermen. The funding distribution will be as follows: 25% to Regional Fishery Management Councils; 10% to Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission; 10% to Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; 5% to Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; and 50% to National Marine Fisheries Service.

It was the consensus of those present that this legislation would not benefit the States, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission or industry. Chairman Pro Tem Perret requested L. Simpson to prepare a letter for review by the Commissioners against HR 3341 and that it then be distributed to the appropriate persons.

HR 1171 - "National Oceans Policy Commission Act of 1987"

L. Simpson stated that the main purpose of this Act is to establish a commission to propose to the Congress and to the President a

comprehensive oceans policy. This commission will be similar to the Stratton Commission which in the 1960's was instrumental in initially defining U.S. oceans policy and led to major legislation and the establishment of key institutions and marine policy.

There was some concern over membership. L. Simpson will watch the progress of this legislation to insure that Gulf interests are met and will keep the Commissioners informed.

HR 1467

L. Simpson stated that this legislation is to authorize funds to carry out the Endangered Species Act of 1973 for fiscal years 1988-1992. Amendments to this legislation were discussed in the Industry Advisory Committee and will be reported on later by that Committee.

Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Update

R. Lukens reported that the biological, social and economic background for the FMP had been updated and completed. The Committee is currently discussing management schemes and will develop option papers for review by the Commission. A mechanism for implementation will be discussed at a later date. The Committee has not approved anything for formal submission to the Commission at this time. Upon completion, a draft will be distributed for review.

W. Tatum expressed his approval of R. Lukens' coordination of this project.

Discussion ensued over the Commission's authority. R. Lukens stated that the Commission was not considering regulatory authority - that implementation would be up to the individual states. Option papers will be distributed for review and to assist in the determination of the most appropriate management measures.

There was further discussion regarding make up of the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee and the purpose of a state plan since a federal plan is already in existence. This discussion ended unresolved until the Commissioners could meet again the following day.

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Part II
MINUTES
Thursday, October 22, 1987
Key West, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chairman Pro Tem Corky Perret. The following persons were present:

Members

Gary Saul (proxy for L. Casterline)	TX
Jerry Clark (proxy for C. Travis)	TX
Sam Mitchell	FL
Ed Joyce (proxy for T. Gardner)	FL
W.S. Perret (proxy for J. Angelle)	LA
Leroy Kiffe	LA
John Ray Nelson	AL
Walter Tatum	AL
George Brumfield (proxy for T. Millette)	MS
Fred Deegen (proxy for B. Quisenberry)	MS

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
V.K. "Ginny" Herring, Executive Assistant
Ron Lukens, Program Coordinator
Tom Van Devender, SEAMAP Coordinator
Nancy Marcellus, Staff Assistant
Eileen Benton, Administrative Assistant
Lucia Hourihan, Publication Specialist

Others

I.B. "Buck" Byrd, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
J.Y. Christmas, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Jerry Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
John Cirino, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
David Etzold, Consultant, Pass Christian, MS
Billy Lunsford, Zapata Haynie Corp., Timonium, MD
Jack Styron, Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA

Spanish Mackerel Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) Update (Continued)

Discussion regarding make up of committee and committee procedure continued.

* W. Tatum motioned to appoint B. Jones to the Spanish Mackerel Subcommittee to represent industry views. G. Brumfield seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Because of existing expertise on the various GSMFC committees, the following procedure will be followed in the review process for FMPs: Industry Advisory Committee, Recreational Fisheries Committee, Law

Enforcement Committee, and Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board will review and comment on final drafts before the final review by the Executive Committee.

R. Lukens will follow this procedure. This mechanism will take longer but results will be more satisfactory.

J. Clark requested that Commissioners be notified of any meetings held regarding management plans, particularly in regards to biological data.

C. Perret directed L. Simpson to restructure Commission FMP procedures to enhance and improve where necessary.

Technical Coordinating Committee - Report

J.Y. Christmas reported on the TCC meeting held Wednesday, October 21, 1987. Of particular interest to Commissioners was the report by Sally Turner regarding the EPA's Gulf Initiative to develop a strategy for managing resources in the Gulf to achieve a balance between man-related activities and the preservation of living marine resources. The Executive Director was requested to write a thank-you letter to Ms. Turner for the report and to request further information so that the Commissioners can keep abreast of this effort.

* J.Y. Christmas presented a resolution from the SEAMAP Subcommittee requesting increased funding for full implementation of SEAMAP as originally envisioned. The resolution was revised (see attached). F. Deegen motioned to approve the revised resolution. B. Jones seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

* B. Jones motioned to accept the TCC report including a request for a Red Drum workshop to be held at the March 1988 meeting. S. Mitchell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Industry Advisory Committee - Report

L. Simpson reported that the Committee had met on October 20, 1987 and discussed topics of relevance to industry. The report included a request to the Commissioners to recommend that any proposed legislation delaying the implementation of TEDs apply to all (inshore and offshore).

Another request was to recommend that the Executive Director write appropriate persons or agencies requesting that \$1 million be appropriated to the Fishermen's Contingency Fund for FY89.

L. Kiffe and J. Waller discussed an enforcement survey. L. Simpson was directed to assist with locating available funding and to develop budget information. The survey itself was not formally approved but will be more fully developed and discussed with appropriate parties.

* The Industry Advisory Committee report including recommendations was approved unanimously.

Law Enforcement Committee - Report

J. Waller reported that the Law Enforcement Committee met on October 19, 1987. He presented several requests to the Commissioners.

* The first resolution presented regarded regulatory and enforcement authority relating to aquaculture products. This resolution (attached) was approved with J.R. Nelson abstaining.

J. Waller also presented resolutions regarding proper identification of aquaculture products and another requesting that the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference Law Enforcement Committee be made up of Law Enforcement officers only. Both of these resolutions were tabled until further information was available.

* W. Tatum motioned to approve the Committee's request that a Law Enforcement Committee member be appointed to all Commission FMP committees. J.R. Nelson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Waller presented each Commissioner with a copy of "Marine Laws and Regulations for the Gulf States". This publication is a summarized compilation of the five States which was collectively worked on by the Committee and prepared and edited by Commission staff.

* The Law Enforcement Committee report was accepted.

Recreational Fisheries Committee - Report

F. Deegen reported that the Recreational Fisheries Committee met on October 20, 1987. He presented a proposal to be submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to compare side scan sonar and SCUBA

observations as a means for compliance monitoring of artificial reef sites.

* W. Tatum motioned to approve the submission of the proposal to FWS for possible funding. E. Joyce seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

* At the request of the Committee, F. Deegen motioned to approve appointment of Lou Villanova, FWS, to the Committee. W. Tatum seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the merit of adding a commercial representative to the Committee. After discussion, this motion failed.

* The Recreational Fisheries Committee's report was accepted.

Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board - Report

* B. Byrd reported that the Board had met on October 21, 1987. He expressed the appreciation of Craig O'Connor, Acting Director of NMFS Southeast Regional Office, at being invited to the meetings and extended his invitation to call on him at any time. He presented the Board's recommendation that the Commissioners request Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to reevaluate their administrative code for the menhaden season in Louisiana and change it so menhaden can be landed only within the set season. F. Deegen so moved. G. Brumfield seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

* The Gulf State-Federal Fisheries Management Board's report was accepted.

Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Plan Project - Update

* D. Etzold reviewed the progress of the Commission's proposal for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Plan projects which had been approved by the Commission in February, 1987 and is currently awaiting formal award procedures. He asked the Commissioners for guidance regarding project initiation. J. Clark motioned to table discussion until the March 1988 meeting. E. Joyce seconded. Since this project is due to be awarded prior to the next meeting, W. Tatum offered a substitute motion requesting L. Simpson to arrange a conference call

within 30 days to discuss the project directions for year I. J.R. Nelson seconded. The motion carried with one opposing vote and one abstention.

Amendments to MFCMA/601 Regulations

* L. Simpson stated that a Policy Team would meet in November for a review of proposed amendments. There are few amendments that would affect the Gulf at this time. G. Brumfield motioned that the Executive Director support the existing regulations regarding the obligatory member to the Councils. J.R. Nelson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

L. Simpson reported that at the direction of the GSMFC Chairman and Budget Committee, GSMFC Travel Guidelines have been revised to be more in line with federal guidelines, now permitting \$33.00 a day per diem. He further reported that the Budget Committee would address employee merit raises in March 1988.

Other topics addressed were the Red Drum Workshop to be held in March 1988, presentation of a plaque honoring Ted Millette for his many years of service on the Commission and the problem of office space for Commission staff.

* L. Simpson discussed changing the Commission's time frame on preparing and presenting the annual budget. G. Brumfield motioned to continue the budget procedure as it is. F. Deegen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Future Meetings

* G. Herring presented four options for the meeting to be held in March 1988. G. Brumfield motioned to approve the proposal from the Perdido Beach Hilton in Gulf Shores, Alabama. E. Joyce seconded. The motion carried. J.R. Nelson and W. Tatum will work with the Commission staff on arranging tours at the ADCNR Claude Peteet Mariculture Center and a social visit to Bon Secour Fisheries.

Elections

* J.R. Nelson motioned to nominate Taylor Harper for Chairman for the year 1987-88. W. Tatum seconded. There being no further nominations, T. Harper was elected by unanimous acclamation.

* J. Clark nominated Leslie Casterline for Vice Chairman for the year 1987-88. J.R. Nelson seconded. There being no further nominations, L. Casterline was elected by unanimous acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm.

GSMFC PROPOSED FY88 BUDGET

	FY87 APPROVED BUDGET	FY88 PROPOSED OPERATING FUNDS	FY 88 TOTAL GRANTS	TOTAL FY 88 PROPOSED BUDGET
1. SALARIES				
a. Executive Director	41,839	16,840	26,254	43,094
b. Assistant to Director	-			
c. Executive Assistant	24,006	7,079	17,647	24,726
d. Staff Assistant (13,961)	13,576	3,788	10,592	14,380
e. MARFIN Secretary (13,191)	10,047		13,587	13,587
f. Technical Typist			12,093	12,093
g. Publication Specialist	16,162	3,111	13,536	16,647
h. SEAMAP Coordinator	23,000		23,690	23,690
i. DJ Coordinator (23,000)	12,827		23,690	23,690
j. IFMP Coordinator			19,167	19,167
k. Contract Labor	16,999	5,111	2,313	7,424
l. Health Insurance	14,118	8,873	15,327	24,200
m. Retirement	8,115	3,124	8,356	11,480
n. Payroll Taxes	10,848	4,749	9,440	14,189
2. MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS				
a. Office Rental	3,000	400	2,600	3,000
b. Office Supplies	4,942	1,500	5,769	7,269
c. Postage	8,820	1,500	9,146	10,646
d. Professional Svc.	2,800	2,400	200	2,600
e. Travel (staff)	18,000	8,000	5,775	13,775
f. Telephone	9,625	4,000	7,150	11,150
g. Office Equipment	12,200		12,357	12,357
h. Copying Expenses	13,120	1,000	14,754	15,754
i. Printing	11,991	1,000	23,970	24,970
j. Meeting Cost	18,250	18,000	10,857	28,857
k. Subscriptions/Dues	1,000	1,000		1,000
l. Auto Expense	1,250	500	375	875
m. Insurance-auto/bond	1,750	1,300		1,300
n. Maintenance (office equip.)	4,624	7,125		7,125
o. Petty Cash	300	400		400
p. Commission Courtesies	300	400		400
q. Committee Travel	60,093		85,794	85,794
r. Contractual	4,734		25,000	25,000
TOTAL	368,336	101,200	399,439	500,639
INCOME				
1. STATE CONTRIBUTIONS				
a. Alabama	11,250	11,250		
b. Florida	22,500	22,500		
c. Louisiana	22,500	22,500		
d. Mississippi	11,250	11,250		
e. Texas	22,500	22,500		
STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TOTAL				90,000
2. INTEREST	6,500	5,000		5,000
3. REGISTRATION FEES	6,000	6,200		6,200
4. GRANTS				
a. Council	25,000		24,581	
b. IFMP			116,667	
c. Anadromous Fish	7,500		11,543	
d. SEAMAP	94,168		105,445	
e. Dingell-Johnson	58,902		76,425	
f. MARFIN Administrative	56,766		57,778	
g. MARFIN (Red Drum)	7,000		7,000	
h. State/Federal	16,500		-	
GRANTS TOTAL				399,439
TOTAL	368,336	101,200	399,439	500,639

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
ALABAMA
FLORIDA
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS



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A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, fishery resources of the southeast region of the United States are the basis of important commercial and recreational fisheries which are vital to the economy of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, increasing concern has been expressed about the health and continued productivity of many of these resources, and

WHEREAS, there are a number of fishery resources for which information is sorely lacking, and

WHEREAS, State and Federal agencies have joined efforts in the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) to collect fishery-independent data essential for the management and wise development of fishery resources, and

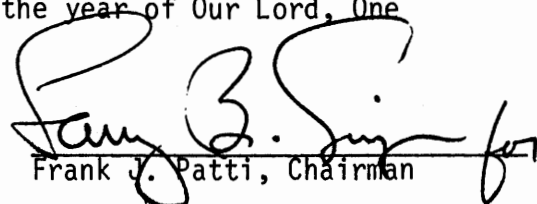
WHEREAS, SEAMAP has proven its value for fishery research and management even though funded at a level much lower than planned or needed for full implementation of the Program, and

WHEREAS, a Caribbean component had been planned to become part of the Program, but insufficient funding has prevented this expansion from taking place,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission requests the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to join it in establishing a joint SEAMAP Work Group to prepare a budget initiative, in cooperation with appropriate representatives from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, for distribution to members of the U.S. Congress, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the initiative be designed for full implementation of the SEAMAP Gulf and South Atlantic programs, and initiation of a comparable program in the U.S. Caribbean.

Given this the 22nd day of October in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.


Frank J. Patti, Chairman

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

MEMBER STATES
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LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION #2 RELATING TO REGULATORY AND ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, resource protection agencies are responsible for protection of wild fish species, and

WHEREAS, aquaculture raising of hybrid or native fish species create a system that could be used to market undersized native fish species, and

WHEREAS, regulatory and enforcement control of the interstate movement and marketing of aquaculture raised fish by resource protection agencies is critical to the protection of wild stock, and

WHEREAS, Louisiana resource protection agency has recently lost control of aquaculture raised fish species and has no enforcement authority over the tagging, transporting, and marketing, this authority now being under the Louisiana Department of Agriculture, and

WHEREAS, other States, South Carolina and Maryland are considering a similar move to place aquaculture under their respective departments of agriculture,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission inform and urge all states that the Department of Natural Resources or other marine resource agencies of the various states maintain control of the regulatory and enforcement responsibilities relating to aquaculture.

Given this the 22nd day of October in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Eighty-Seven.

Frank J. Patti, Chairman

