

R. E. Matheson
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

BLACK DRUM TECHNICAL TASK FORCE
Minutes
March 25-26, 1991
Mobile, Alabama

Ed Matheson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. The following were in attendance:

Members

Ed Matheson, FMRI, St. Petersburg
Mark Van Hoose, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Clarence Luquet, LDWF, New Orleans, LA
Karen Meador, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Jim Robertson, TPWD, Austin, TX
Doug Horn, Clark Seafood, Pascagoula, MS
Walter Keithly, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA

Staff

Rick Leard, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Cindy Dickens, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

Minutes from the August 16-17, 1990, meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana, were adopted as presented.

Review of Section Drafts

The task force reviewed, discussed and edited current draft sections. Several editorial points were refined (use of metric and standard lengths, etc.). The task force agreed to have new drafts by early June.

Discussion of Data Management Subcommittee Recommendations

R. Leard reported the TCC Data Management Subcommittee had no recommendations and would not perform the population dynamics portion of the fishery management plan. The task force felt unable to perform this portion of the work themselves and agreed direction was needed as to who and how the work would be done. The task force asked R. Leard to obtain direction from higher within the Commission and report back to the task force.

Discussion of Management Considerations and Recommendations

The task force will review current sections and send in general recommendations until the population dynamics portion of the FMP is done.

Time Table/Future Meeting Date

The task force agreed to have completed section drafts by early June. A tentative meeting date has been scheduled for the week of June 17.

Other Business

K. Meador replaced S. Marwitz as the Texas representative on the the task force. R. Leard reminded task force members to send in full literature cites. M. Van Hoose tentatively scheduled a work session on section 5 to be held at the GSMFC office.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned Tuesday, March 26, 1991, at 12:00 pm.

Willis

TCC HABITAT SUBCOMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES
April 9, 1991

Larry Lewis, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm CST. The following were in attendance:

Members

- Larry Lewis, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS
- Scott Willis, FMRI, St. Petersburg, FL
- Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
- C.E. Bryan, TPWD, Austin, TX
- J. Troxel, FWS, Panama City, FL

Staff

- Larry Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held December 5, 1989, in Biloxi, Mississippi, and the conference call minutes of January 18, 1990, were adopted as written.

Review of Membership of Habitat Subcommittee and Addition of A Representative from the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council (GMFMC)

* Membership of the subcommittee was reviewed. Interest by the GMFMC was discussed concerning their membership on the Commission's TCC Habitat Subcommittee. The full Council has authorized Dick Hoogland to serve on the subcommittee. A motion was made and passed to invite a representative of the GMFMC to serve as a full voting member of the subcommittee. A letter of invitation will be sent to the GMFMC.

Proposed Workshop by A. Rosenfield

Dr. Aaron Rosenfield has been in contact with Chairman L. Lewis to determine interest in the subcommittee's endorsing and participating on the steering committee for a workshop on introduction and transfer of exotics. The title of the workshop is "Introductions and Transfers of Aquatic Organisms into the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea: Their Ecological Implications." The purpose of the workshop is to communicate and explain available measures and strategies that will help prevent or reduce ecological problems associated with introductions and transfers of living marine organisms into the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. He feels with the increased work in the aquaculture area that it is very important to focus on these issues. Dr. Rosenfield wants someone on

the TCC Habitat Subcommittee to work with him and the steering committee to organize the agenda and the speakers. The time frame for the workshop is the spring or fall of 1992 at a location yet to be determined.

* The subcommittee first thought about endorsing the workshop, but after further discussions made and passed a motion to endorse the workshop in concept because of its timeliness. The subcommittee wants to further review the information regarding its specific contents. The GSMFC will distribute the conference information to the subcommittee for this review. The subcommittee will convene at a later date to formalize their position on the workshop. The subcommittee will report to the Technical Coordinating Committee at a later date on whether the subcommittee wants to be further involved with this project.

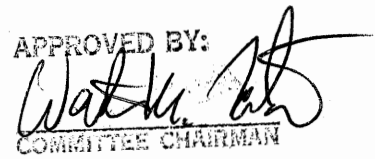
Mission Statement

The mission statement for the subcommittee was reviewed. The subcommittee will approach their future work with the statement in mind. Modification of the mission statement may be necessary in the future.

Annual Meeting Schedule

The subcommittee was concerned with the lack of scheduled meetings and discussed the potential to meet regularly in conjunction with the semiannual GSMFC meetings. After discussion, the subcommittee decided to continue as they have in the past with the chairman calling and bringing issues to the subcommittee through the mail and conference calls. Regular sit-down type meetings of the group will be scheduled when appropriate and needed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, April 15, 1991
Galveston, Texas

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, April 15, 1991
Galveston, TX

Chairman Walter Tatum called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Joe Kimmel, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Terry Cody (proxy for G. Matlock), TPWD, Rockport, TX

Staff

David Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator
Cheryl Noble, Staff Assistant

Others

Ken Savastano, NMFS, Stennis Space Center, MS
Page Campbell, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Lance Robinson, TPWD, Seabrook, TX
Billy Fuls, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Peng Choi, TPWD, Austin, TX
Douglas Gregory, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Warren Stuntz, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Lucy Gibbs, Texas Shrimp Association, Austin, TX
Jim Hanifen, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Greg Lutz, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Peter Rubec, TPWD, Austin, TX

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- Discussion of Finfish Matrix
- Election of Officers
- Data Management Work Group Report
- Discussion of Joint Meeting Site
- Approval of Resolution from Data Management Subcommittee

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held October 17, 1990 in Panama City, Florida were approved with several minor changes.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

W. Tatum was reelected as chairman of the SEAMAP subcommittee and R. Waller was reelected as vice chairman.

Discussion of Finfish Matrix

S. Lazauski reported that the finfish matrix has been distributed to all of the states. He requested that the subcommittee members review the matrix and contact him with any comments.

Discussion of Dissemination of Real-time Data

W. Tatum stated the Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) sent him a letter expressing their concern regarding the dissemination of real-time data. TSA believes that the real-time survey causes pulse fishing off the Texas coast. TSA requested that the SEAMAP subcommittee delay the mailing of real-time data. It was pointed out, however, that the purpose of survey was to provide the data in near real-time so fisheries managers and industry members can effectively utilize the information. Also, the information collected during this survey cannot be withheld from the public and if someone requests the data, it must be provided to that person. Several subcommittee members believed that there was not enough information concerning the perceived problem of pulse fishing caused by the real-time survey. The subcommittee decided the stoppage or delay of the real-time survey was not their decision and should be passed onto the TCC. The subcommittee should however provide some recommendations to the TCC.

* After a lengthy discussion, several failed motions and short break, J. Kimmel moved to recommend that the TCC instigate a mechanism where by SEAMAP can identify if a problem from the dissemination of real-time data really exists. The motion was passed.

Discussion of the Crescent Initiative

S. Nichols explained that within NOAA, there is a new structure called the Coastal Ocean Program (COP) which is trying to tie together the basic research among NOAA. One of the themes of COP is Coastal Fisheries Ecosystems (CFE) which deals with early life history.

S. Nichols stated that through the CFE program, the Crescent Initiative could receive funding. A concept document is being completed which outlines the initiative. S. Nichols stated that there is approximately 20% chance of receiving funding. SEAMAP would be involved in the Crescent Initiative by providing the project management for the program.

S. Nichols reported that the initiative would concentrate on the mechanisms that drive the establishment of both short-term and long-term variations of year-class strength for species that are predominantly coastal, such as mackerels and snappers. The focus will be on the coastal species and the affects of the physical environment on these species.

* S. Nichols asked the Subcommittee for authorization to propose in the concept document that SEAMAP be the management agency for the Crescent Initiative. He moved that the SEAMAP Subcommittee accept the role that SEAMAP would play in the Crescent Initiative and give their endorsement for this project. The motion passed with Texas voting against.

Work Group Reports

Environmental

W. Stuntz reported that the archiving of the environmental data is going well. The work group have concerns regarding the standardization of gear between the entities collecting data. W. Stuntz recommended that the Pascagoula Labs send personnel to the various Gulf States to calibrate the environmental gear

used for collection. The SEAMAP Subcommittee approved the work group's recommendation.

The issue of the inclusion of temperature readings in the database was discussed. As of now, if temperature readings are not recorded by CTD, they are not included in the SEAMAP data system. R. Waller pointed out that the cost of CTD prevented many states from purchasing one of these units. W. Stuntz stated that the cost of CTDs have been greatly reduce. It was decided that the work group should provide information concerning the costs of CTDs to the states.

* T. Cody expressed his desire for additional columns in the data system so the type of gear used to collect temperature and salinity could be included. T. Cody moved that the SEAMAP Subcommittee support a gear code change to reflect the type of gear used for the collection of temperature and salinity. The motion passed.

Plankton

D. Donaldson, reported for Work Group leader J. Schultz, stated that the Plankton Work Group held a conference call on April 4, 1991. The work group decided that states should try to sample as close to the bottom as possible and in 20 meters or less, the settling time should be changed from 1 minute to 30 seconds. It was also decided to add another category for "Sample Initial Preservative" in the data system. The category would be designated as "5 = Otofix". The issue of the exclusivity of the catalogue number was discussed. K. Savastano stated that this problem had been resolved.

* D. Donaldson reported that the Polish Sorting Center (PSC) was expanding and there is no indication that it is going to close. The work group asked the SEAMAP Subcommittee to draft a letter requesting the removal of the money from the PSC. R. Waller moved that all future payments be stopped to the PSC; Don

Hoss, on behalf of the work group, request that samples not sorted be returned and that future funding that was to be paid to the PSC by used for payment of alternative sorting centers. The motion passed. R. Waller moved to hold all future plankton samples until an alternative sorting center is selected. The motion passed.

D. Donaldson reported on alternative sorting centers. The Atlantic Reference Center (ARC) has increased their sorters from 5 to 21. The ARC has the time and sorters available to sort SEAMAP plankton samples. A preliminary cost estimate of \$58 - \$65/sample was given to the work group. Representative samples of SEAMAP plankton will be sent to the ARC to get a better idea of the cost/sample. Using these preliminary cost estimates, it would cost approximately \$17,000 for all of the Gulf States to have the plankton samples sorted at the ARC. The work group asked that the money saved from using the ARC be used to implement a Winter Plankton Survey.

* The work group requested that Alonzo Hamilton (NMFS) be added to the Plankton Work Group. W. Tatum accepted a motion that Alonzo Hamilton be added to the work group. The motion passed.

Adult Finfish

* S. Nichols reported that NMFS is continuing their reef fish sampling. He reported that SEAMAP have been requested to develop a comprehensive research plan for reef fish. S. Nichols moved that the SEAMAP Subcommittee, through the Adult Finfish Work Group, formulate a working plan to guide reef fish research. The motion passed.

Data Management

K. Savastano distributed and reviewed the SEAMAP Data Management Report

(attached). Items noted included:

- data entry, edit and verification of 1989 data is complete. The work on the 1990 data is continuing.
- processing of the 1987 and 1988 SEAMAP Atlases has been completed and the documents have been printed. The 1989 data editing is complete and atlas processing has been initiated.
- 99 of 103 requests for data have been completed and work is being performed on the remaining requests.
- SEAMAP Data Management efforts continue to be focused on getting the data management central operations totally in place and performing the necessary software enhancement to improve and streamline the operational/production aspects of the system.

Other Business

W. Tatum discussed the site for the Joint SEAMAP Meeting. D. Donaldson reported that it was supposed to be held in Savannah, GA but due to travel restrictions by the SEAMAP Atlantic component of SEAMAP, the site will be determined at a later date.

* W. Tatum stated the resolution to be approved is trying to get NOAA to keep SEAMAP, State/Federal Cooperative Statistics and other similar programs in a non-competitive cooperative agreement situation. W. Tatum accepted a motion to accept the resolution concerning the non-competitive nature of some State-Federal programs. The motion passed with NMFS abstaining.

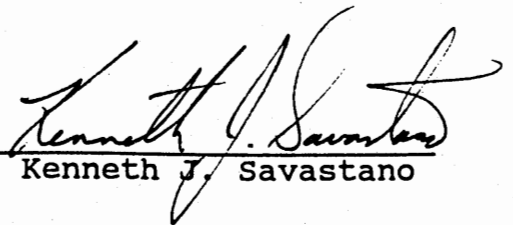
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

April 10, 1991

SEAMAP DATA MANAGEMENT REPORT

- A. The SEAMAP data entry, edit, and verification have been completed for the 1989 Gulf data and the status is shown in Attachment 1. The status of the 1990 Gulf data is shown in Attachment 2. The South Atlantic 1989 data are currently being converted to the SEAMAP format and processed through the SEAMAP edit software. The first test set is expected to be completed by the end of April.
- B. Processing of the 1987 and 1988 SEAMAP Atlases has been completed and the documents have been printed. The 1989 data editing is complete and the 1989 SEAMAP ATLAS processing has been initiated.
- C. One hundred and three SEAMAP requests have been received to date. Ninety-nine have been completed and work is being done on the remaining requests.
- D. SEAMAP Data Management efforts continue to be focused on getting the data management central operations totally in place and performing the necessary software enhancements to improve and streamline the operational/production aspects of the system. With the exception of plankton data, the 1989 and half of the 1990 Gulf SEAMAP data have been processed through the entry, edit, upload, and data base segments of the system and are currently on-line on the NMFS Burroughs 7900 system in Seattle, Washington. Effort continues to be placed on getting the remaining 1990 Gulf data and the South Atlantic 1989/1990 data into the system as rapidly as possible. This is required before work starts on the 1991 data sets. Conversion of the 1982-1988 data is being handled on a time available or second level priority. A fair amount of effort has been put into getting the ichthyoplankton module of the system fully operational. Initial efforts have identified several system change requirements that have been documented and are currently getting resolved. Tentative schedule for getting the ichthyoplankton software fully operational is set for August, 1991. Version 1.17 of the SEAMAP Software System was shipped to all users on April 8, 1991 (Attachment 3). Approximately 70% of the total SEAMAP DATA Management's estimated cost of \$559,074 has been committed to contracts or \$387,090. Approximately 99% of the committed contract money or \$382,579 has been used as of February 24, 1991. Attachments 4 and 5 provide the status of the system modules.

- E. The SEAMAP Data Management System is currently operational on the Burroughs 7900 in Seattle, Washington. A new main frame has been leased and installed in Miami. Implementation of the SEAMAP Data Management System on the Miami main frame has not been scheduled as of this time.


Kenneth J. Savastano

SEAMAP 1989

DATA SOURCE	VESSEL	CRUISE	STATUS	INVENTORY	BIOLOGICAL		ENVIRONMENTAL	GENERAL L/F	SHRIMP L/F		ICHTHYOPLANKTON			DATE DBASED	TOTAL
					STATION	SPECIES			STATION	L/F	STATION	SAMPLE	SPECIES		
AL	23	891	3	7	7	103	7	363	3	96	*1	*1	*1	*1 14-Mar-90	586
AL	23	892	3	10	10	200	10	991	7	166	*1	*1	*1	*1 09-May-90	1394
AL	23	893	3	10	*1	*1	10	*1	*1	*1	10	10		18-Jun-90	30
AL	23	894	3	12	11	259	12	1452	11	164	*1	*1	*1	*1 21-Jun-90	1921
FL	36	891	3	25	*1	*1	25	*1	*1	*1	25	75		26-Sep-90	125
FL	36	892	3	36	*1	*1	36	*1	*1	*1				15-Nov-90	72
LA	35	891	3	24	24	614	24	7921	21	140				19-Feb-91	8768
LA	35	892	3	22	22	439	22	4002	17	290				20-Feb-91	4814
LA	25	893	3	21	21	163	21	1106	11	118				01-Mar-91	1461
LA	35	894	3	24	24	572	24	4385	24	499				04-Mar-91	5552
LA	25	895	3	21	21	228	21	1940	11	225				15-Mar-91	2467
LA	35	896	3	10	10	286	10	2718	9	185	*1	*1	*1	*1 18-Mar-91	3228
LA	35	897	3	16	16	493	16	3636	16	571				18-Mar-91	4764
MS	17	891	3	41	34	987	41	7589	21	261	8	22		09-May-90	8996
MS	17	892	3	5	*1	*1	5	*1	*1	*1	5	15		09-May-90	25
MS	17	893	3	20	17	568	20	4631	*1	*1	3	9		14-Jun-90	5265
TX	31	891	3	16	16	174	16	575	9	115	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	921
TX	32	891	3	16	16	323	16	1992	13	709	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	3085
TX	33	891	3	16	16	354	16	1967	16	546	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	2931
TX	34	891	3	16	16	268	16	1481	16	651	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	2464
TX	40	891	3	16	16	205	16	1035	15	382	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	1685
TX	31	892	3	16	16	199	16	582	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	829
TX	32	892	3	16	16	307	16	1826	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	2181
TX	33	892	3	16	16	312	16	1421	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	1781
TX	34	892	3	16	16	204	16	1112	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	1364
TX	40	892	3	16	16	263	16	1462	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1 22-Aug-90	1773
US	4	179	3	571	438	847	37	2177	*1	*1				27-Oct-90	4070
US	4	180	3	244	243	4052	188	26051	141	4815	21	63		18-Jun-90	35797
US	4	183	3	115	*1	*1	115	*1	*1	*1	75	153		27-Sep-90	383
US	4	184	3	512	490	11999	251	66971	*1	*1	38	120		18-Nov-90	80343
US	49	892	3	141	*1	*1	138	*1	*1	*1				14-Nov-90	279
TOTAL				2047	1548	24419	1193	149386	361	9933	185	467	0	0	189354

STATUS CODES:

*1 NOT TAKEN

2 ENTERED IN P.C.

3 ENTERED ON BURROUGHS 7900 (VERIFIED AND DATA BASED)

09-Apr-91

SEANAP 1990

DATA SOURCE	VESSEL CRUISE		STATUS	INVENTORY	BIOLOGICAL STATION	SPECIES	ENVIRONMENTAL	GENERAL L/F	SHRIMP L/F STATION	L/F	ICHTHYOPLANKTON STATION	SAMPLE	SPECIES	L/F	DATE DBASED	TOTAL
FL	36	901	3	21	*1	*1	21	*1	*1	*1					30-Oct-90	42
LA	25	903	3	21	21	142	21	1436	9	202					02-Apr-91	1852
MS	17	901	3	44	40	1086	44	8868	10	395					11-Jan-91	10487
MS	17	903	3	24	24	727	20	4470	*1	*1					22-Feb-91	5265
TX	31	901	3	16	16	128	16	456	9	69	*1	*1	*1	*1	15-Mar-91	710
TX	32	901	3	16	16	267	16	1571	11	431	*1	*1	*1	*1	15-Mar-91	2328
TX	33	901	3	16	16	289	16	1606	14	205	*1	*1	*1	*1	15-Mar-91	2162
TX	34	901	3	16	16	125	16	608	5	101	*1	*1	*1	*1	15-Mar-91	887
TX	40	901	3	16	16	120	16	786	7	218	*1	*1	*1	*1	15-Mar-91	1179
US	4	187	3	290	*1	*1	139	*1	*1	*1	277	405			10-Oct-90	834
US	4	188	3	61	61	71	9	278	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	*1	20-Jan-91	480
TOTAL				541	226	2955	334	20079	65	1621	277	405	0	0		24912

STATUS CODES:

*1 NOT TAKEN

2 ENTERED IN P.C.

3 ENTERED ON BURROUGHS 7900 (VERIFIED AND DATA BASED)

**SVERDRUP TECHNOLOGY, INC.
SSC GROUP****MEMORANDUM****File No:** 91-4731-421**Date:** April 8, 1991

To SEAMAP Users **Organization** **Mail Stop:**
From SEAMAP Central Operations
Thru
Subject SEAMAP Version 1.17

Enclosed please find a complete set of diskettes for Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) Data Management System (DMS) Version 1.17. The installation program has been included to install updates as well as to perform a first time installation. However, it is written for SEAMAP to be distributed on 3.5 inch floppy diskettes. Refer to attachment one for procedures to install SEAMAP DMS Version 1.17 from 5.25 inch floppy diskettes. Refer to Section 3.1.2 of the SEAMAP DMS Users Manual for installation instructions from 3.5 inch floppy diskettes.

Also enclosed are updates to your current SEAMAP DMS Users Manual. Replace the pages in your manual with the updated pages. Pages which contain a letter after the page number should be placed after the appropriate page. Those are additions to the manual and not replacement pages. Appendix D should be replaced with the updated Appendix.

Below is a list of enhancements made for SEAMAP DMS Version 1.17.

- o Several downloading procedures have been enhanced. The SEAMAP user can now submit several downloading jobs at once.
- o The Print Program now outputs the system date on the listing.
- o The online documentation screen display and print have been enhanced.
- o Several entry/edit problems brought to our attention by SEAMAP users have been corrected.
- o When building upload files, the user now has an option to cancel if the cruise or vessel number entered was incorrect.

- o If general length frequency data has been entered with an older version of the biocode table, the records can now be re-biocode by simply displaying the record through SEAMAP.
- o The genus/species tables on three Pascagoula Station Sheets - Type II Gulf, Type II South Atlantic, and Type III - were updated.
- o The biocode, ichthyoplankton gear code, ichthyoplankton mesh code, operation code, and ichthyoplankton area/project code tables were updated.

Also enclosed is an upgraded version of Batch Verification. Refer to the Batch Verification documentation to install Batch Verification. Below is a list of the modifications.

- o Batch Verification has been optimized and should run much faster.
- o When Batch Verification detects an error on a general length frequency genus/species record, the measurement code is now included in the error message.
- o The biocode, ichthyoplankton gear code, ichthyoplankton mesh code, operation code, and ichthyoplankton area/project code tables were updated.

Please complete processing any SEAMAP cruises that are on your system using SEAMAP Version 1.16 prior to installing SEAMAP Version 1.17. The biocode table in SEAMAP Version 1.17 has changed from Version 1.16. The biocode for genus/species records entered using Version 1.16 may not match the biocodes for SEAMAP Version 1.17.

If you have any questions about the SEAMAP DMS, please call SEAMAP Central Operations at (601) 688-3511.

Charlene Burns
Charlene Burns
SEAMAP Central Operations

Enclosures

EARNED VALUE SUMMARY REPORT
 BASED ON CURRENT FUNDING
 SEAMAP DMS IMPLEMENTATION
 24 FEBRUARY 1991

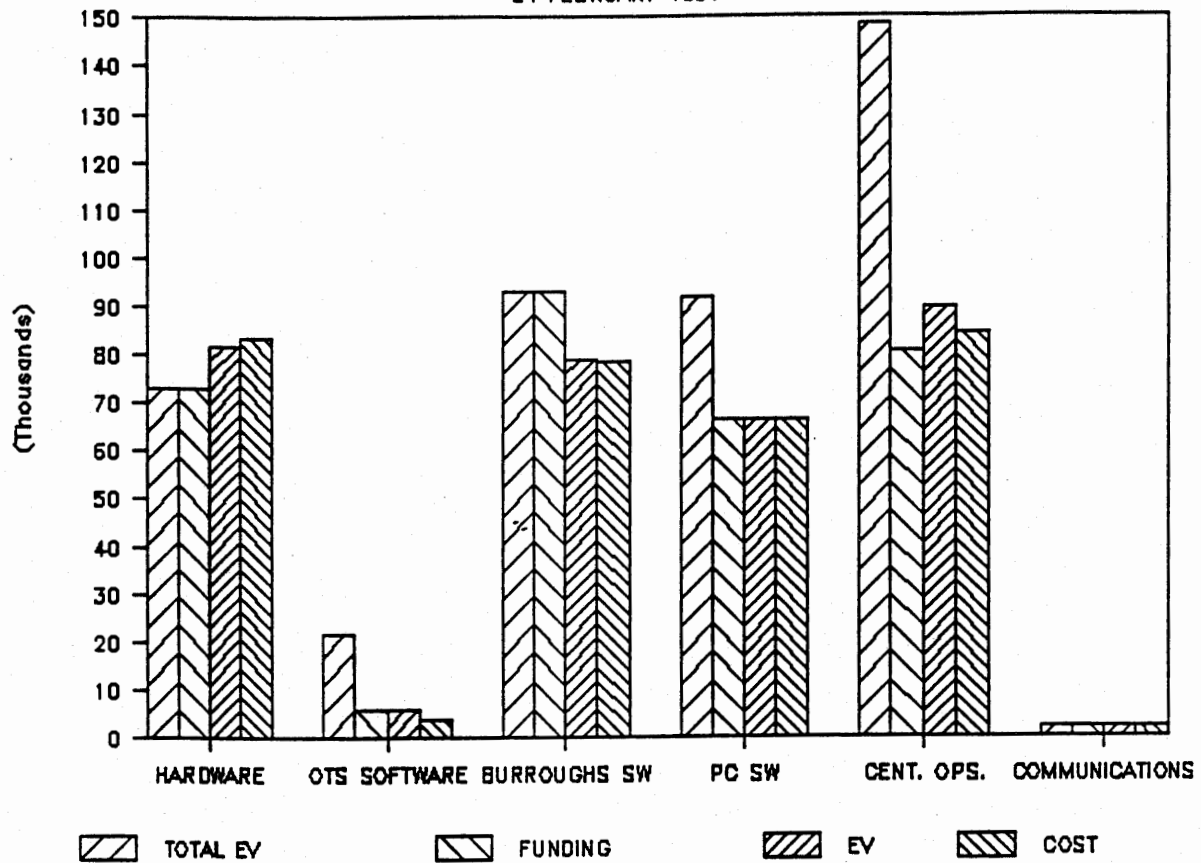
UNIT NAME	TWR#	EV TO DATE	XEV	ACTUAL COST	XSPENT	VAR (A-E)	XVAR (VAR/EV)	EIC	NVAR	XNVAR	CURRENT MODULE EV	CURRENT FUNDS REMAINING
TOTAL DMS IMP.	--	\$432,300	111.7%	\$382,579	98.8%	(\$49,721)	-11.5%	\$0	(\$49,721)	-11.5%	\$387,090	\$4,511
TOTAL LABOR	--	\$304,772	110.4%	\$263,079	95.3%	(\$41,693)	-13.7%	\$0	(\$41,693)	-13.7%	\$276,023	\$12,944
TOTAL PROC.	--	\$125,655	115.1%	\$117,627	107.7%	(\$8,028)	-6.4%	\$0	(\$8,028)	-6.4%	\$109,194	(\$8,433)
TOTAL TRAVEL	--	\$1,873	100.0%	\$1,873	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$1,873	\$0
Total HW Cost	--	\$81,906	111.8%	\$83,322	113.7%	\$1,416	1.7%	\$0	\$1,416	1.7%	\$73,251	(\$10,574)
HW Proc Labor	MF4A34	\$3,251	100.0%	\$2,748	84.5%	(\$503)	-15.5%	\$0	(\$503)	-15.5%	\$3,251	\$0
HW Proc	(NMFS)	\$78,655	112.4%	\$80,574	115.1%	\$1,919	2.4%	0	\$1,919	2.4%	\$70,000	(\$10,574)
Total SW Cost	--	\$5,751	100.0%	\$3,599	62.6%	(\$2,152)	-37.4%	\$0	(\$2,152)	-37.4%	\$5,752	\$2,153
SW Proc Labor	MF4A37	\$751	99.9%	\$740	98.4%	(\$11)	-1.5%	\$0	(\$11)	-1.5%	\$752	\$12
SW Proc	(NMFS)	\$5,000	100.0%	\$2,859	57.2%	(\$2,141)	-42.8%	0	(\$2,141)	-42.8%	\$5,000	\$2,141
Travel Cost	--	\$1,873	100.0%	\$1,873	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$1,873	\$0
NMFS	MF4A37	\$1,873	100.0%	\$1,873	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$1,873	\$0
Burroughs SW	--	\$79,000	84.9%	\$78,519	84.4%	(\$481)	-0.6%	\$0	(\$481)	-0.6%	\$93,000	\$14,481
Data Handler	MF4A33	\$42,500	100.0%	\$42,486	100.0%	(\$14)	0.0%	\$0	(\$14)	0.0%	\$42,500	\$14
Data Handler	UUPL03-01	\$2,000	100.0%	\$1,997	99.9%	(\$3)	-0.2%	\$0	(\$3)	-0.2%	\$2,000	\$3
Data Handler	UM0012-03	\$1,000	100.0%	\$991	99.1%	(\$9)	-0.9%	\$0	(\$9)	-0.9%	\$1,000	\$9
Reformat	MF4A01	\$20,000	100.0%	\$19,995	100.0%	(\$5)	0.0%	\$0	(\$5)	0.0%	\$20,000	\$5
Reformat 90	MF004A54	\$1,000	6.7%	\$562	3.7%	(\$438)	-43.8%	\$0	(\$438)	-43.8%	\$15,000	\$14,438
On-line Doc	MF4A38	\$7,500	100.0%	\$7,488	99.8%	(\$12)	-0.2%	\$0	(\$12)	-0.2%	\$7,500	\$12
Mbox/Bboard	UM0012-04	\$5,000	100.0%	\$5,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$5,000	\$0
PC Software	--	\$66,500	100.0%	\$66,485	100.0%	(\$15)	0.0%	\$0	(\$15)	0.0%	\$66,500	\$15
Upload	MF4A32	\$32,000	100.0%	\$31,997	100.0%	(\$3)	0.0%	\$0	(\$3)	0.0%	\$32,000	\$3
Upload	UM0011-02	\$5,000	100.0%	\$5,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$5,000	\$0
Upload	UM0011-03	\$2,000	100.0%	\$2,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$2,000	\$0
Upload	UUPL03-02	\$6,000	100.0%	\$6,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$6,000	\$0
Download	MF4A31	\$17,500	100.0%	\$17,488	99.9%	(\$12)	-0.1%	\$0	(\$12)	-0.1%	\$17,500	\$12
Download	UM0012-01	\$3,000	100.0%	\$3,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$3,000	\$0
Download	UM0012-02	\$1,000	100.0%	\$1,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$1,000	\$0
Analysis/Disp	NCF	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0

EARNED VALUE SUMMARY REPORT
 BASED ON CURRENT FUNDING
 SEAMAP DMS IMPLEMENTATION
 24 FEBRUARY 1991

UNIT NAME	TWR#	EV TO DATE	%EV	ACTUAL COST	%SPENT	VAR (A-E)	%VAR (VAR/EV)	EIC	NVAR	%NVAR	CURRENT MODULE EV	CURRENT FUNDS REMAINING
Central Ops	--	\$89,870	111.9%	\$84,099	104.7%	(\$5,771)	-6.4%	\$0	(\$5,771)	-6.4%	\$80,320	(\$3,779)
Sys Mgmt 89	MF4A40	\$5,000	100.0%	\$5,020	100.4%	\$20	0.4%	\$0	\$20	0.4%	\$5,000	(\$20)
Tech Pub 89	MF4A41	\$270	100.0%	\$178	65.9%	(\$92)	-34.1%	\$0	(\$92)	-34.1%	\$270	\$92
Sys Mgmt 90	MF004A48	\$15,000	85.7%	\$22,553	128.9%	\$7,553	50.4%	\$0	\$7,553	50.4%	\$17,500	(\$5,053)
Tech Pub 90	MF4A49	\$50	100.0%	\$22	44.0%	(\$28)	-56.0%	\$0	(\$28)	-56.0%	\$50	\$28
Data Process	MF004A53	\$10,000	80.0%	\$10,409	83.3%	\$409	4.1%	\$0	\$409	4.1%	\$12,500	\$2,091
PC SW Main 89	MF4A44	\$10,000	100.0%	\$9,991	99.9%	(\$9)	-0.1%	\$0	(\$9)	-0.1%	\$10,000	\$9
PC SW Main 90	MF004A47	\$10,000	80.0%	\$10,605	84.8%	\$605	6.1%	\$0	\$605	6.1%	\$12,500	\$1,895
B SW Main 89	MF4A45	\$5,000	100.0%	\$4,997	99.9%	(\$3)	-0.1%	\$0	(\$3)	-0.1%	\$5,000	\$3
B SW Main 90	MF004A46	\$17,500	100.0%	\$20,324	116.1%	\$2,824	16.1%	\$0	\$2,824	16.1%	\$17,500	(\$2,824)
Req 1/88-11/90	(NMFS)	\$17,050	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$17,050)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$17,050)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
Archival	NCF	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0
Communications	MF4A36	\$2,000	100.0%	\$2,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$2,000	\$0
Training	--	\$20,200	100.0%	\$20,172	99.9%	(\$28)	-0.1%	\$0	(\$28)	-0.1%	\$20,200	\$28
Site Users	MF4A39	\$5,000	100.0%	\$4,994	99.9%	(\$6)	-0.1%	\$0	(\$6)	-0.1%	\$5,000	\$6
Training Prep	UM0012-05	\$3,000	100.0%	\$3,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$3,000	\$0
Gulf Train	UM0012-06	\$4,000	100.0%	\$4,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$4,000	\$0
Atl Train	MF4A43	\$2,000	100.0%	\$1,983	99.2%	(\$17)	-0.9%	\$0	(\$17)	-0.9%	\$2,000	\$17
Sys Maint	UM0012-07	\$3,000	100.0%	\$3,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$3,000	\$0
Sys S/W Train	MF4A42	\$3,000	100.0%	\$2,995	99.8%	(\$5)	-0.2%	\$0	(\$5)	-0.2%	\$3,000	\$5
Tech Pub 90	MF4A50	\$100	100.0%	\$100	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$100	\$0
Tech Pub 90	MF4A51	\$100	100.0%	\$100	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$100	\$0
Near Real Time	--	\$67,000	195.9%	\$34,194	100.0%	(\$32,806)	-49.0%	\$0	(\$32,806)	-49.0%	\$34,194	\$0
Data Ent SW	(NMFS)	\$5,000	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$5,000)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$5,000)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
Comm I'face	(NMFS)	\$5,000	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$5,000)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$5,000)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
NRT Burr SW	(NMFS)	\$10,000	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$10,000)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$10,000)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
Port PC SW	(NMFS)	\$5,000	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$5,000)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$5,000)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
Antenna Proc	(NMFS)	\$30,000	100.0%	\$30,000	100.0%	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$30,000	\$0
PC HW Proc	(NMFS)	\$12,000	286.1%	\$4,194	100.0%	(\$7,806)	-65.1%	\$0	(\$7,806)	-65.1%	\$4,194	\$0
Plotting	(NMFS)	\$1,700	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$1,700)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$1,700)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
Atlas	(NMFS)	\$6,500	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	(\$6,500)	-100.0%	\$0	(\$6,500)	-100.0%	\$0	\$0
Plankton	--	\$10,000	100.0%	\$8,316	83.2%	(\$1,684)	-16.8%	\$0	(\$1,684)	-16.8%	\$10,000	\$1,684
Ichthyo DB	UM0011-01	\$5,000	100.0%	\$4,997	99.9%	(\$3)	-0.1%	\$0	(\$3)	-0.1%	\$5,000	\$3
Ichthyo DB	MF004A52	\$5,000	100.0%	\$3,319	66.4%	(\$1,681)	-33.6%	\$0	(\$1,681)	-33.6%	\$5,000	\$1,681

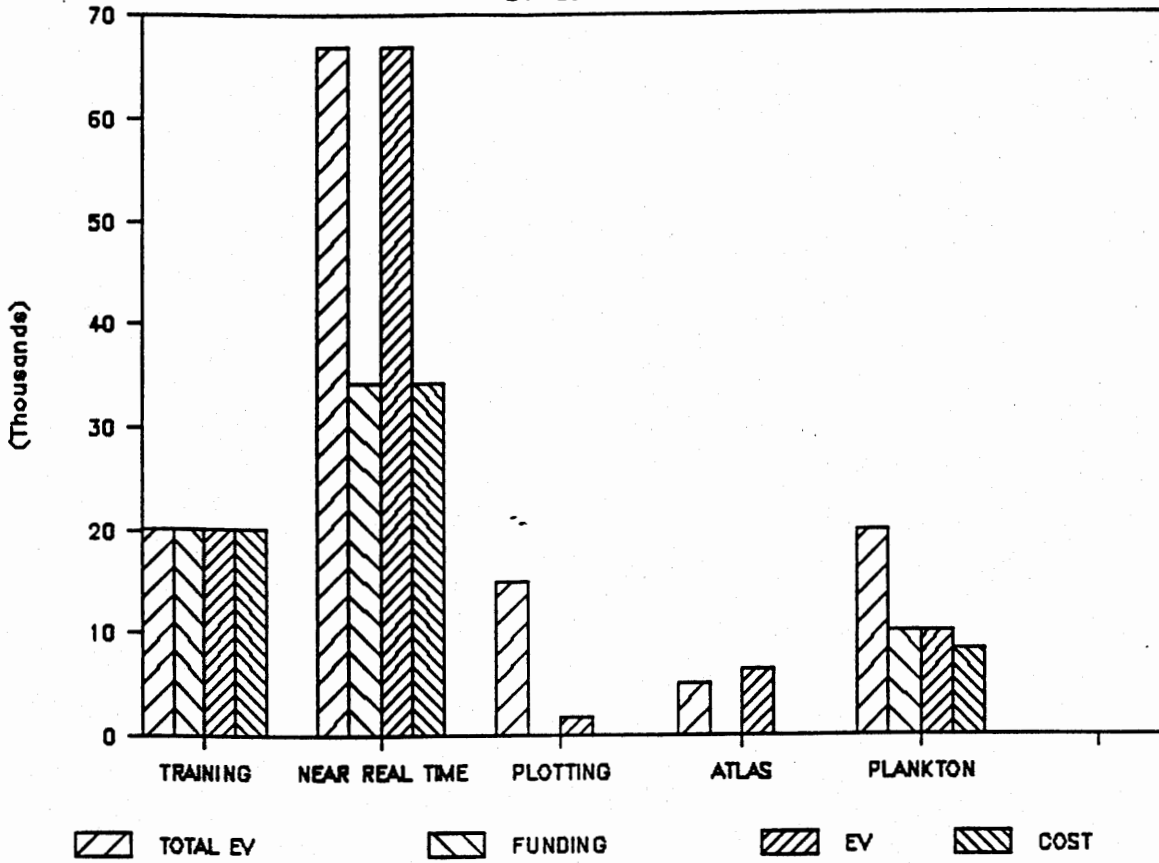
EARNED VALUE SUMMARY REPORT

24 FEBRUARY 1991



EARNED VALUE SUMMARY REPORT

24 FEBRUARY 1991



P. O. Box 726
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
(601) 875-5912
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Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

Larry B. Simpson
Executive Director

RESOLUTION

State-Federal Programs

WHEREAS, partnerships between the states and the federal government have historically been necessary for the effective management of the nation's fishery resources throughout their range, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for continuing a strong state-federal partnership regarding management of our shared fishery resources, and

WHEREAS, fishery dependent and independent data collection, management and dissemination require substantial involvement of both the state and federal fishery resource management agencies, and

WHEREAS, such substantial involvement and interaction strongly justify the continued use of a noncompetitive cooperative agreement process, as stated in Open Channel, Volume 1, Number 3, a newsletter of the NOAA Grants Management Division, to support the continuing relationships among the states, interstate commissions, and regional management councils, and

WHEREAS, the states have exclusive legislative mandates for activities related to fishery resources management, including data collection, management, and dissemination in the territorial seas, and

WHEREAS, substantial cost savings can also be realized due to state contributions and the lack of profit motivation, and

WHEREAS, highly successful infrastructures and mechanisms are in place and working through cooperation between the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Region and the states, interstate commissions, and regional councils to conduct noncompetitive cooperative fishery resource data collection and management activities, and

WHEREAS, currently noncompetitive cooperative programs, such as but not limited to the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) and State-Federal Cooperative Statistics, are working to the benefit of the states, federal agencies, the fishery management councils, the fishery resources, and the citizens of the Nation,

- Member States -

Texas

Louisiana

Mississippi

Alabama

Florida

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission through its member states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida strongly recommend that the National Marine Fisheries Service through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration continue to approve the use of noncompetitive cooperative agreements for appropriate programs related to marine fisheries management, such as but not limited to SEAMAP, the State-Federal Cooperative Statistics Program, and the proposed Recreational Fisheries Information Network (RecFIN).

Given this the 18th day of April in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Ninety-one.

Don E. Duden, GSMFC Chairman

R. Vernon Minton

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, April 15, 1991
Galveston, Texas

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, April 15, 1991
Galveston, Texas

Chairman Vernon Minton called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Richard L. Applegate, FWS, San Marcos, TX
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Charles Mesing, FGFFC, Tallahassee, FL
Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
David L. Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Terry D. Stelly, TPWD, Port Arthur, TX
Gary Tilyou, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Staff

Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Nancy Marcellus, Administrative Assistant

Others

John Brown, FWS, Atlanta, GA
Douglas J. Fruge, FWS, Arlington, TX
James Lane, Bay St. Louis, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

* A. Huff made a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion of Amendment 1, Striped Bass FMP

R. Lukens indicated that the technical amendment to the striped bass FMP was developed to address a specific issue, related to compliance with federal FMP guidelines and the ability to qualify for 90/10 funding under the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (89-304). Lukens stated that it had been approximately six years since the FMP had been adopted and several items needed to be reviewed. A discussion ensued, during which the Subcommittee decided that the amendment should apply only to Section 8.0, which addresses management and regulatory issues. Lukens pointed out that due to the federal FMP guidelines, certain items

in the Technical Amendment should be included in the new amendment, such as the language related to the GSMFC FMP development and approval process. The Subcommittee agreed. Following considerable discussion, the Subcommittee agreed that the items listed below be included in Amendment 1:

- * Administrative Structure
- * Goal
- * Management Unit
- * Management Area
- * Recommended Management Measures
 - * Sale and Purchase
 - * Bag Limit
 - * Size Limit
- * Strategic Plan

* It was agreed that the two goal statements in the FMP be deleted and a new goal statement inserted which reads "The goal of this interstate FMP is to restore and maintain striped bass populations throughout the Gulf of Mexico region." It was also agreed that the statements for Management Unit and Management Area found in the Technical Amendment be included as written. Under the section for Sale and Purchase, G. Tilyou made a motion that the recommendation should read "It is recommended that the sale and/or purchase of striped bass harvested from public waters be prohibited." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Considerable discussion took place regarding recommendations for bag and size limits. A concern was expressed that the current data is insufficient to make such a decision; however, it was also felt that the current regulations are too inconsistent and should be amended to encourage consistency and potentially have a more positive effect on restoration. Another concern which was expressed was related to a state qualifying to receive 90/10 funding under the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act. Lukens indicated that according to NOAA General Counsel, states must be in compliance with recommended regulations to qualify. D. Pritchard indicated that as long as a state had adopted the FMP and was proceeding toward full implementation, the Regional Office would recommend 90/10 funding. He indicated that he could not comment on what would happen at the Headquarters Office or General Counsel.

* Following a lengthy discussion, L. Nicholson made a motion that the recommended bag limit be six (6) fish per person per day and that the recommended

size limit be 24 inches total length. G. Tilyou expressed some concern over the 24 inch size limit and offered an amendment to the motion that the recommended size limit be 18 inches total length. The amended motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Subcommittee discussed how the Strategic Plan which was just recently developed would relate to Amendment 1. It was pointed out that the Strategic Plan constitutes a mechanism to implement research and data collection toward achievement of the goal of the FMP. It was then recommended that the Strategic Plan be included as a section in Amendment 1. The Subcommittee agreed unanimously.

T. Stelly expressed a concern over the issue of bycatch of striped bass in other directed fisheries. It was suggested that the issue be recommended for research to determine the magnitude of bycatch. Then it could be determined if specific regulations would be required to address the issue.

Lukens indicated that either through a preface or in the introductory language it will be made clear that Amendment 1 replaces both the recently adopted Technical Amendment and section 8.0 in the original FMP. V. Minton suggested that at a later date, perhaps after some of the results of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the Subcommittee should address a complete update of the Striped Bass FMP. The Subcommittee agreed.

Discussion of Gulf of Mexico Sturgeon FMP

A. Huff reviewed the sturgeon FMP outline and copies were provided to the Subcommittee. Everything in Jim Barkuloo's status report of sturgeon was incorporated into the GSMFC FMP format. Huff noted that Barkuloo's report covered all sturgeon literature through 1988. A future assignment for the FMP development will be to collect any new literature since 1988.

Another FMP drafting meeting will be scheduled for this summer. Authorship of the FMP will be addressed at that time. The drafting subcommittee comprises Alan Huff, Jim Barkuloo and Jim Clugston.

Update on Lake Talquin Project

Mesing reported that the Lake Talquin project is in the first year of a three year study. This study will take fish from the Apalachicola River and co-

stock them with fish from South Carolina in an effort to evaluate gulf and atlantic striped bass populations in a southeastern situation.

Discussion of Future Thermal Refuge Projects

Lukens discussed the prospect of pursuing another remote technology project in an effort to determine if it can actually be used as a management tool to identify thermal refuges. The Subcommittee agreed that it was an activity they should pursue. Lukens advised that there are certain requirements to conduct the study such as the fly over must be in areas with known thermal refuges. This project must also include enough provision for computer manipulation of the data received. The Subcommittee gave Lukens the charge to develop a proposal. Lukens will work with Georgia to coordinate the effort.

Discussion of Current Anadromous Fish Conservation Act Projects

Lukens introduced the issue of compiling all proposals to be submitted under the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act and the new money, should it become available. The proposals would be reviewed and discussed by the Subcommittee, and once agreement was reached that all proposals follow the Strategic Plan guidelines, the Subcommittee could submit the proposals to the appropriate funding agencies as a package. A letter of transmittal would indicate that the proposals contained in the package were reviewed and approved by the GSMFC member states and cooperating federal partners as priority one for funding for that fiscal year. Lukens suggested that the issue could be a standing agenda item on the April meeting agenda.

Discussion by the Subcommittee indicated mixed feelings as to whether such an activity would be beneficial. D. Pritchard indicated that the NMFS Southeast Regional Office always sends the proposals which they receive to the Headquarters Office as a package for funding consideration. Lukens reiterated that it may be beneficial from the standpoint of demonstrating the degree of coordination and cooperation regarding Gulf of Mexico anadromous fish restoration activities, and provide a check point for assurance that all proposals being submitted for funding were adhering to the adopted Strategic Plan.

* T. Stelly made a motion that the Subcommittee implement a standing agenda item for the Spring meeting to review and discuss anadromous fish projects that will be submitted for funding in the upcoming fiscal year, assure that they

adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Strategic Plan, and submit the proposals to the appropriate funding agencies with a recommendation they are all priority one activities necessary to achieve established restoration goals. The motion was seconded and passed without objection.

Update and Radio/Acoustic Tag Development

J. Brown reported that the Southeast Region submitted a proposal for reverted federal aid funds for a project which will develop and test a combination radio/acoustic tag which would allow tracking of a fish as it moves between fresh and salt water. Funds were received and the regional office is proceeding with a grant to Ocean Communication Systems to do the project.

Update on Nuclear DNA Fingerprint Project

J. Brown advised that funds were received to complete the final phase, Phase III, of the DNA fingerprinting project. Phase III will determine the nuclear DNA genetic structure of specimens collected and preserved prior to stocking. This information will then be used to compare present genetic structure of Apalachicola River fish to that prior to stocking. The contract will be handled through GSMFC.

Discussion of Lower Mississippi River Initiative

Region 4 of the FWS contacted the lower Mississippi River states (Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky) about entering into a formal agreement to cooperate in efforts to pursue management and restoration of fishery resources on the Mississippi River. At this time positive responses have been received from Arkansas and Kentucky; Louisiana requested more information. Missouri heard about the initiative and contacted the Service about their interest in it. A meeting to be co-sponsored with the Corps is being planned during which states will discuss cooperative frameworks. Preliminary plans are to hold the meeting in Vicksburg at the office of the Lower Mississippi Division of the Corps of Engineers.

Discussion of Implementation of Strategic and Operational Plans for Anadromous Fish Restoration

Lukens introduced the issue of the Strategic Plan for anadromous fish restoration which was developed during the Striped Bass Summit, February 26 and 27, 1991. The Subcommittee spent a considerable amount of time discussing editorial changes to the document language. V. Minton expressed significant concern over attempting to send the document through to the TCC and full Commission at this meeting. He indicated that there was too much editorial work that needed to be done to expect full adoption. R. Lukens indicated that everyone understood that the Subcommittee was on a tight time schedule and that the urgency was related to trying to get funding for the initiative during the 1992 fiscal year. J. Brown suggested that for the purpose of getting a funding document before Congress as soon as possible, we could omit the task statements and include only the introductory language, the problem statements, and the objectives statements. V. Minton indicated that that approach would make him more comfortable. The Subcommittee agreed to that approach, adopted the document as amended, and recommended that it be transmitted to the TCC for their consideration.

Other Business

J. Brown introduced Doug Frugé who was recently assigned to region 4 of the FWS. His position will be Anadromous Fish Coordinator for the FWS stationed in Ocean Springs, MS. He will be coming from the FWS Ecological Services office in Arlington, Texas.

Brown also mentioned that Gail Carmody, who served as the facilitator at the Striped Bass Summit in Mobile, will replace Jim Barkuloo in Panama City. Her reporting date is mid-July.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Phil Steele
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
for HMP

TCC CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

**Monday, April 15, 1991
Galveston, Texas**

TCC CRAB SUBCOMMITTEE
Minutes
April 15, 1991
Galveston, Texas

Harriet M. Perry, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Vince Guillory, LDWF, Bourg, LA
Harriet Perry, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Phil Steele, FMRI, St. Petersburg, FL
Tom Wagner, TPWD, Port O'Connor, TX

Staff

Rick Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Cindy Dickens, IJF Staff Assistant

Others

Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Ted Stork, TPWD, Rockport, TX

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held October 15-16, 1991, in Panama City, Florida, were adopted as presented.

Blue Crab FMP Update

The subcommittee began with procedural questions on beginning an update of the April 1990 Blue Crab FMP. R. Leard noted in the past FMPs had been updated after approximately three to five years. The subcommittee noted that an update of the FMP needs to be done; however, they agreed to wait on a major review. General discussion included new literature and updated statistical data. The subcommittee deferred the question of NMFS data versus state data until a formal update begins. The subcommittee agreed to continue accumulation of revised literature to be placed into the crab repository at the GSMFC office. The following subcommittee members agreed to focus on specific sections:

1. Rules and Regulations - Tom Wagner
2. Life History - Vince Guillory and Harriet Perry
3. Stock Assessment - Phil Steele

The subcommittee requested that Rick Leard ask Chris Dyer (Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of South Alabama) to begin looking at the sociology section of the Blue Crab FMP.

*P. Steele moved to amend the next revision of the Blue Crab FMP to include a listing of authors on the title page. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. The subcommittee requested Rick Leard to research the proper cite format for the FMP with the authors listed.

Review of Blue Crab Literature (1986-1991)

V. Guillory handed out a revised bibliography on biology and life history of the blue crab. H. Perry stated that a revised bibliography on recruitment should be complete by the next meeting. She and Phil Steele attended a recruitment workshop at the College of William and Mary. General discussion at the workshop included standardization/lack of standardization as a problem and the need for variables. H. Perry handed out a Sea Grant publication on the review of current knowledge on blue crab recruitment dynamics in Chesapeake Bay.

Florida License and Catch/Effort Data

Phil Steel presented slides which he had shown to the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission (FMFC). The presentation outlined Gulf of Mexico blue crab production from 1969 to 1989, Florida blue crab production from 1969 to 1989, production by region for 1989, etc. He noted the FMFC was concerned about ghost fishing, bycatch, diseases, effect of oil soaked traps on other species, and the release/importation of exotics.

Current Research

T. Wagner reported that Texas is working on a blue crab FMP. He mentioned several management strategies currently being discussed and distributed a draft portion of the plan. He also distributed an article from "Tide" magazine on blue crab harvest.

Menippe adina Profile

V. Guillory handed out a draft of the stone crab profile and requested literature from the other subcommittee members. A general discussion ensued, and the subcommittee agreed to review and mark-up the draft outside the meeting. The subcommittee discussed a time frame for completion, determined that the profile is approximately 75% complete, and targeted completion in the late summer. P. Steele requested a draft (after future revision) be sent to Terry Bert for review.

Other Business

Henry Lazauski explained the RecFIN (Recreational Fisheries Information Network) and ComFIN (Commercial Fisheries Information Network) to the subcommittee. He asked for a representative from the subcommittee to participate in a meeting tentatively scheduled for June 1992 in Miami to work on the ComFIN white paper which will outline the commercial data needs of the states. Phil Steele volunteered to participate in this activity.

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

APPROVED BY:


CHAIRMAN

TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 16, 1991
Galveston, Texas

TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, April 16, 1991
Galveston, TX

Chairman H. Lazauski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following persons present:

Members

Joe O'hop, FDNR/MRI, St. Petersburg, FL
Doug Gregory, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Ron Essig, NMFS, Silverspring, MD
Tom Van Devender, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS
Greg Lutz, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Maury Osborn, TPWD, Austin, TX
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Jim Nance, NMFS, Galveston, TX

Staff

Ron Lukens, Assistant Director

Others

John Witzig, NMFS, Silverspring, MD
Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
Paul Hammerschmidt, TPWD, Palacio, TX
Ron Schmied, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Jim Lane, GSMFC Recreational Advisory Committee, Bay St. Louis, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented without objection.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held in October 1990 in Panama City, Florida were approved without objection.

State/Federal Reports

NMFS/SEFC - Jim Nance, sitting in for John Poffenberger had nothing to report at this time.

Florida - Joe O'hop reported that the request for proposals for the Florida recreational survey are not available yet. It is expected to be released soon.

Mississippi - Tom Van Devender briefly discussed some of Mississippi's problems with bait shrimp data. He suggested that the Subcommittee take up the issue for discussion at a future meeting. M. Osborn suggested that it

TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
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could be a component of the Commercial Fisheries Information network (ComFIN) initiative coming up soon.

Louisiana - Greg Lutz reported on the status of the landings data which the state collects and sends to NMFS. He reported that the state is also now keypunching the data in order to speed up the process.

Texas - Maury Osborn indicated that the state would not be conducting commercial sampling, but would be analyzing data to determine whether or not to continue the program and at what level.

Alabama - Skip Lazauski indicated that there is a problem with the TIP program. He indicated that Barry Roberts is the new port agent. Shark landings off Alabama are high, although they are tapering off. Lazauski pointed out a problem with the Secretarial Shark Plan is that it precludes positive identification of sharks for TIP data because it allows fins to be removed from the sharks prior to landing.

Paul Hammerschmidt, TPWD, pointed out that Texas is compiling an electrophoretic library on finfish and shellfish. When completed it will be useful for fish identification and law enforcement.

NMFS/Headquarter - Ron Essig reported that he is leaving NMFS to take a job in the northeast region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His replacement on the Subcommittee for the near future will be John Witzig. Also, a decision will be made soon on a person to head up the MRFSS office.

MRFSS Update - Ron Essig reported that this year is the 13th year for the MRFSS in the Gulf and Atlantic and is the second of a three year contract. He indicated that funding was not sufficient in 1991 to fund the survey on the Pacific Coast. Quality control and assurance measures, recommended by the Subcommittee are continuing to be implemented. As of this meeting, they have completed a full year of wave meetings which involve survey intercept supervisors. These meetings serve the function of reviewing data and discussing and resolving problems. Estimate tables for 1990 should be out by early May and the 1987-1989 publication is going to the printer in approximately three weeks. Some changes were made in the questionnaire for the 1991 survey. The states have been made aware of those changes by mail.

June Workshop Agenda

During the March 12 and 13, 1991 Subcommittee workshop in Panama City, Florida, the Subcommittee decided that it would be necessary to hold a workshop to further discuss and develop recommendations regarding collection and management of data for the "for-hire" segment of the recreational fishery. Also of importance is further development of the proposed program called "Recreational Fisheries Information Network" (RecFIN). Other important topics include data confidentiality, cooperative agreements, ComFIN, and the socio-economic aspects of the recreational fishery.

A discussion ensued regarding agenda items for the State-Federal Cooperative Statistics Workshop.

Adoption of Survey Quality Control Standards

The document which delineates standards for conduct of the NMFS Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey intercepts was presented in final form. Without objection the Subcommittee adopted the draft as prepared for publication.

Discussion of Cooperative Agreements and Sole Source
Contracts Through DOC/NOAA/NMFS

* R. Lukens introduced the issue of cooperative agreements and sole source contracts regarding the states' interaction with NMFS. The current federal administration's policy on contracts is to make them available for competitive bids and thus allow private industry to compete for contracts. A discussion ensued which revealed the position that while the administration's policy is good in some respects, there are some programs which can and should only be done by the states in cooperation with the federal government. Such programs include the State-Federal Cooperative Statistics Program, Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program, and the proposed Recreational Fisheries Information Network. Lukens introduced a resolution on behalf of the Subcommittee to address the need to maintain these programs as they are currently being administered regarding contract status. After some discussion of the proposed language, M. Osborn moved to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion of RecFIN

* R. Lukens provided the Subcommittee with an update of the Recreational Fisheries Information Network (RecFIN) initiative. Lukens distributed a document for the Subcommittee's consideration for adoption. The document provides a justification for RecFIN and set up a proposed administrative framework through which to operate RecFIN. The proposal makes provisions for regional coordinating committees comprised of representatives of all partners involved in RecFIN. The coordinating committees would be responsible for general operation of the program in their respective regions. Also provided for is a national coordinating committee which would handle only those recreational data issues of a national nature. After much discussion, J. O'hop moved to adopt the RecFIN document and submit it for the consideration of the Technical Coordinating Committee. The motion was seconded and passed with abstentions by Louisiana and NMFS.

Discussion of ComFIN

In an effort to lay the groundwork for a companion initiative for RecFIN which would address commercial fisheries data collection, the Subcommittee, at the March 12 and 13, 1991 workshop elected to begin planning an initiative known as Commercial Fisheries Information Network (ComFIN). A discussion was held regarding timeframes and funding sources, and the Subcommittee elected to discuss the issue in greater detail at the upcoming proposed workshop in June in Miami, Florida.

Demonstration of Electronic Field Devices

The demonstration consisted of three vendors; Tandy Corp., Radix Corp. and Limnoterra. The presentations started at approximately 1:30 p.m. with Radix first, followed by Tandy and then Limnoterra.

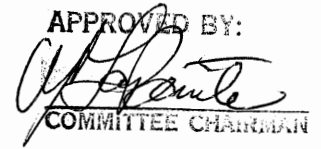
The Radix representative showed that its device, a brick size data logger, was water proof by submerging it in a tray of water. He indicated that it was rugged by tossing it around the room a couple of times. This data logger is programmable in three high level languages; BASIC, C and PASCAL. It appeared to have many uses such as field data collection, creel surveys, monitoring and assessment and mariculture work. The device ran off AAA

batteries and was alleged to float. The computer file in the device was down loadable to microcomputers via the serial port.

The Tandy representatives had a grid pad device that had application in the area of forms use. The entire form or any part of it was displayed on a flat screen. The device could read some types of script written with a special pen on the screen. The device was not water proof with the possible exception of the screen itself. The grid pad has applicability in an office where the same types of forms are used over and over again such as in license sales. Files were down loadable to microcomputers via the serial port.

The Limnoterra representatives demonstrated a programmable fish measuring board. Scales, calipers and computers could be attached to this device. Special vendor generated software was an optional purchase to allow for on the spot data readouts and analysis. Data other than the length was programmable for each observation such as; was an otolith taken?, sex, ovary sample taken? and other biotic and abiotic information. The device was rugged and water proof. Species coding could be a problem when a large number of species were encountered. This board appears to have both field and laboratory applications especially in high volume work.

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

S-FFMC MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 16, 1991
Galveston, Texas

S-FFMC MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 16, 1991
Galveston, Texas

In the absence of Chairman Wilmer LaPointe, Acting Chairman Dalton Berry called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. The following persons were in attendance:

Members

John C. Barnes, III, AMPRO Fisheries, Weems, LA
Dalton Berry, Zapata Haynie, Hammond, LA (proxy for Wilmer LaPointe)
George Brumfield, Zapata Haynie, Moss Point, MS
Lee Green, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Vince Guillory, LDWF, Bourg, LA
Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Ed Swindell, Zapata Haynie, Hammond, LA (proxy for Borden Wallace)

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Richard L. Leard, IJF Program Coordinator

Others

Eldon J. Levi, NMFS, Gulf Breeze, FL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Dalton Berry reviewed the membership list and noted that a quorum was present.

Adoption of Agenda

D. Berry advised that item #8 (Discussion of Needed Research in Menhaden Fishery) would be deleted. D. Berry also noted that an additional item #11 (Discussion of the Florida Baitfish Industry) should be added to the agenda. J. Barnes suggested substitution of "Daily Fishing Reports" as agenda item #8. L. Simpson advised that he would discuss a matter involving "Pacific Fisheries Consultants" as an additional agenda item (#12).

*J. Barnes moved and E. Swindell seconded that the agenda be approved as changed. The motion carried unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes

L. Green advised that although he had suggested changes, he did not think that he made the motion to approve the mission statement at the October 1990

meeting. It was also noted that Mr. Bill Pendleton and Don Barrios of Gulf Protein in Morgan City, Louisiana, were present at the meeting.

*E. Swindell moved and G. Brumfield seconded that the minutes be approved subject to review of the tape recording and the addition of the other participants. The motion carried without objection.

NOTE: The tape recording of the October 1990 meeting confirmed that L. Green recommended approval of the revised mission statement, and Chairman V. Guillory proceeded with the vote. The only change to the minutes was the addition of B. Pendleton and D. Barrios to the attendance list.

Review of Mission Statement

L. Simpson reported that the GSMFC did not approve mission statements at the last meeting, but they requested that committees reevaluate them. The mission statement was discussed and revised to read as follows: "To provide a forum for discussion of fisheries issues and management and research needs among the five Gulf States for the menhaden fishery in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico."

*E. Swindell moved for approval of the mission statement as revised. V. Guillory seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Make-up of the S-FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee

J. Barnes questioned if there were any rules, regulations or guidelines on the make-up of the committee. It was noted that there were no specific guidelines other than the five Gulf States being represented. After discussion, it was determined that L. Simpson would draft a proposal for committee membership for consideration at the next meeting.

Forecast for 1991 Fishing Season

E. Levi presented the 1991 NMFS forecast for effort and landings in the gulf and Atlantic menhaden fisheries. He also reviewed the status of 1990 landings and compared them with the 1990 forecast. It was noted that only 58 vessels were expected to operate in 1991 as compared to 75 in 1990 and 77 in 1989. Vessel ton weeks for 1991 were estimated at 470,000 compared to 563,100 for 1990, and it was reported that two reduction plans would not operate in 1991.

Landings were estimated at 500,000 tons for 1991 and compared with averages of 893,000 tons for 1982-1987, and 1990 catches were also reviewed. V. Guillory reviewed 1991 forecasts for Louisiana. He noted that winter conditions in 1989 and 1990 were warm and wet and normally result in poor recruitment. He observed that the juvenile index indicated below average numbers of age 1 fish and that the previous year's index revealed that there would be below average numbers of age 2 fish. He estimated that Louisiana's landings would be between 400,000 and 450,000 metric tons.

Florida Marine Fisheries Commission (FMFC) Report

G. Brumfield reported on the FMFC meeting held January 29, 1991, that pertained to purse seine species. He noted that three options were discussed: (1) setting a season like the other Gulf States, (2) setting a season at some other time, and (3) not setting a season. He further stated that the FMFC chose option 3 and would not commit to a season.

G. Brumfield advised that no quotas were set for menhaden; however, gulf quotas for Spanish sardines and thread herrings were set at levels approximately one-half that of previous years.

Report on Underwater Pipelines Legislation

L. Simpson reported that publication of proposed U.S. Coast Guard regulations enforcing the burying requirements for pipelines is expected May 17, 1991. It was also noted that the U.S. Geological Survey may get involved with studying substrate types where pipelines are buried.

Data Processing of Captain's Daily Reports

J. Barnes described problems with compiling data from the reports and asked what the MAC could do to assist. It was noted that processing of forms was delayed because of manpower shortages and because initial reports were manually processed. L. Simpson questioned if MARFIN funds had been solicited to support this effort.

*After further discussion, E. Swindell moved to ask J. Merriner, NMFS, to come to the next meeting and review what is being done with data from Captain's

Daily Reports, what needs to be done for management of the fishery, how much it will cost and what are some potential sources of funds. G. Brumfield seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Menhaden Bycatch Study

E. Swindell reported on the National Fish Meal and Oil Manufacturers Association (NFMOMA) meeting and their discussions regarding bycatch. He noted the need for an updated study of bycatch in the gulf and Atlantic and that industry had requested NMFS to do such a study. He reported that NMFS was seeking funding for a study.

*E. Swindell moved to ask the GSMFC to support the effort to secure necessary funding for NMFS (approximately \$200,000). J. Barnes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Florida Representation on MAC

D. Berry read a letter from Joe J. Kimmel of the Florida Marine Research Institute that recommended Dr. Behzad Mahmoudi be contacted regarding future meetings of the MAC. After discussion it was noted that L. Simpson would contact Tom Gardner/Don Duden to determine if Florida wishes to change its membership on the MAC.

Discussion of Louisiana Bait Fishery

V. Guillory reported that four permits were issued for the special menhaden bait season in Louisiana. These went to ABC Bait, Terry LaBlanc, Wilfred O'Neal and Zapata Haynie. He noted that 2,113,000 lbs were landed in October and November 1990 and that 230,000 lbs were landed in April 1991. These landings were well below the quota of 6,612,000 lbs for the season.

Pacific Fisheries Consultants

L. Simpson reported on a request by Mr. Robert T.B. Iverson for contacts to secure menhaden as bait in the longline fishery of Hawaii. Mr. Iverson's business card was distributed.

S-FFMC MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Edwin A. J. [Signature]

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 17, 1991
Galveston, Texas

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, April 17, 1991
Galveston, TX

Chairman Ed Joyce called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Tom Van Devender, BMR, Biloxi, MS
Richard Waller (proxy for T. McIlwain), GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Philip Steele (proxy for K. Steidinger), FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Roger Zimmerman (proxy for B. Brown), NMFS, Galveston, TX
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Maury Osborn (proxy for Hal Osburn), TPWD, Austin, TX
C.E. Bryan, TPWD, Austin, TX
John Brown (proxy for J. Pulliam), USFWS, Atlanta, GA

Staff

Larry Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
David Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator

Others

Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Ralph Rayburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
Paul Hammerschmidt, TPWD, Palacios, TX
Page Campbell, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Terry Cody, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Billy Fuls, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
Douglas Gregory, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Neal Baxter, NMFS, Galveston, TX
Frank Arbusto, NOAA, Miami, FL
Charles Caillouet, NMFS, Galveston, TX
Richard Applegate, USFWS, San Marcos, TX
Conrad Fjetland, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
Harriet Perry, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the deletion of the status report on the Gulf of Mexico Program.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held October 17, 1990 in Panama City, Florida were approved.

Status Report on Controlled Freshwater Introduction into Louisiana and Mississippi Marshes

L. Simpson reported for D. Etzold on the status of several freshwater diversion projects. He reported that the Caernaron project was formally dedicated on April 12, 1991 and the structure is fully operational. L. Simpson stated that the construction and ground breaking ceremonies for the Mississippi and Louisiana Estuarine Area Project at Bonnet Carre are scheduled for August/September 1991 and the structure should be operational in 1995. He stated that land acquisition for the Davis Pond project will begin in October 1991 and should take about one year to complete. Construction for the structure should begin in April 1993 and should be operational in 1996.

Subcommittee Reports

(1) SEAMAP Subcommittee - Walter Tatum, Chairman

W. Tatum reported that the Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) expressed concern regarding dissemination of real-time data. TSA believes that the real-time survey causes pulse fishing off the coast of Texas. The subcommittee motioned to recommend to the TCC that the TCC instigate a mechanism to identify the perceived problem caused by the dissemination of real-time data. The motion was defeated.

* W. Tatum discussed the coastal ocean program of NOAA. He stated that this program provides a mechanism to fund projects concerning early life history of coastal species. Under this program, a proposal called the Crescent Initiative

has been proposed. If funded, SEAMAP would be involved with this initiative by providing the program management component of the project. W. Tatum moved that the TCC accept the role of that SEAMAP would play in the Crescent Initiative and give their endorsement for the project. The motion passed.

* W. Tatum reported that the Plankton Work Group decided to no longer use the Polish Sorting Center (PSC) for plankton work. W. Tatum moved that all future payments be stopped to the PSC; that future samples that have not been sorted, be returned and future funding that would be paid to the PSC be used for alternative sorting centers. The motion passed with Texas abstaining.

* W. Tatum reported that the subcommittee will formulate a working plan to guide reef fish research. He stated that this plan would be similar to the red drum initiative conducted several years ago. W. Tatum moved that the TCC support this working plan for reef fish research. The motion passed.

W. Tatum stated that the subcommittee accepted a resolution concerning the non-competitive nature of certain State-Federal programs.

(2) Anadromous Subcommittee - Vernon Minton, Chairman

V. Minton reported that the subcommittee reviewed amendment 1 of the Striped Bass FMP. The subcommittee also reviewed the sturgeon FMP. The work group has develop an outline for the sturgeon plan and are currently compiling historical and biological information. V. Minton stated that a meeting to discuss the plan will be scheduled for later this year and a final copy of the plan should be produced by 1992.

V. Minton reported that the nuclear DNA work is in the third stage. This stage involves the development of specialized probes to look at an archived sample of striped bass. This will allow scientists to get a clear picture of the original Gulf strain of striped bass.

* V. Minton moved that the TCC forward the Strategic Plan for Restoration and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Anadromous Fisheries to the Commission for their approval. The motion passed.

(3) Data Management Subcommittee - Skip Lazauski, Chairman

S. Lazauski stated that the subcommittee met twice since the last meeting. One of the items discussed at the meetings was tip data collection for sharks. TPWD is currently developing muscle protein profiles for marine species for species identification.

* S. Lazauski noted the need of a lap-top computer for GSMFC staff during meetings. V. Minton moved that the TCC ask the Commission to authorize GSMFC staff to look into updating their computer system so the staff can function in a more timely manner at meetings. The motion passed.

* S. Lazauski addressed the issue of state-federal programs. The approach of the resolution was to establish state-federal programs such as SEAMAP as non-competitive in nature. S. Lazauski moved that the TCC accept the resolution supporting the non-competitive nature of some state-federal programs. The motion passed.

* S. Lazauski reported on the cooperative program agreement for RecFIN. This agreement will set up the administrative framework to guide the RecFIN program. The document proposes to set up regional coordinating committees, operating procedures and funding for the RecFIN program. S. Lazauski moved that the TCC approve the cooperative program agreement as the administrative framework for the RecFIN program. The motion passed.

(4) Crab Subcommittee - Harriet Perry, Chairperson

H. Perry reported about the activities of the subcommittee. She stated

that the subcommittee is involved in the crustacean recruitment processes initiative. The subcommittee has discussed the possibility of integrating this initiative with the SEAMAP program. The initiative looks at the physical and biological processes which affect recruitment.

H. Perry stated that approximately 50 papers concerning crab have been published since the release of Blue Crab Management Plan. The subcommittee is establishing a repository concerning crabs at the GSMFC office. This repository will be used to update the management plan in the future.

H. Perry stated that a fisheries profile of Menippi medina is being compiled. The profile is approximately seventy-five percent complete. A working draft should be released prior to the next GSMFC meeting.

H. Perry reported on the genetic update. Florida has been surveying blue crab throughout the East Coast and Gulf of Mexico. Florida has completed the sample collection and are now analyzing DNA for identification of crab species.

(5) Habitat Subcommittee - Larry Lewis, Chairman

* L. Simpson, reporting for L. Lewis, stated that the subcommittee held a conference call in April 1991. The subcommittee reviewed their membership. E. Joyce moved that the TCC send an official letter of invitation to Dick Houglin for inclusion onto the Habitat subcommittee. The motion passed.

* E. Joyce moved that the TCC endorse the concept of conducting a workshop concerning the introduction of disease by exotic species but wanted to look at the details of a workshop before initiating plans for one. The motion passed.

Shrimp from Space

R. Condrey reported on his proposed MARFIN project. The project will involve the application of NOAA satellite data from both the Advanced Very High

Resolution Radiometer (radiometric imagery) and System ARGOS (insitu data collection system) for fisheries management in coastal waters. The satellite system will provide water temperature, salinity and water level information in near real-time. R. Condrey proposes to establish 8 ground-link stations in Barataria Bay and the collection of data will be accomplished with a combination of the ground stations and satellite systems. The intentions of the project are to pioneer, demonstrate and initiate real fisheries management procedures using satellite sensor systems, downlink systems and advanced data processing and distribution. The project will focus on brown shrimp in Barataria Bay and will work with the TCC and the Gulf States fishery agencies to assure that the technology developed is transferable as a prototype.

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

P. O. Box 726
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
(601) 875-5912
(FAX) 875-6604

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission



Larry B. Simpson
Executive Director

RESOLUTION

State-Federal Programs

WHEREAS, partnerships between the states and the federal government have historically been necessary for the effective management of the nation's fishery resources throughout their range, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for continuing a strong state-federal partnership regarding management of our shared fishery resources, and

WHEREAS, fishery dependent and independent data collection, management and dissemination require substantial involvement of both the state and federal fishery resource management agencies, and

WHEREAS, such substantial involvement and interaction strongly justify the continued use of a noncompetitive cooperative agreement process, as stated in Open Channel, Volume 1, Number 3, a newsletter of the NOAA Grants Management Division, to support the continuing relationships among the states, interstate commissions, and regional management councils, and

WHEREAS, the states have exclusive legislative mandates for activities related to fishery resources management, including data collection, management, and dissemination in the territorial seas, and

WHEREAS, substantial cost savings can also be realized due to state contributions and the lack of profit motivation, and

WHEREAS, longterm consistent databases are critical for effective management of fisheries resources, and highly successful infrastructures and mechanisms to develop and maintain such databases are in place and working through cooperation between the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Region and the states, interstate commissions, and regional councils to conduct noncompetitive cooperative fishery resource data collection and management activities, and

WHEREAS, currently noncompetitive cooperative programs, such as but not limited to the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) and State-Federal Cooperative Statistics, are working to the benefit of the states, federal agencies, the fishery management councils, the fishery resources, and the citizens of the Nation,

- Member States -

Texas

Louisiana

Mississippi

Alabama

Florida

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission through its member states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida strongly recommend that the National Marine Fisheries Service through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration continue to approve the use of noncompetitive cooperative agreements for appropriate programs related to marine fisheries management, such as but not limited to SEAMAP, the State-Federal Cooperative Statistics Program, and the proposed Recreational Fisheries Information Network (RecFIN).

Given this the 18th day of April in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Ninety-one.

Don E. Duden, GSMFC Chairman

APPROVED BY:

LAS

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

**STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 17, 1991
Galveston, Texas

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 17, 1991
Galveston, TX

Larry Simpson, moderator, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Introductions were made, and the following were in attendance:

Members

John Brown, FWS, Atlanta, GA (proxy for James Pulliam, Jr.)
Don Duden, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL (proxy for Andy Kemmerer)
Rudy Rosen, TPWD, Austin, TX
Larry Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS (nonvoting member)
Tom Van Devender, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS (proxy for Joe Gill)

Staff

Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Rick Leard, IJF Program Coordinator

Others

Dalton Berry, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
George Brumfield, Zapata Haynie Corp., Moss Point, MS
C.E. Bryan, TPWD, Austin, TX
Billy Fuls, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Walter Tatum, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Roger Zimmerman, NMFS, Galveston, TX

Adoption of Agenda

L. Simpson proposed the addition of a report from the S-FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee. He also proposed the addition of a presentation on multi-state programs under "other business." The agenda was adopted as modified.

Adoption of Minutes

*D. Duden moved and V. Minton seconded that the minutes of the March 7, 1991, meeting in Kenner, Louisiana, be adopted as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Menhaden Advisory Committee Report

D. Berry gave a report of the S-FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee meeting held April 16, 1991. He noted reports by the NMFS and V. Guillory of Louisiana on menhaden production in 1990 and predictions for effort and harvest in 1991. He also reported a committee oversight of the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission meeting wherein they took no action to set a menhaden season in Florida. He described the following actions by the committee:

- (1) To request that John Merriner of the NMFS report on data from the "Captain's Daily Fishing Reports" at the next meeting.
- (2) To request that the GSMFC support efforts to fund the NMFS to do a menhaden bycatch study in the gulf and Atlantic.
- (3) To request S-FFMC approval of the revised mission statement for the MAC.

*V. Minton moved for approval of the revised mission statement as presented by the MAC. D. Duden seconded, and the motion carried without objection.

*T. Van Devender moved for the approval of support for efforts to gain funding for NMFS to conduct menhaden bycatch studies. V. Minton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Black Drum Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Report

R. Leard reported on the development of the black drum FMP. He advised that the Black Drum Technical Task Force had met on March 25-26, 1991, to review progress on developing sections and to discuss options for development of the stock assessment.

Discussion of Stock Assessment Development

R. Leard reviewed the history and need for stock assessment efforts with regard to Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council FMPs and FMPs developed under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program. He discussed a handout entitled "Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Program FMP Stock Assessment Options." He noted the need for decisions on the type of stock assessments to be done, the person or persons to develop the stock assessments, how the stock assessments would be incorporated into FMPs and how they will be reviewed. After extensive

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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discussion, the consensus of the committee was that stock assessments should be developed by a GSMFC "Stock Assessment Team" made up of individuals of the five Gulf States who were willing and able to participate. Federal, university and other persons would also participate if they desired or if asked by the team. It was also decided that a conference call would be held in the next two to three weeks to further discuss the stock assessment issue and the abilities of the states to provide personnel.

Discussion of FMP Implementation

L. Simpson reviewed previous discussions of implementing IJF FMPs and asked for any guidance or reports. V. Minton suggested the development of a matrix that could be updated annually to review progress. He also noted that FMPs promoted increased consistency of regulations among the states and this was needed. By consensus, it was decided that staff would develop a matrix for future review by the committee.

Appointments to the Mullet TTF

State directors tentatively made the following appointments to the Mullet TTF:

Behzad Mahmoudi - Florida
Skip Lazauski - Alabama
Mike Bucannon - Mississippi
Kyle Spiller - Texas

If not already received, formal appointments would be made by letter.

Discussion of Compensation for Nonagency TTF Members

R. Leard discussed nonagency representation on the TTFs and the work involved. He asked for guidance from the committee on whether or not these members should be compensated or rewarded for their efforts and what form would be appropriate. He noted that at present, problems were not being encountered with regard to acquiring this expertise and that these members had not requested compensation. After discussion, no action was taken, but the matter will continue to be studied.

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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Other Business - Multi-State Project

R. Lukens reported that the Multi-state Fish and Wildlife Information Systems Project (MSP) was sponsoring an upcoming workshop on regional and coastal faunal information management. He discussed state representation at the workshop and advised that he would be contacting the state directors in the near future about designating someone to attend if they desired. There was no objection to further contacts about designation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Jonah K. Walker
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 17, 1991
Galveston, Texas

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 17, 1991
Galveston, Texas
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Waller at 9:00 am. It was noted that the Coast Guard had been invited to attend the meeting and that no representative was present. All visitors were welcomed. The following were in attendance:

Members

James Robertson, TPWD, Austin, TX
Tommy Candies, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Lewis Shelfer, FMP, Tallahassee, FL
Jerald Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Pat Anglada, MBMR, Biloxi, MS
Suzanne Montero, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

Staff

Lucia B. Hourihan, Publication Specialist
Richard L. Leard, IJF Program Coordinator

Others

Donald Robertson, TPWD, LaPorte, TX
John Ray Nelson, GSMFC, Bon Secour, AL
Frank Hugh Cole, Foley, AL
Leroy Kiffe, GSMFC, Lockport, LA
Edward Schroeder, Galveston Party Boats, Galveston, TX
Carl Covert, TPWD, Houston, TX
David Palmer, TWPD, Austin, TX
George Brumfield, Moss Point, MS
Mac Fuss, NMFS, Galveston, TX
Forrest Laughlin, TPWD, Galveston, TX
Preston Miculka, TPWD, Alvin, TX
Ed Swindell, Zapata Haynie Corp., Hammond, LA
Frank Dickerson, TPWD, Corpus Christi, TX
Wes Clugston, TPWD, Kingsville, TX
Roy Lawrence, TPWD, Rockport, TX

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held October 17, 1990 in Panama City Beach, Florida were adopted as written.

Report on TCC Oyster Technical Task Force

T. Candies reported that the Oyster FMP had been adopted by GSMFC and is currently at the printer. Candies noted that enforcement recommendations regarding tolerance were incorporated into the FMP.

Report on TCC Black Drum Technical Task Force (TTF)

J. Robertson reported that the TTF met the end of March to work on completing a draft document. Information regarding stock assessment is currently lacking in the document. R. Leard stated that the draft should be completed by the end of May and the TTF will meet in June to finalize. The LEC will have a chance to review the draft document.

ISSC Executive Board Meeting Report

P. Anglada reported on the March 1991 ISSC Executive Board Meeting where the ISSC reaffirmed its commitment to reducing human illness caused by the vibrio species. The ISSC believes targeted education is needed to inform high risk individuals. ISSC recommends that States and industry take immediate steps to institute harvesting, processing, and handling procedures which will eliminate illnesses attributable to Vibrio vulnificus. In addition the ISSC will promote and encourage research to develop control mechanisms which will effectively reduce these illnesses.

FDA Patrol Evaluation

The LEC discussed problems with FDA patrol evaluation of the Gulf States shellfish sanitation programs (ie. Louisiana and Texas reporting basically the same -- Texas found in substantial compliance, Louisiana found in noncompliance). The LEC will request GSMFC to recommend to FDA that at least the five Gulf States be evaluated by the same person or persons using the same evaluation process following the ISSC manual. It was also noted that the ISSC Board had replaced firm language in the Patrol Report from the last meeting with softer, less effective language. The LEC will ask GSMFC to request ISSC and FDA to listen to concerns expressed by Gulf States patrol representatives at the ISSC

meetings. J. Robertson will draft a letter to ISSC stating concerns. The letter will then be taken to Gulf States marine agency directors for proper distribution. It was noted that FDA has recently established a new Seafood Office headed by Douglas Archer and that perhaps concerns should be expressed to him.

NMFS Report

S. Montero reported that MFCMA had been changed to allow states with a cooperative agreement to share fines, penalties and forfeitures on cases made. Procedures to accomplish this are pending and Morris Pallozzi may report further at the next LEC meeting. Montero asked states to itemize expenses other than salaries incurred in making the case.

Interstate Shipment of Seafood Model Language Statute

The committee discussed concerns expressed by NOAA Legal Counsel regarding the model language. It was decided to replace the word "Arabic" with "English" and resubmit the language (attached) to GSMFC to be incorporated into a suitable resolution regarding interstate transport of aquatic products.

Discussion of Committee Mission Statement

The committee approved the following mission statement, "to provide a coordinated approach for the enforcement of marine resource laws, regulations, and associated issues pertaining to the Gulf region by the five Gulf States."

Member for Mullet Task Force

Pat Anglada was appointed to serve on the Mullet Technical Task Force.

State Law/Regulation Summary

The committee reviewed a proposal from the Blackford Company for publication of 1 million copies of the State Laws/Regulations Summary at

LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Page -4-

no charge to the GSMFC. After much discussion the committee decided to recommend the proposal to GSMFC. The committee will change the format from species listings to state listings and include proper disclaimers for each state.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

"Transportation of Aquatic Products
Aquatic Product Invoice --

Any person, except a licensed commercial fisherman transporting his catch within the respective state, transporting aquatic products for sale or resale, regardless of origin or destination, shall have in his possession an invoice. Aquatic product means fresh or frozen uncooked aquatic animal life.

Aquatic product transportation invoices shall be originated by shipper and retained on file by both shipper and receiver for a minimum of one year. The shipper shall sequentially number the invoices during the license period. No invoice number may be used twice during any one license period by an individual licensee.

Invoices shall contain the following information correctly stated and legibly written:

1. invoice number
2. date of shipment
3. name and physical address of shipper
4. name and physical address of receiver
5. license number of shipper
6. aquatic product by species and pounds (and/or numbers by species when required by shipping or receiving state).

Packing Requirements --

All aquatic product shipments shall be packed one species per container. Container size may be regulated by shipping or receiving state.

Each container of aquatic products shall be identified as to its contents. A container contents identifier shall be placed on the outside of each package and shall contain the following information correctly stated and legibly written:

1. shipment invoice number (of the shipment of which the container is a part)
2. aquatic product by species and pounds (and/or numbers by species when required by shipping or receiving state).

Vehicle Marking --

All motor vehicles, trailers, or semi-trailers transporting aquatic products for commercial purposes shall exhibit the inscription AQUATIC PRODUCTS on the right, left and rear sides of the vehicle. The inscription shall read from left to right and shall be plainly visible at all times while transporting aquatic products. The inscription AQUATIC PRODUCTS shall be attached to or painted on the vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer in English block letter of good proportion in contrasting color to the background and be at least 8 inches in height."

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, April 18, 1991
Galveston, Texas

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. W. E. Ruder", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING
MINUTES
Thursday, April 18, 1991
Galveston, Texas

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Chairman Don Duden. He requested the Executive Director to call roll and review pertinent rules and regulations regarding the appropriate meeting procedures.

L. Simpson established a quorum. The following Commissioners and/or proxies were present:

Members

Rudy Rosen	TX
Tom Van Devender	MS
Tommy A. Gollott	MS
Paul Delcambre	MS
Don Duden	FL
Hans Tanzler III	FL
A. Kell McInnis, III	LA
Leroy Kiffe	LA
Vernon Minton	AL
John Ray Nelson	AL

Other persons attending were:

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Ginny Herring, Executive Assistant
Richard Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Dave Donaldson, SEAMAP Program Coordinator
Lucia Hourihan, Publication Specialist
Cheryl Noble, Staff Assistant

Other

Ralph Rayburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
George Lapointe, IAFWA, Baton Rouge, LA
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
John Brown, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Frank Hugh Cole, Foley AL
Doug Lipka, EPA/GMPStennis Space Center, MS
Conrad Fjetland, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM

L. Simpson reviewed voting procedure. Voting is by individual Commissioner. If there is a question about the vote each state delegation shall cast one vote. If only two Commissioners are present from a state, they must agree or their votes will offset each other. If only one Commissioner from a state is present their vote shall represent the state.

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on procedures for closed meetings and changes to rules and regulations. He noted that there were no closed sessions for Commissioners at this meeting. Changes to the Commissions Rules and Regulations may be made at any meeting provided due notice has been given in the call for the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following changes. Addition of discussions regarding seafood imports and Coast Guard requirements that impact vessels which carry 200 barrels of fuel.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes for the March 15, 1990 meeting held in Orange Beach, Alabama and the minutes for the October 18-19, 1990 meeting held in Panama City, Florida were approved as presented.

NMFS Southeast Regional Office Report

D. Pritchard reported on behalf of the NMFS/SERO. He stated that Dr. Kemmerer was sorry that he was unable to attend the meeting. He reported on the financial assistance programs in the southeast region stating that 60% were awarded prior to the requested start date and that the other 40% were awarded within thirty days. All requested start dates were honored. He discussed the Grants Management Division, its origination and development. He feels that problems discussed at previous Commission meetings have been addressed and improvements have been made with States input. Guidelines have been established for use by the States. Efforts are continuing to make the grant process even better. Plans are being developed to approve continuing programs for three year periods instead of annual approval.

USFWS Region 4 Report

John Brown reported on several recent projects including striped bass programs and the establishment of a USFWS office in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. The office will have two USFWS personnel and should be opened for business in mid

May 1991. He reported that the States have funded Phase I and II of a DNA genetic study and that Phase III will be funded with reverted W-B funds. J. Brown is satisfied that the USFWS and State relationship is a good one and he looks forward to additional progress.

Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Report

E. Joyce reported that the TCC met on Wednesday, April 17, 1991. Items discussed included the status of controlled freshwater diversion structures, various subcommittee reports and a report from R. Condrey entitled "Shrimp from Space". R. Condrey's report was a proposal that he is seeking funding for. The project involves application of NOAA satellite data from advanced very high resolution radiometers and the System ARGO. The system provides data on water temperature, salinity and water level information in near real-time. The objective of the project is to pioneer, demonstrate and initiate real fisheries management procedures using satellite sensor systems, downlink systems and advanced data processing/distribution system.

Other items discussed involved several TCC recommendations. On behalf of the TCC, E. Joyce requested that the Commissioners adopt a resolution supporting the non-competitive nature of some State-Federal Programs. V. Minton motioned to approve the resolution (attached) and to distribute the resolution to the appropriate agencies and the entire Gulf Congressional Delegation. T. Van Devender seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The TCC reviewed the Strategic Plan for Restoration and Management of Gulf of Mexico Anadromous Fisheries prepared by the TCC Anadromous Fish Subcommittee. On behalf of the subcommittee the TCC recommended approval. The plan is designed to identify problems which are barriers to effective restoration and management of anadromous resources and to prescribe a strategic plan of action that will provide necessary data and information so that managers may effectively restore and manage anadromous fish resources. L. Simpson stated that the development of this plan is needed to increase funding for all anadromous species in the Gulf region. T. Van Devender motioned to approve the plan. V. Minton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The TCC received comments from the Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) regarding their concern with dissemination of real-time data by the SEAMAP Subcommittee. TSA believes that it is causing pulse fishing. The TCC did not make a recommendations regarding TSA's concerns. T. Van Devender stated that evidence did not support the implication of pulse fishing. R. Rayburn felt that distribution could be limited to the State agencies and that further distribution could be handled by the States. Discussion in the TCC meeting indicated that more information would be necessary to address this issue. R. Rayburn motioned to further investigate TSA's concerns regarding pulse fishing and to determine, if necessary, measures to correct the problem. R. Rosen wants the investigation to include a survey to current persons on the distribution list. J. R. Nelson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Other topics presented to the Commissioners from the TCC was their support of the Crescent Initiative which would provide a mechanism to fund projects concerned with early life history of coastal species. The SEAMAP Subcommittee would have limited and administrative involvement in this project. The consensus of the Commissioners was that the Crescent Initiative was a good concept and that SEAMAP involvement was appropriate. No motion was necessary.

A status report was given with no action required on the RecFIN proposal that will set-up the administrative framework for state and federal sampling programs. The TCC is supportive of this program. Other recommendations included the TCC's request that the Commission purchase a lap-top computer to assist the staff in preparing meeting materials in a more timely fashion. This recommendation will be submitted to the Budget Committee for their consideration.

Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) Report

V. Minton reported on behalf of the LEC. The LEC met on Wednesday, April 17, 1991. Items discussed included the ISSC commitment to reducing illness caused by the vibrio species; changes to the MFCMA that will allow qualified states to share fines, penalties, and forfeitures on cases made; and, approval of a mission statement for the LEC. The approved statement follows: "to provide a coordinated approach for the enforcement of marine resources laws, regulations, and associated issues pertaining to the Gulf region by the five Gulf States".

The LEC requested that the Commission recommend to the FDA that the patrol evaluation of the Gulf States shellfish sanitation program be conducted by the same person or group of persons, in each of the five Gulf States, following the ISSC manual. The LEC feels that problems expressed by the Gulf States Patrol representative could be addressed if this type of fairness in interpretation was established.

J. R. Nelson motioned to write the FDA (Washington office with copies to Dallas and Atlanta offices) regarding the LEC concerns. Seconded by Tommy Gollott. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners reviewed the LEC's draft model language regulations governing the interstate shipment of aquatic products. D. Duden requested that the Commission staff incorporate the language into a suitable resolution and submit it for action at the next Commission meeting.

Other LEC business involved a proposal from the Blackford Company for publication of the State Laws/Regulations Summary. The Commissioners directed Commission staff to review the proposal (especially the logistics of distribution) and to submit a recommendation for action at the next Commission meeting.

Commercial Fisheries Advisory Committee (CFAC)

L. Simpson reported that the CFAC met for the first time on Tuesday, April 16, 1991. A quorum was not established at this initial meeting. The committee is still in its organizational stages and no action was taken. Items discussed included: bycatch; limited entry; underwater pipeline legislation; and, shrimp imports.

Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee (RFAC)

R. Lukens reported that the RFAC met for the first time on Tuesday, April 16, 1991. A quorum was not established. Committee membership is incomplete and no action was taken. GSMFC staff will work with the RFAC in completing the membership process. A conference call meeting will take place when the membership roster is full.

State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee (S-FFMC)

L. Simpson reported that the S-FFMC met on Wednesday, April 17, 1991. Topics discussed included the development of a GSMFC Stock Assessment Team; progress on the Black Drum FMP; and, appointments to the Mullet Technical Task Force. On behalf of the Menhaden Advisory Committee (MAC), L. Simpson requested approval of the revised mission statement for the MAC. J. R. Nelson motioned that the mission statement be approved. H. Tanzler seconded. The motioned was approved unanimously. The MAC also requested that the Commission support efforts to fund NMFS to do a menhaden bycatch study in the Gulf and Atlantic. V. Minton motioned to support this effort. J. R. Nelson seconded. The motioned was approved unanimously.

Administrative Report

Financial Report

L. Simpson reported on Commission finances. He submitted the audit report from the new auditors' Fountain, Seymour, Mosher and Associates. Proposals were solicited from twelve firms as well as public solicitation through the newspaper. Seven proposals were received and the current audit firm was selected based on evaluation of audit experience, pre-determined criteria and cost. J. R. Nelson motioned to accept the audit report. T. Van Devender seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Programmatic Reports

R. Leard reported on progress with the Commission's Interjurisdictional Fishery Program. The Crab FMP is complete and a repository for crab data is being set-up and updates are being considered. The Oyster FMP is complete and copies are now available. The Black Drum Technical Task Force is on track and discussions regarding stock assessment will assist their efforts. The Striped Mullet Technical Task Force is being developed to facilitate the FMP process.

D. Donaldson reported on SEAMAP progress. Surveys have been conducted in Louisiana in March. Spring ichthoplankton surveys and summer shrimp/bottomfish surveys are scheduled for late spring and early summer. He reported that the 1987 and 1988 SEAMAP Atlas have been published and are available. The 1991

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING
MINUTES
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Marine Directory and the 1990 Joint Annual Report are also available. GSMFC staff is currently working on the 1989 SEAMAP Atlas.

R. Lukens briefed the Commissioners on past and current progress with the Wallop/Breaux Sport Fish Restoration Program. He is currently putting together a proposal for FY92. He stated that proposed legislation from Congressman Jones would require states to utilize 5% of their W-B funds to provide for the construction and maintenance of marine sanitation device pump out stations. He will keep the Commissioners advised regarding this issue.

L. Simpson reported that NMFS renewed option 2 of the GSMFC 3 year contract to provide administrative services to the MARFIN Program Management Board. The Commission is a voting member on this board that provides guidance to the Regional Director, NMFS/SERO concerning marine fishery research projects that are funded annually by the \$3.0 million program.

L. Simpson stated that GSMFC supports the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC) under a continuous liaison contract (since 1977). Funding is \$25,000 for GSMFC activities supporting the GMFMC.

Legislative Reports

L. Simpson submitted a report on the MAFAC meeting held March 12-13, 1991 in Tyson Corner, Virginia. No action was required.

L. Simpson provided the Commissioners with copies of amendments to the MFCMA. He briefed them on several amendments that were of interest to the Gulf region.

He stated that the Atlantic Striped Bass Act is up for reauthorization. NMFS supports the principle of this act for other fisheries in the region. The Interstate Commissions certify that if the States are in compliance with an interstate fishery management plan the federal government may not issue a moratorium on a fishery, only in the event that a state is found not to be in compliance may they do so.

L. Simpson reported that seafood inspections will be address in upcoming Congressional sessions as early as mid June. This was discussed in depth at the recent MAFAC meeting and he will continue to keep the Commissioners advised.

State Actions with regard to implementation of Interstate Fishery Management Plans

D. Duden directed GSMFC staff to develop a matrix showing the various states actions in regard to existing Interstate Fishery Management Plans.

Discussion of general session topics for October 1991 meeting

Topics offered for a general session were "Blending Fishery Management with Fishery Science" and "Interstate Cooperation: Research, Management, Policy". No action was taken. Topics may be considered for the April 1992 meeting.

Seafood Imports

T. Gollott expressed concern regarding the economic impact imports have on domestic fisheries. He stated that imports should be taxed so that a more equitable situation would exist for domestic products. He proposed that the Commission develop a resolution to send to Congress supporting domestic industry and recommend a tax on imports that would give the domestic industry the same advantages as the imports. The Commissioners agreed to the concept and directed the staff to develop the resolution and provide recommendations for the use of funds generated by such an import tax. The resolution should be submitted at the October 1991 meeting for consideration.

Coast Guard Requirements (for vessels with 200 barrels of fuel)

There was a brief discussion regarding a Coast Guard form that is required to be completed and filed for all vessels that carry 200 barrels of fuel or more. It is believed that the form is intended for use by the oil industry. The GSMFC staff was directed to contact the Coast Guard and look into the reason for the form, its dispensation and penalties, if any, for not filing.

Report on P.L. 101-646, Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act

George Lapointe, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency (IAFWA) briefed the Commissioners on the background, purpose and funding of P.L. 101-646 and its implications for amendments to Wallop-Breaux. The legislation

originated with Senator John Breaux's 1989 proposal to address coastal wetland loss in Louisiana. Senator Breaux's proposal was approved but no funds were identified to accomplish his goals. Efforts to fund the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act include using Wallop-Breaux funds. Initial proposals would have caused a concomittant increase in the Wallop-Breaux funds, provided approximately \$50 million dollars from the fund for the Act and subject Wallop-Breaux to annual appropriations process. Due to efforts by a coalition of groups interested in Wallop-Breaux an alternative proposal to fund the Act was developed. This proposal would use gas taxes attributable to small non-highway gas engines (lawnmowers, weed eaters, etc.) to fund the Act. This would leave the motor boat fuel tax funds going into the Boating Safety Account and the Sport Fish Restoration Account as intended. In addition, it was suggested that the wetland fund be made part of the Sport Fish Restoration Act soley to remove it from the annual appropriations process. The effect of these changes on the Wallop-Breaux Fund is that the fund is now bigger and more vulnerable than it has ever been. It has a new funding source (small engine gas tax) and a new spending direction (coastal wetlands).

Report on EPA Gulf Initiative

Doug Lipka, EPA/Gulf of Mexico Program, Stennis Space Center, MS reported on the development, purpose, structure and future of the Gulf of Mexico Program. The program addresses the need for a regional mechanism that will coordinate and define the environmental issues in the Gulf. The program has created committees and work groups to initiate planning and communication exchange. D. Lipka briefed the Commissioners on achievements in a number of activities that help maintain the environmental quality of the Gulf. The goal of the program is to establish a framework for action in the Gulf as soon as possible and practicable. The framework is composed of individual action plans for key issues such as marine debris or public health, and will provide a structure around which interested citizens, members of the private industrial sector, government agencies, and community groups can interact, share ideas and support one another in their mutual effort to clean up and protect the Gulf.

Selection of Charles H. Lyles Award Recipient for 1991

R. Rayburn nominated John Mehos for recipient of the 1991 "Charles H. Lyles Award". This award is presented annually to an individual, agency, or organization which has contributed to the betterment of the fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico through significant biological, industrial, legislative, enforcement or administrative activities. R. Rayburn stated that John Mehos's qualifications included his involvement in the seafood industry since 1949, membership on the GMFMC, Texas Shrimp Association, and various other state, federal and industry organizations. There were no other nominations, and Mr. Mehos was nominated by acclamation.

Future Meetings

The October 14-18, 1991 meeting will be held in New Orleans in conjunction with the National Fish Meal and Oil Meeting. The April 13-16, 1992 meeting will be held in Mississippi.

Status report on Florida Spiny Lobster Limited Entry

D. Duden stated that the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission has developed a limited entry scheme for spiny lobster. This management effort has not yet been implemented and he will update the Commissioners regarding progress.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

DRAFTCRS
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Conference Call Minutes
May 6, 1991

The conference call was initiated at 10:15 a.m. with L. Simpson moderating discussions. The following participated:

Members

Jerry Clark, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Joe Gill, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS
Stu Kennedy, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Vernon Minton, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Russ Nelson, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL
Ralph Rayburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
Larry Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Staff

Rick Leard, IJF Program Coordinator

L. Simpson reviewed action from the S-FFMC meeting held on April 17, 1991, in Galveston, Texas. He stated that the objective of the conference call was to appoint a Stock Assessment Team (SAT) and to determine if any of these persons would have time to prepare an initial assessment for black drum. It was determined that none of the state persons would be able to devote sufficient time to complete the black drum assessment in a timely manner. It was further determined that the SAT should meet to discuss the appropriate person(s) to do the assessment and how it should be done. R. Leard will coordinate the meeting and provide information to the team. The following appointments to the SAT were made:

Bob Muller - FDNR/FMRI
Mike Murphy, FDNR/FMRI
Steve Atran - FMFC
Skip Lazauski - ADCNR/MRD
Joey Shepard - LDWF
Peng Chai - TPWD

There being no further business, the conference call was terminated at 10:45 a.m.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**March 7, 1991
Kenner, LA**

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 7, 1991
Kenner, Louisiana

Larry Simpson called the meeting to order at 9:56 am. By consensus, L. Simpson continued to serve as moderator. The following persons were in attendance:

Members

Ralph Rayburn, TPWD (proxy for Gary Matlock)
Ron Dugas, LDWF (proxy for A. Kell McInnis, III)
Tom Van Devender, MDWFP/BMR (proxy for Joe Gill)
Walter Tatum, ADCNR (proxy for Vernon Minton)
Roy Williams, FMFC (proxy for Russell Nelson)
Larry Simpson, GSMFC (nonvoting)
John Brown, FWS (absent)
Andy Kemmerer, NMFS (absent)

Staff

Rick Leard, GSMFC

Others

Claude Boudreaux, LDWF
John Cirino, MDWFP/BMR

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as written without objection.

Adoption of Minutes

*Walter Tatum moved that the minutes of the October 17, 1990, meeting be approved as written. Roy Williams seconded, and the motion carried without objection.

Approval of Oyster FMP

L. Simpson and R. Leard reviewed the status of the oyster fishery management plan (FMP) noting that the plan had been released for public review earlier by the S-FFMC. Furthermore, no comments had been received during the review; however, staff had continued to make editorial changes.

R. Rayburn described needed changes in Sections 1-12 regarding Texas' concerns and general needs. T. Van Devender, R. Williams, W. Tatum and R. Dugas

also noted plan needs, primarily editorial ones, and they were discussed and approved.

The S-FFMC continued with an in-depth review of management and research (sections 14, 15 and 16). Various changes were made and approved by the committee.

*Following approval of corrections to the plan, T. Van Devender moved that the oyster FMP be approved with authorization to staff to make further minor editorial changes. W. Tatum seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Review of Black Drum FMP

R. Leard reviewed progress in developing the black drum FMP. He noted that task force personnel continued to work on assigned sections and that initial drafts of sections 10 and 11 describing problems and management strategies for the fishery had been developed. He further stated that the Black Drum TTF would meet March 25-26, 1991, to review the plan and address future needs and schedules.

Discussion of Future FMPs

L. Simpson noted that with the anticipated completion of the oyster FMP, the S-FFMC should consider the next species or fishery in need of IJF planning. He advised that the committee had previously developed a species list and that it had been redistributed to members following the October meeting.

T. Van Devender suggested that a FMP for red drum should be considered and noted the importance and problems with this fishery in state waters. He further suggested that spotted seatrout should be considered as a second choice. The committee then discussed problems and needs of the mullet fishery. By consensus, the S-FFMC agreed to address the mullet fishery in the next FMP.

Review of FMP Implementation Efforts

L. Simpson reviewed the need for states to advise of their efforts to implement and use IJF FMPs. Also, he specifically discussed Spanish mackerel, the recommendation that it be eliminated from the coastal pelagics FMP of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and the actions taken to date.

Specifically, the actions by Florida were discussed and the need for future direction from this major producing state. Because of pending litigation and other uncertainties regarding Spanish mackerel in Florida, the committee decided by consensus to delay any actions or further recommendations until later discussions at the upcoming meeting of the GSMFC in April 1991. Also, progress with other plans would also be discussed.

IJF Program and the 1993 Federal Budget

L. Simpson reviewed recent amendments to the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act. He also discussed the preliminary status of the 1993 NMFS budget and other marine fishery programs.

State Reports

Texas - R. Rayburn reported on an upcoming Coastal Fisheries Conference to be held April 12-13, 1991, at the Clear Lake Hilton between Houston and Galveston. He also reported on recent administrative changes within the TPWD; Dr. Rudy Rosen was the new director of the Fisheries and Wildlife Division.

Louisiana - C. Boudreaux advised that Louisiana was currently recruiting for a program manager position in stock assessment.

Mississippi - T. Van Devender reported on recent changes to Mississippi bag and size limits for red snapper. He also discussed legislation currently being considered.

Alabama - W. Tatum reported that Vernon Minton had recently been appointed Director of the Marine Resources Division replacing Hugh Swingle who retired. This action has created a vacancy for a Biologist IV.

Florida - R. Williams reported that Florida was in the process of modifying its mullet rules. He also noted that Florida will be developing a blue crab FMP during the year.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Virginia Vail

TCC RECREATIONAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 7-8, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

The Chairwoman, Virginia Vail, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following persons present:

Members

- Tina Berger, SFI/ARDC, Washington, DC
- Mike Buchanan, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS
- Rick Kasprzak, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
- Vernon Minton, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
- Hal Osburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
- Virginia Vail, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
- Harold Wahlquist, USFWS Region 4, Atlanta, GA

Staff

- Ron Lukens, Assistant Director

Others

- Richard Bennett, MMS, New Orleans, LA
- Les Dauterive, MMS, New Orleans, LA
- Jim Hart, Aquarium of the Americas, New Orleans, LA
- Jim Lane, GSMFC Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee, MS
- Joe McGurrin, ASMFC, Washington, DC
- Dewitt Myatt, EcoGenesis, Inc., Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- Evelyn Myatt, EcoGenesis, Inc., Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- Pepper Scheffler, GSMFC Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Meeting Summary Approval

Approval of the meeting summary for the July 1990 meeting was tabled until the next meeting.

State/Federal Updates

Texas - Hal Osburn briefly discussed the Texas Artificial Reef Plan which was completed in 1990. He indicated that it is primarily a Rigs-to-Reefs plan. Copies are available upon request. A discussion ensued regarding the use of offshore oil structures as aquaculture facilities, primarily using cage culture

techniques. It was determined that this is a situation which would need to be closely followed.

Louisiana - Rick Kasprzak indicated that several construction and research projects are planned for 1991. Among their projects are the deployment of a number of low profile, inshore, estuarine artificial reefs using oyster shell as material.

Mississippi - Mike Buchanan stated that Mississippi would be involved in construction of low profile, nearshore, estuarine artificial reefs using oyster shells, and will be conducting some research such as primary productivity and perhaps catch rate comparisons.

Alabama - Vernon Minton indicated that Alabama has four large general permit areas for artificial reef construction, one of which is slated for expansion. Private citizens may construct artificial reefs within these areas as long as their proposed materials pass inspection, meeting U.S. Corps of Engineers guidelines.

Florida - Virginia Vail reported that FDNR is in the process of contracting with a firm to write their state artificial reef plan. They anticipate plan completion by the end of 1991. Several construction projects, mostly initiated by local governments, are slated for 1991. Research is being conducted and is mostly species oriented, such as lobster habitats.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Wally Wahlquist provided a report summarizing the results of a Region 4 Federal Aid meeting in Atlanta in September 1990. The meeting was intended to clarify many aspects of artificial reef construction, use, and management in order to assist in evaluation of project proposals and progress of funded projects. A copy of the meeting summary report is available from the Region 4 office upon request.

Minerals Management Service - Les Dauterive of the MMS Leasing and Environment Office indicated that their interest in artificial reefs is primarily from the perspective of permitting for OCS oil and gas activities and to try to reduce conflicts between those activities and other users of the OCS. He indicated that it is important that his office be included in the review process for U.S. Corps of Engineers artificial reef permits so that they can head off any potential conflicts with OCS oil and gas activities.

Artificial Reef Data Base Project

Tina Berger indicated that all artificial reef data pertinent to permitted artificial reefs in waters offshore of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama has been entered into the computer. Florida has not been entered because the complete data set has not yet been compiled. The data are expected to be available by June or July 1991.

As a result of discussions by the Artificial Reef Advisory Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, additional data elements are being added to the data base. They address volume of artificial reef material and footprint (area). The subcommittee determined that these data are not available for Gulf of Mexico artificial reefs, except for offshore Mississippi.

Richard Bennett of the MMS indicated that the final computerized data base will be valuable to the MMS in preparing environmental impact statements for OCS oil and gas activities.

The ensuing discussion centered on the next phase of the data base project which is to prepare a final report. The chairwoman appointed herself (Virginia Vail) and Ron Schmied, Vice Chairman, as a work group with staff to develop a recommended format and alternatives for components of the report. The recommendations will be submitted for consideration at the next meeting which is anticipated for November.

ASMFC Artificial Reef Program Summary

Joe McGurrin, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, provided a summary of activities of the ASMFC Artificial Reef Advisory Committee. He indicated that their data base project, after which the GSMFC project is patterned, provided a source for a number of follow-up activities. Examples are the compilation of management and research priorities and activities regarding materials. Much of what that group has already accomplished is applicable to the Gulf of Mexico region and will serve as guidance for future activities.

Combustible By-Products as Artificial Reef Material

Hal Osburn introduced the issue of the use of coal and oil ash waste as an aggregate material to formulate blocks for use in artificial reef construction.

He and other subcommittee members indicated that such material is already in use off their coasts or pressure is being applied to do so. A discussion ensued which indicated that most of the current research concludes that risks of toxic leaching of coal/ash waste components are negligible. It was pointed out that such research has been short term, and no one knows the long term effects of exposure of those materials in the marine environment. Another complexity is the fact that the amount of various toxicants is highly variable in coal or oil, usually dependent on its area of origin.

The subcommittee discussed a resolution which was developed and adopted by the ASMFC regarding this issue. The resolution calls for a halt to permitting of artificial reefs using coal/oil ash waste as materials, except for experimental purposes, until such a time as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) develops guidelines and standards for its use. The resolution also specifically calls for EPA to develop these guidelines and standards.

*Hal Osburn moved to adopt the ASMFC resolution as it exists with the appropriate editorial changes for the Gulf States. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The resulting resolution is appended to these minutes.

Artificial Reef Buoying Requirements

Buoying has continued to be a difficult and expensive component of all artificial reef programs which require them. Some confusion exists due to a lack of consistency in U.S. Coast Guard regulations for buoy use from district to district. The comment was made that in some cases, due to geomorphological differences and differences in vessel traffic, non-standardized regulations may be warranted. The subcommittee concurred that the issue of consistency in buoying regulations was not causing any undue hardships at this time and elected not to pursue the issue.

International Conference, November 1991

The 5th International Conference on Artificial Habitats for fisheries will take place November 3-6, 1991, in Long Beach, California. Joe McGurrin, a conference steering committee member, provided the subcommittee with an update on the planning and sessions. McGurrin informed the subcommittee that there will

be a full day session dedicated to state artificial reef programs and management issues. No such session has been included in previous International Conferences, and he encouraged all states to make plans to participate in the session. There may be some travel money available to defray part of the states' travel.

Joint GSMFC/ASMFC Artificial Reef Meeting

Since the initiation of the GSMFC TCC Recreational Fisheries Management Subcommittee, there has been some interest to hold a joint meeting with the ASMFC Artificial Reef Advisory Committee. This is due to the fact that many of the currently important issues are broad in scope and are of interest to both groups. It was pointed out that the upcoming International Conference would provide a unique opportunity for the two groups to meet jointly, while allowing members to take advantage of the benefits of the International Conference. Without objection, the subcommittee proposed a joint meeting to be held Sunday, November 3, prior to the opening of the full conference. The two chairpersons along with GSMFC/ASMFC staff are charged with the development of a joint agenda.

Regional Artificial Reef Plan

Rick Kasprzak requested that the issue of a regional artificial reef plan be discussed by the subcommittee. R. Lukens indicated that there may be some benefit in doing a regional plan as a step-down effort from the National Artificial Reef Plan, serving as an intermediate planning document between the National Plan and State/Local Plans. Lukens pointed out that three of the five Gulf States do not have plans, and a regional plan could assist those states in plan development. Several of the members indicated that such a regional plan would be duplicative and that state plans currently online would be sufficient as guidance for any state wishing to develop a plan. After additional discussion, it was decided without objection to forgo development of a Gulf of Mexico Regional Artificial Reef Plan.

Other Business

R. Lukens initiated a discussion that it was possible that a great deal of misconception exists with regard to the use, function, and benefits of nearshore,

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estuarine artificial reefs. A discussion by the subcommittee concurred with that observation. Without objection, the subcommittee elected to look further into the issue of estuarine artificial reefs, possibly as a topic at the November joint meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.,
Wednesday, May 8, 1991.

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD (PMB)
Wednesday, May 29/Thursday, May 30, 1991
St. Petersburg, Florida
MINUTES

Robert Ekberg
5 Dec '91
DRAFT

The meeting held in the conference room of the NMFS Southeast Regional Office was called to order at 9:05 am by Chairman Bob Shipp. The following were in attendance:

Members

Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Bob Shipp, Recreational Industry, Mobile, AL
Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
William S. "Corky" Perret, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, LA
Wayne Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Judy Jamison, GASAFDFI, Tampa, FL
Robert Jones, Commercial Industry, Tallahassee, FL
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Jean West, ex-officio, NOAA Grants, Silver Spring, MD

Staff

Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lucia Hourihan, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Ellie Roche, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Sally Long, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Jack Greenfield, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ron Schmied, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL*

*In attendance on May 29, 1991 only.

Adoption of Agenda

It was noted that Scott Nichols would be representing NMFS (not Powers) and the agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held November 2, 1990 in Orlando, Florida were amended to delete detail about the Foundation audit, etc. (end of page 3 through page 5) and adopted as amended.

Status of FY91 NMFS Projects

D. Ekberg distributed a listing of the NMFS projects (attachment 1) which had been approved for FY91 funding. The PMB heard project reports from Ekberg,

J. Greenfield, S. Nichols and R. Schmied. The PMB requested to be sent copies of reports resulting from Pascagoula lab's "Gear Development for Bycatch Reduction" project.

Status of FY90 Financial Assistance Projects. Funding Available for FY91 Projects

Ekberg distributed a listing of projects (attachment 2) which had been awarded with FY90 funds in the amount of \$1,604,412. Only one of the approved projects (#13.D.01, GASAFDFI, Japanese & Taiwanese Trade Barrier Analysis for GOM Butterfish -- \$50,000) had been removed because it was felt that it would better to work through the Fisheries Attache.

Ekberg distributed a breakdown of the FY91 MARFIN allocation (attachment 3) showing a balance of \$1,001,000 available for competitive projects. The PMB questioned the \$20,000 NMFS assessment and requested to see the 3/14/90 memo (attachment 4). There was discussion regarding the substantive involvement requirement in cooperative agreements (attachment 5).

Presentation of NMFS Priority Listing of Proposals (based on NMFS and other peer review)

Ekberg stated that on the 58 applications there were 334 reviews, 180 being inside reviews and 154 outside reviews. There was an average of six reviews per project with a range of 3-8. A listing of competitive projects showing number of reviews, average score, and NMFS recommendation was distributed (attachment 6). This year's review was attended by a representative of Dr. Fox's office. It was stated that Dr. Fox basically approved of the process.

J. West described a new multi-year concept. Multi-year projects can be sent to FARB one time, asking for an award for the full project. First year's funding would be available and additional funding would be conditional on satisfactory progress and availability of funds. The board endorsed the concept.

S. Nichols briefed members on the NMFS sequential review of proposals and internal and external reviewer comments as proposals were individually discussed. PMB members recused themselves from any deliberation from which they or their employing institution could benefit.

There was discussion regarding travel costs associated with some projects. As a matter of policy the PMB does not approve of the funding of travel for principal investigators to attend various scientific meetings to present results (results are already reported to PMB).

Board Member Comments on NMFS Presentation

One project, 4.B.02 (SE Fisheries Assoc, Inc.) was withdrawn by the principal investigator. As a result of the first day's session (consisting of two rounds) consideration of the following projects was deferred indefinitely as the projects were felt to be inappropriate for FY91 MARFIN funding.

1.A.4.01, Gulf Shrimp Res & Dev Found (Integrated Assessmt of Bycatch Issues in WGOM).

1.A.4.04, Gulf Shrimp Res 7 Dev Found (Ind Innovation: Mod. Shrimp Trawl Gear to Exclude Turt & Finfish in WGOM).

1.A.4.05, Gulf Shrimp Res & Dev Found (Sep of Shrimp Within Shrimp Trawls from Marine Organism by Elect Dev).

1.B.02, LSU (Gulf Shrimpers, Seasonal & Area Closures of GOM: Socioecon Impact Study).

1.B.03, USF (Economic & Fiscal Impact of Controlled Access Management).

1.B.04, TX Parks & Wild Dept. (Exploring Cont-Access Mgmt to Increase Econ Returns in TX In & Offsho).

2.B.1.01, Marine Environmental Science Consortium (Assessmt of Effects of Lg Predator Removal on Coastal Nursery Habitats).

2.B.3.01, GCRL (Characterization of Shark Pop in the NCGOM with a Key to Species Ident).

2.B.3.03, Univ of Miami (Design & Implementation of Stock Assmt Prog to Manage Shark Res).

3.A.01, McIntosh Marine, Inc. (Enhancmt & Managmt of Shallow Water Snappers in GOM by Means Art Reef).

3.B.02, Mote Marine Lab (Age & Growth, Migration & Reprodtion of Red Grouper, Amberjack, Triggerfish).

3.D.01, AL Dept Cons & Natural Res (Age Class Structure of Gray Triggerfish Stocks from EEZ & AL, NCGOM Waters).

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3.E.01, TX A&M Res Found (Understdg Displacemt & Species Substitution Among Shark & Reef Fish Anglers).

3.F.02, AL Dept Cons & Natural Res (Analysis of Red Snapper Catches from AL Charter Boat Fleet).

3.F.04, Univ of Miami (Preparation of an Ident Guide for Eggs, Larvae & Juvenile Reef Fish).

3.F.06, Univ of TX at Austin (Spawning and Early Life History Studies of Red Snapper).

4.0.01, MS State Univ (Effect of On-Bd and/or Shoreside Handlg Procedures on Quality of Coastal Herring Species).

4.B.01, MS State Univ (Species Profiles and Predator-Prey Relationship of Red Herring & Rough Scad in GOM).

5.A.03, Mote Marine Lab (Cobia, Amberjack & Dolphin Migration & Life History in GOM & SE FL).

5.A.04, LA Univ Mar Consortium (Recruitmt Patterns & Growth of Young-of-Year Cobia Along LA Coast).

6.0.01, LSU (Appl of Near Real-Time NOAA Satellite Hrpt Data to Coast Fish Mangmt).

6.A.02, Mote Marine Lab (Lab Studies of Survivorship of Undersized Bycatch Red Grouper).

6.A.03, Mote Marine Lab (Det of Hook/Release Mortality of King & S Mackerel, Amberjack, Red Group).

6.B.01, LSU (Dev & Publ of Practical Color Ident Guide to Reef Fish and Saltw Fish).

6.E.01, LSU (Influence of Microhabitat Sel on Growth & Predation of Estuarine Fish).

6.E.02, GCRL (Role & Effect of Eddies/Fronts on Larval Recruitmt of Sel Com Species).

6.E.03, Smithsonian Inst. (Deep-Sea Com Crabs, Family Geryonidae: An Untapped Resource).

6.E.04, Burr Patterson (Upper Galveston Bay Estuary Crab Study).

1.A.1.01, AL Dept Cons & Natural Res (Invest of Bycatch Assoc with 16-ft Rec Shrimp Trawl & Eval Potential Reduction Devices).

1.A.1.02, GCRL (Invest Shrimp Bycatch in MS Waters & Nearshore Northcentral GOM)

1.A.2.01, TX Parks & Wild Dept (Assessment of Impacts of Shrimp Trawl Bycatch on Finfish Stocks).

1.A.3.01, Univ of New Orleans (Social Impact of Bycatch Reg Scenarios on User Groups The Communities).

2.A.1.01, LSU (Compar of LSU Tuna Observer Data with NMFS Swordfish Log Book).

2.B.3.02, VA Inst Marine Science (Dist, Abundance & Stock Composition of Expl Shark Pop of N-CGOM).

3.B.01, Auburn Univ (Effect of Reef Const on Reef Fish Recruitmt, Pop Structure & Movement).

3.F.01, Al Dept Cons & Natural Res (Col & Art Spawng Red Snapper & Rearg of Larvae to Taggable Size for Release into GOM).

4.A.01, LSU (Age & Growth of GOM Latent Res: Specific Emphasis on Gulf Butterfish).

The first day's session adjourned at 5:05 pm with 20 projects remaining for further discussion.

Thursday, May 30, 1991

Chairman Shipp reconvened the meeting at 9:00 am.

Discussion of Plans for 1991 Technical Conference

It was the consensus of the PMB to try to hold the conference (1 1/2 days) in conjunction with the American Fisheries Society meeting scheduled for the second week of September in San Antonio, Texas. A business meeting to establish priorities for FY92 would follow on Thursday morning. Alternative sites for the conference were listed as New Orleans, Mobile and Austin. GSMFC staff will finalize plans for the conference.

Continuation of Board Member Comments on NMFS Presentation

New sheets listing the 20 proposals remaining as a result of the first day's discussions were distributed. Individual member comments continued.

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Project 3.F.03, Univ of S AL (Introduction of Yr Class 1 Red Snapper to Art Reef Habitat: Impacts & Empirical Data) was deferred indefinitely as the project was considered inappropriate for FY91 MARFIN funding.

Project 3.D.02, TX A&M Res Found (Pop Genetic Studies of Vermillion Snapper in GOM) at \$65,684.00 was listed number one in contingency.

The following 18 projects were considered to be appropriate and approved for FY91 MARFIN funding.

1.A.1.03, Gulf Shrimp Res & Dev Found (Coord Between Ind, NMFS Gal Lab & TX P&W to Facilitate Collection of Data on Bycatch on Shrimp Trawls in WGOM) at \$70,000.00.

1.A.1.04, LSU (Patterns in Dist & Abundance of Fishes and Macroinvertebrates in LA) at \$32,162.00.

1.A.4.01, Gulf Shrimp Res & Dev Found (Finfish Excluding Gear in Shrimp Trawls in WGOM Study) at \$52,000.00.

1.A.4.03, LSU (Eval of Shrimp Trawls Designed to Reduce Bycatch in Inshore Wtrs LA) -- with adding zone 1 -- at \$46,917.00 first year, \$47,150.00 second year.

1.B.01, LSU (Shrimp Closures & Their Impact on Gulf Region Processg & Wholesaleg) at \$64,838.00.

2.A.3.01, Univ of FL (Econ Analysis of US Demand for Swordfish & Effect Reduction Measures) at \$43,287.00 for one year only.

2.B.1.02, Mote Marine Lab (Bycatch & Catch-Rel Mortality of Sharks in Gulf Coast Nursery off FL) at \$32,143.00.

3.B.03, Univ of W FL (Ident of Stock Structure & Recruitmt Patterns for Red Snapper in GOM) at \$89,918.00.

3.C.01, Continental Shelf Assoc, Inc. (Compilation of Existg Data on Location & Areal Extent of Reef Fish Habitat on MS/AL/FL Continental Shelf - EGOM) at \$20,924.00

3.D.03, TX Parks & Wild Dept (Trends in Sport-Boat Harvest & Det of Sel Life History of Reef Fish) at \$71,738.00.

3.F.05, GCRL (Spawng & Early Life History of Snappers in Northcentral GOM) at \$96,140 for one year only.

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3.F.07, LSU (Life History Gaps in Red Snapper, Swordfish, Red Drum in NGOM) -- remove red snapper -- at \$40,000 each year for two years.

5.A.01, Univ of Miami (Biological Data from Com Landings of Spanish Mackerel in SW FL Fishery) at \$68,545.00.

5.A.02, GCRL (Recruitmt Profile for GOM Cobia Rec Fishery & Est Age of Pre-Recruit) at \$15,990.00.

5.B.01, TX A&M Res Found (Pop Genetic Studies of King Mackerel in GOM) at \$59,703.00.

5.B.02, Mote Marine Lab (King & Spanish Mackerel, Red Grouper & Red Snapper Stock Assmt SGOM) -- king mackerel -- at \$75,000.

6.A.01, USF (In-Situ & Lab Studies of Survivorship of Bycatch in Red Grouper Fishery) at \$71,157.00.

6.C.01, LSU (Finfish Processg Sector Changes in GOM Fisheries Under Mngmt/Regulation) at \$51,484.00.

Other projects which had been previously deferred were considered again and listed in contingency in the following rank order:

2. 1.A.3.01, Univ of New Orleans (Social Impact of Bycatch Reg Scenarios on User Groups the Communities) at \$61,262.00.

3. 3.F.02, AL Dept Cons & Natural Res (Analysis of Red Snapper Catches From AL Charter Boat Fleet) at \$30,000.00

4. 3.F.01, AL Dept Cons & Natural Res (Col & Art Spawng Red Snapper & Rearg of Larvae to Taggable Size for Release into GOM) at \$50,000.00.

5. 4.A.01, LSU (Age & Growth of GOM Latent Res: Specific Emphasis on Gulf Butterfish) at \$47,646.00.

6. 3.B.02, Mote Marine Lab (Age & Growth, Migration & Reprodtn of Red Grouper, Amberjack, Triggerfish) at \$140,000.00.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Subsequent to the meeting, final NMFS selections for FY91 MARFIN (attachment 7) were received.

1991 MARFIN IN-HOUSE PROPOSALS

11/6/90

CJ#	APPNAME	PROJNAME	PI	STARTDAT	ENDDATE	\$
NMFS01	SERD	MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	EKBERG, DONALD	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$75,000.00
NMFS02	SERD	EDUCATIONAL TOOLS FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN IN THE GOM	SCHMIED, RONALD	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$29,000.00
NMFS03	SERD	ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT OF THE GOM COMMERCIAL REEF FISH FISHERY	WATERS, JAMES	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$65,160.00
NMFS04	SERD	ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF FINFISH BY-CATCH IN THE GOM SHRIMP FISHERY	WARD, JOHN	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$24,000.00
NMFS05	SEFC	- EVALUATION OF THE IMPACTS OF BYCATCH EXCLUDER DEVICES (BEDs) ON FINFISH AND SHRIMP CATCH RATES IN THE GOM	KLIMA, EDWARD	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$115,000.00
NMFS06	SEFC	REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY OF REEF FISH	NAKAMURA, EUGENE	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$75,000.00
NMFS07	SEFC	DATA COLLECTION FOR SHARKS	CASTRO, JOSE	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$55,000.00
NMFS08	SEFC	SMALL PELAGICS RESOURCE SURVEYS	NELSON, WALTER	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$460,000.00
NMFS09	SEFC	- GEAR DEVELOPMENT FOR BYCATCH REDUCTION	NELSON, WALTER	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$357,000.00
NMFS10	SEFC	- TED TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	NELSON, WALTER	10/01/90	09/30/91	\$50,000.00

Total: \$1,305,160.00

05/28/91

MARFIN STATUS REPORT (FY 1991)

Grant Number	Year of Total Years	\$ Amount	Applicant's Name	Project's Name	Principal Investigator	Status	Start Date
0X1NA90AAHMF745	1/2	\$31,650.00	SE FISHERIES ASSOC INC	CONF ON REDUCTION OF BYCATCH SHRIMP TRAWLS OPERATIONS & ALTER HARVTS	JONES, ROBERT	AWARDED 09/14/90	11/01/90
0X1NA90AAHMF748	1/2	\$76,350.00	CARIBBEAN MARINE RES CENTER (CHRC)	SPAWNG BIOLOGY OF SHALLOW-WATER GOM GROUPERS	COLIN, PATRICK DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/10/90	10/01/90
0X1NA90AAHMF761	1/2	\$58,287.00	MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONSORTIUM	RECRUITMT & HABITAT UTIL BY BLUE CRAB: IMPORTANCE OF JUV NURSERY HABITAT	HECK, KENNETH DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/04/90	10/01/90
0X1NA90AAHMF762	1/2	\$30,568.00	LSU	MORTALITY RATES & MOVEMENT OF HOOK&LINE CAUGHT & RELEASED RED SNAPPER	RENDER, JEFFREY DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/07/90	10/01/90
8X3NA90AAHMF729	3/3	\$28,945.00	MS DEPT OF WILDLIFE FISHERIES & PARKS	MS/MMFS K & S MACKEREL SAMPLS PROG.	DEEGEN, FRED, ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/17/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF722	2/2	\$66,800.00	LSU	AGE, GROWTH, & REPRO BIOLOGY OF AMBERJACK & COBIA FROM COASTAL LA WATERS	THOMPSON, BRUCE DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/18/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF723	2/2	\$23,940.00	LSU	AGE, GROWTH, DIET & SPawning DATE OF YELLOWFIN TUNA IN MS RIVER PLUME	SHAW, RICHARD DR.	AWARDED 09/10/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF724	2/3	\$84,200.00	LSU	VAR OF YR-CLASS STRENGTH & ANNUAL REPROD OUTPUT OF RED&BLACK DRUM NGOM	WILSON, CHARLES DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
9X2NA90AAHMF725	2/3	\$87,700.00	LA DEPT OF W&F	BIDL & CATCH/EFFORT SAMPLS FROM TUNA & SHARK FISHERIES IN NGOM	SHEPARD, JOSEPH A.	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
9X2NA90AAHMF726	2/2	\$126,000.00	LA DEPT OF W&F	ENHANCBS BENEFITS FROM SHRIMP IN GOM BY OPTMZG SHRIMP MANAGEMENT IN LA	CLARK, JERRY DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/27/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF727	2/3	\$79,600.00	LSU	UTILIZATION OF FISHERIES-INDEPENT DATA: FUTURE MANAGMT IMPLICATIONS	SHAW, RICHARD DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/05/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF728	2/3	\$38,730.00	LSU	MACKEREL & REEF FISH BIOPROFILE & CATCH/EFFORT DATA COL FROM NGOM	RUSSELL, SANDRA	AWARDED 09/10/90	10/01/90
9X2NA90AAHMF730	2/2	\$8,920.00	BCRL	EARLY LIFE HIST OF SNAPPERS IN COASTAL & SHELF WATERS OF NCGOM	LYCZKOWSKI-SHULTZ, JOANNE DR.	AWARDED 09/17/90	10/01/90
9X2NA90AAHMF731	2/2	\$61,101.00	MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONSORTIUM	EVAL QUAMOG ABUNDANCE & GROWTH IN INSHORE AL & NW FL: ASSMT CLAM CULT	HECK, KENNETH DR.	AWARDED 09/18/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF732	2/2	\$51,900.00	MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONSORTIUM	VALUE OF VEG&UNVEG HABITATS TO JUVENILE SPOTTED SEATROUT & RED DRUM	HECK, KENNETH DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/18/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF733	2/2	\$42,190.00	UNIV OF S AL	INVEST OF LIFE HIST PARAMENTERS OF SPECIES OF SECOND REEF FISH & DOLPH	SHIPP, ROBERT L. DR.	AWARDED 09/14/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF734	2/3	\$4,000.00	FL DNR	AGE VALIDATION OF ADULT BLACK DRUM IN FL	MURPHY, MICHAEL, ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/14/90	02/01/91
9X2NA90AAHMF735	2/2	\$25,000.00	UNIV OF MIAMI	IMPLEMT OF LOG BOOK SYS FOR SPOTTER PILOTS & FLEET CAPT RCD MACKEREL	EHRHARDT, NELSON DR.	AWARDED 09/28/90	02/01/91
NA17FF0233-01	1/1	\$100,000.00	BSAFDF	MANAGENT OF BYCATCH IN DIRECTED COMMERCIAL FISHERIES IN GOM	JAMISON, JUDY	AWARDED 04/30/91	05/01/91
NA90AAHMF744	1/1	\$47,135.00	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	FINFISH EXCLUDG GEAR IN SHRIMP TRAWLS IN W. GOM	GIBBS, LUCY	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF747	1/1	\$75,000.00	NOTE MARINE LAB	COBIA, AMBERJACK, DOLPHIN MIGRATION & LIFE HISTORY STUDY OFF SW FL	BURNS, KAREN ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/14/90	11/01/90
NA90AAHMF749	1/1	\$50,906.00	FL DNR	INVESTIGATIONS OF INSHORE & OFFSHORE POP DYNAMICS OF SPANISH SARDINES IN W.FL	SUTTER, FREDERICK ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/10/90	02/01/91
NA90AAHMF750	1/1	\$57,731.00	FL DNR	SPAWNG STOCK AND EXPLOIT/ESCAPE OF BLACK MULLET	MAHMOUDI, BEHZAD DR.	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF752	1/1	\$75,000.00	NOTE MARINE LAB	K & SPANISH MACKEREL MIGRATION & STOCK ASSESMT STUDY IN SGOM	BURNS, KAREN	AWARDED 09/10/90	11/01/90
NA90AAHMF754	1/1	\$11,535.00	TX PARKS & WILD DEPT	SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS OF REC REEF FISH FISHERMEN IN TX	MATLOCK, GARY DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF755	1/1	\$54,623.00	TX A&N RES FOUND	BENETIC STUDIES TO DET STOCK STRUCTURE OF REEF FISHES IN GOM: PHASE I	GOLD, JOHN DR.	AWARDED 09/04/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF756	1/1	\$50,000.00	TX A&N RES FOUND	SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CHARACTERIZATION OF GOM REC & COM SHARK FISHERIES	DITTON, ROBERT DR.	AWARDED 09/04/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF757	1/1	\$26,393.00	UNIV OF TX AT AUSTIN	DYNAMICS OF ESTUARINE & OFFSHORE RED DRUM STOCKS	FUJMAN, LEE DR.	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF759	1/1	\$18,893.00	UNIV OF S AL	SPECIES IDENT AND MANAGEMENT OF AMBERJACKS	MCAFFEE, BRIDGET	AWARDED 09/18/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF763	1/1	\$38,785.00	LSU	AGE STRUCTURE & REPROD. POTENTIAL OF NGOM OFFSHORE POP OF RED DRUM	WILSON, CHARLES DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/10/90	10/01/90
NA90AAHMF764	1/1	\$72,530.00	LSU	LARVAL FOOD, GROWTH & MICROHABITAT SELECT: AFFECTING CRUIT OF DEPEND. FISH	BALTZ, DONALD DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 09/18/90	02/01/91

Total: 1,604,412.00

5/28/91

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 SOUTHEAST REGION
 FY91 MARFIN ALLOCATION

INITIAL ALLOCATION: 2986.0

IN-HOUSE PROJECTS

REGIONAL OFFICE (ADMIN.)	75.0	
RECREATIONAL FISHERIES	29.0	
ECONOMICS	89.2	
MISSISSIPPI LABORATORIES	897.0	
GALVESTON LABORATORY	115.0	
PANAMA CITY LABORATORY	75.0	
MIAMI LABORATORY (CASTRO)	55.0	
SUBTOTAL		1335.2

CONTRACT(S):

GSMFC (ADMIN.)	44.9	
SUBTOTAL		44.9

OTHER:

MULTI-YEAR AWARDS	584.9	
SUBTOTAL		584.9

NMFS PERM. ASSESS. (3/14/91 MEMO)	20.0	
SUBTOTAL		20.0

BALANCE REMAINING: 1001.0



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
1335 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910
THE DIRECTOR

MAR 14 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional, Science and Office Directors, NMFS
FROM: William W. Fox, Jr. *[Signature]*
SUBJECT: FY 1991 NOAA-wide Assessments and Other
Increases

Last week, Mike Tillman's memorandum to you on this subject addressed a list of NOAA assessments and increased charges that NMFS is required to take in FY 1991. I have since reviewed these items with Mike, and discussed the various sharing options. The method in which the reductions will be shared involves using the eight percent levy on new and expanded programs, across-the-board assessments, and reductions to specific FMCs as follows:

1. Eight percent levy on new and expanded programs.

- Gramm-Rudman-Hollings assessment.....	\$769K
- Partial Data Management Initiative (DMI).	509K
- Partial Common Services (CS) increase....	28K
	<u>Subtotal \$1,306K</u>

2. Across-the-board based on permanent FMC allowances.

- Remainder of DMI (total \$1,367K)	\$858K
- Remainder of CS increase (total \$804K)...	776K
- Administrative Law Judge increase.....	100K
- Federal Register increase.....	60K
	<u>Subtotal \$1,794K</u>

3. Reductions to specific FMCs.

- Locality pay increase.....	\$561K
- Western Regional ASC shortfall.....	160K
- Silver Spring consolidation lease.....	208K
- Silver Spring utilities/copy center.....	126K
	<u>Subtotal \$1,055K</u>

Total \$4,155K

There are a few points I would like to reiterate from Mike's memorandum and a few I would like to add. First, I do not have nor do I intend to maintain in the future significant sums of discretionary funding. Therefore, I fully expect you to plan your future operations within your revised funding allowance.

THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR FISHERIES



Second, you are not to make any funding commitment that you cannot fund "totally" within your allowance. Third, and very important, is that these are "permanent" reductions and, thus, require some caveats in handling. For example, if the item being reduced is also proposed for decrease in the FY 1992 budget, the budget amount will be reduced from the FY 1992 NMFS target if the reduction is approved by Congress. The exception is the DMI reprogramming which has been sent to Congress. NOAA has informed us that no other reprogramming notices will be submitted for these assessments. Note that if an item's funding level is reduced by more than \$500K or 10 percent, whichever is lower, a reprogramming notice would be required. Finally, if an item (e.g., the MMPA observer funding) is reduced in one FMC, then later allocated to other FMCs, it should not be reduced again by the receiving FMCs to offset the reduction to their allowance.

I want to assure you that I am as disturbed as you are over the magnitude and manner in which these assessments have been handed down by NOAA. The impact of these assessments severely restricts our ability to deal with internal NMFS shortfall problems such as funding the 1990 Amendments to the MFCMA, the fifth quarter funding for the Regional Councils and Columbia River hatcheries, etc. which must be addressed in FY 1991-92. I will be reviewing options to address these and other internal shortfalls over the next few weeks.

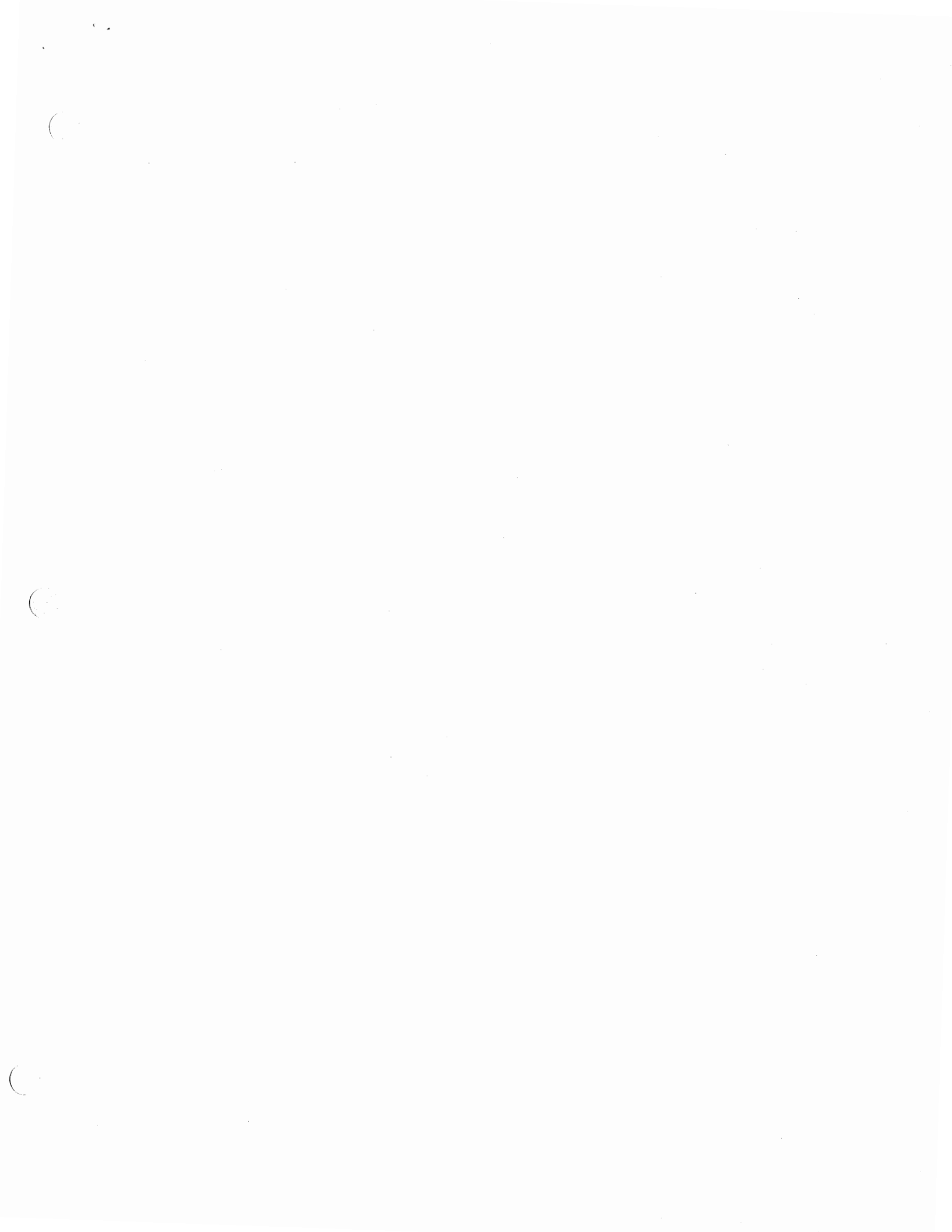
Your revised funding allowance for FY 1991 is attached. Please review your allowance carefully as it includes other adjustments (e.g., facilities repair funding, the Driftnet funding allocation, and prior year deobligations) in addition to the assessments listed above. FOP adjustments should be submitted to F/BP no later than Friday, March 22, along with a separate summary sheet identifying the specific program areas and dollar amounts required to cover these assessments. If you have questions about the items and/or amounts being reduced, please call John Oliver on FTS 427-2250.

Attachment

ALLOWANCE ADVICE #SER-3
(Dollars in Thousands)

PREVIOUS.....			<u>OR&F</u>
			10,741.3
CHANGE(S):			
DMI Adjustment - MARFIN (L1A).....	(P)	-20.0	
← To F/SEC - MARFIN (L1A).....	(T)	-1,112.0	
Prior Year Deobligations (L2C).....	(T)	-0.5	
Change Line Item - Pay Raise (L1A).....	(P)	43.2	
Change Line Item - Pay Raise (L2B).....	(P)	52.6	
Change Line Item - Market News Transfer			
(L3B).....	(P)	61.2	
Change Line Item - Market New Transfer			
(L1A).....	(P)	-61.2	
Change Line Item - SLUC Adj. (L2A).....	(P)	54.2	
Change Line Item - SLUC Adj. (L2C).....	(P)	<u>-54.2</u>	<u>-1,036.7</u>
CURRENT.....			9,704.6

PREVIOUS.....			<u>MF</u>
			617.7
CHANGE(S):			
Change Line Item - Pay Raise (WGN).....	(P)	<u>-95.8</u>	<u>-95.8</u>
CURRENT.....			521.9



NOAA GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWING
APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENTS WHICH INVOLVE CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTS

Unless otherwise specified by statute, in reviewing applications for grants and cooperative agreements which include consultants and contracts, NOAA will make a determination regarding the following:

Is the involvement of the applicant necessary to the conduct of the project and the accomplishment of its goals and objectives?

Is the proposed allocation of the applicant's time reasonable and commensurate with the applicant's involvement in the project?

Are the proposed costs for the applicant's involvement in the project reasonable and commensurate with the benefits to be derived from applicant's participation?

These criteria are derived from the cost principles in current OMB Circulars.

PROJECT #	APPLICANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT NAME	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	END DATE	MULTI-YEAR END DATE	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED	AVERAGE SCORE	# OF REVIEWS	NMFS RECOMMENDATION
91NF01.A.1.01	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	HEATH, STEVENS, ET.AL.	INVEST. OF BYCATCH ASSOC. WITH 16-FT. REC SHRIMP TRAWL & EVAL. POTENTIAL REDUCTION DEVICES	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00		\$120,000.00	51	6	NR
91NF01.A.1.02	ECRL	WARREN, JAMES	INVEST SHRIMP BYCATCH IN MS WATERS & NEARSHORE NORTHCENTRAL GOM	1/3	03/01/92	02/28/93	02/28/95	\$74,848.83	\$69,848.83	\$69,848.83	\$214,546.49	72	6	NR
91NF01.A.1.03	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	GIBBS, LUCY	COORD. BETWEEN IND., NMFS GAL. LAB. & TX P&W TO FACILITATE COLLECTION OF DATA ON BYCATCH ON SHRIMP TRAWLS IN WGOM	1/1	06/01/91	05/30/92		\$74,718.00			\$74,718.00	63	6	NR
91NF01.A.1.04	LSU	BALTZ, DONALD DR.	PATTERNS IN DIST & ABUNDANCE OF FISHES AND MACROINVERTEBRATES IN LA	1/1	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$32,162.00			\$32,162.00	84	6	NR
91NF01.A.2.01	TX PARKS & WILD DEPT	OSBORN, MAURY ET.AL.	ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS OF SHRIMP TRAWL BYCATCH ON FINFISH STOCKS	1/3	01/01/92	06/30/93	06/30/95	\$85,158.17	\$62,201.30	\$24,793.51	\$172,152.98	50	6	NR
91NF01.A.3.01	UNIV OF NEW ORLEANS	MARGAVIO, ANTHONY DR.	SOCIAL IMPACT OF BYCATCH REG SCENARIOS ON USER GROUPS THE COMMUNITIES	1/2	11/01/91	10/31/92	10/31/93	\$61,262.00	\$42,987.00		\$104,249.00	75	6	R-
91NF01.A.4.01	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	GIBBS, LUCY	FINFISH EXCLUDING GEAR IN SHRIMP TRAWLS IN WGOM STUDY	1/1	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$77,385.00			\$77,385.00	83	7	R
91NF01.A.4.02	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	GIBBS, LUCY	INTEGRATED ASSESMT OF BYCATCH ISSUES IN WGOM	1/2	09/01/91	08/31/92	08/31/93	125,307.00	\$130,142.00		\$255,449.00	65	7	NR
91NF01.A.4.03	LSU	ROGERS, BARTON	EVAL. OF SHRIMP TRAWLS DESIGNED TO REDUCE BYCATCH IN INSHORE WTRS LA	1/2	11/01/91	10/31/92	10/31/93	\$31,917.00	\$32,150.00		\$64,067.00	73	6	R
91NF01.A.4.04	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	GIBBS, LUCY	IND INNOVATION: MOD. SHRIMP TRAWL GEAR TO EXCLUDE TURT&FINFISH IN WGOM	1/1	06/09/91	05/30/92		\$57,391.00			\$57,391.00	60	6	NR
91NF01.A.4.05	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	GIBBS, LUCY	SEP OF SHRIMP WITHIN SHRIMP TRAWLS FROM MARINE ORGANISM BY ELECT DEV	1/1	07/01/91	06/30/92		\$44,064.00			\$44,064.00	24	6	NR
91NF01.B.01	LSU	KEITHLY, WALTER DR.	SHRIMP CLOSURES & THEIR IMPACT ON GULF REGION PROCESSG & WHOLESALG	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$64,838.00	\$41,360.00		\$106,198.00	93	7	NR
91NF01.B.02	LSU	SINGELMANN, J. DR. ET.AL.	GULF SHRIMPERS, SEASONAL, & AREA CLOSURES OF GOM: SOCIOECON IMPACT STDY	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	151,780.00	\$99,823.00		\$251,601.00	77	6	R
91NF01.B.03	USF	MCHUGH, RICHARD ET.AL.	ECONOMIC & FTSCAL IMPACT OF CONTROLLED ACCESS MANAGEMENT	1/1	07/01/91	06/30/92		\$42,918.00			\$42,918.00	69	7	NR

PROJECT #	APPLICANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT NAME	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	END DATE	MULTI-YEAR END DATE	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED	AVERAGE SCORE	# REV.	RECOMMENDATION
91MF01.B.04	LA PARKS & WILD DEPT	RTECHERS, ROBIN	EXPLORING COM-ACCESS MGMT TO INCREASE ECON. RETURNS IN TX IN % OFFSHO	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$80,769.58	\$77,694.72		\$158,464.30	82	8	R
91MF02.A.1.01	LSU	FULLER, DEBORAH	COMPAR OF LSU TUNA OBSERVER DATA WITH NMFS SWORDFISH LOG BOOK	1/1	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$40,498.00			\$40,498.00	70	7	R-
91MF02.A.3.01	UNIV OF FL	THUNBERG, ERIC DR.	ECON ANALYSIS OF US DEMAND FOR SWORDFISH & EFFECT REDUCTION MEASURES	1/2	06/01/91	05/31/92	05/31/93	\$43,287.00	\$24,649.00		\$67,936.00	82	5	R-
91MF02.B.1.01	MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONSORTIUM	COEN, LOREN, DR. ET.AL.	ASSESSMT OF EFFECTS OF LG PREDATOR REMOVAL ON COASTAL NURSERY HABITATS	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	\$75,128.00	\$77,864.00	\$80,623.00	\$291,073.00	77	5	NR
91MF02.B.1.02	NOTE MARINE LAB	HUETER, ROBERT DR.	BYCATCH & CATCH-REL MORTALITY OF SHARKS IN GULF COAST NURSERY OFF FL	1/2	07/01/91	06/30/92	06/30/93	\$32,143.00	\$30,366.00		\$62,509.00	82	6	R
91MF02.B.3.01	GCRL	WALLER, RICHARD	CHARACTERIZATION OF SHARK POP IN THE MCGOM WITH A KEY TO SPECIES IDENT	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	117,257.00	\$115,735.00	\$111,295.00	\$344,287.00	58	7	NR
91MF02.B.3.02	VA INST MARINE SCIENCE	BRAMSTETTER, STEVE DR. ET.AL.	DIST., ABUNDANCE & STOCK COMPOSITION OF EXPL. SHARK POP OF M-CGOM	1/3	01/01/92	12/31/93	12/31/94	\$96,413.00	\$96,413.00	\$96,413.00	\$289,239.00	75	6	NR
91MF02.B.3.03	UNIV OF MIAMI	EHRHARDT, NELSON DR.	DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION OF STOCK ASSMT PROG. TO MANAGE SHARK RES	1/3	11/01/91	10/31/92	10/31/94	\$76,974.00	\$79,594.00	\$82,125.00	\$238,693.00	82	7	NR
91MF03.A.01	MCINTOSH MARINE, INC.	ALEVIZON, WILLIAM DR.	ENHANCMT & MANAGMT OF SHALLOW WATER SNAPPERS IN GOM BY MEANS ART. REEF	1/1	06/01/91	07/01/92		\$99,932.00			\$99,932.00	70	5	NR
91MF03.B.01	AUBURN UNIV	SZEDLMAYER, STEPHEN	EFFECT OF REEF CONST. ON REEF FISH RECRUITMT, POP. STRUCTURE & MOVEMENT	1/3	09/01/91	08/31/92	08/31/94	\$80,410.00	\$81,243.00	\$79,866.00	\$241,519.00	88	6	NR
91MF03.B.02	NOTE MARINE LAB	BURNS, KAREN ET.AL.	AGE&GROWTH, MIGRATION&REPRODTN OF RED GROUPER, AMBERJACK, TRIGGERFISH	17MO	08/01/91	12/30/92		185,517.00			\$185,517.00	67	6	R
91MF03.B.03	UNIV OF W FL	BORTONE, STEPHEN DR.	IDENT. OF STOCK STRUCTURE & RECRUITMT PATTERNS FOR RED SNAPPER IN GOM	1/3	08/01/91	07/30/92	07/30/94	\$89,918.00	\$94,415.00	\$95,827.00	\$280,160.00	82	5	R
91MF03.C.01	CONTINENTAL SHELF ASSOC, INC	THOMPSON, JOHN	COMPILATION OF EXISTG DATA ON LOCATION & AREAL EXTENT OF REEF FISH HABITAT ON MS/AL/FL CONTINENTAL SHELF - EGOM	6MO	06/15/91	12/15/91		\$20,924.00			\$20,924.00	91	6	NR
91MF03.D.01	AL DEPT CONNS & NATURAL RES	TATUM, WALTER ET.AL.	AGE CLASS STRUCTURE OF GRAY TRIGGERFISH STOCKS FROM EEZ & AL, NCGOM WATERS	1/1	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$60,000.00			\$60,000.00	42	5	NR

PROJECT #	APPLICANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT NAME	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	END DATE	MULTI-YEAR END DATE	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED	AVERAGE SCORE	# OF REVIEWS	RECOMMENDATION
91NF03.D.02	TX ASM RES FOUND	GOLD, JOHN DR.	POP GENETIC STUDIES OF VERMILLION SNAPPER IN GOM	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$65,684.00	\$69,864.00		\$135,548.00	97	5	R
91NF03.D.03	TX PARKS & WILD DEPT	OSBORN, M. MS., ET.AL.	TRENDS IN SPORT-BOAT HARVEST & DET OF SEL LIFE HISTORY OF REEF FISH	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$71,738.05	\$64,169.65		\$135,907.70	72	7	NR
91NF03.E.01	TX A&N RES FOUND	DITTON, ROBERT DR.	UNDERSTDG DISPLACMT & SPECIES SUBSTITUTION AMONG SHARK & REEF FISH ANGLERS	1/1	01/01/92	12/31/92		\$66,350.00			\$66,350.00	70	4	NR
91NF03.F.01	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	TATUM, WALTER	COL. & ART. SPANNGRED SNAPPER & REARS OF LARVAE TO TAGGABLE SIZE FOR RELEASE INTO GOM	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$210,000.00	53	5	NR
91NF03.F.02	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	TATUM, WALTER ET.AL.	ANALYSIS OF RED SNAPPER CATCHES FROM AL CHARTER BOAT FLEET	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$90,000.00	72	8	R-
91NF03.F.03	UNIV OF S AL	SHIPP, ROBERT DR. ET.AL.	INTRODUCTION OF YR CLASS I RED SNAPER TO ART REEF HABITAT: IMPACTS & EMPIRICAL DATA	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	\$69,542.00	\$71,432.00	\$73,715.00	\$214,689.00	59	5	NR
91NF03.F.04	UNIV OF MIAMI	MCDOWAN, MICHAEL DR.	PREPARATION OF AN IDENT GUIDE FOR EGGS, LARVAE, & JUVENILE REEF FISH	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$61,771.00	\$67,386.00		\$129,157.00	89	6	R
91NF03.F.05	GCRL	LYCZKOWSKI-SHULTZ, J. DR.	SPAWNG & EARLY LIFE HISTORY OF SNAPPERS IN MORTHCENTRAL GOM	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	\$96,140.00	\$106,229.00	\$80,622.00	\$282,991.00	97	6	R
91NF03.F.06	UNIV OF TX AT AUSTIN	ARNOLD, CONNIE DR. ET.AL.	SPAWNING AND EARLY LIFE HISTORY STUDIES OF RED SNAPPER	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$62,072.00	\$64,999.00		\$127,071.00	72	4	NR
91NF03.F.07	LSU	WILSON, CHARLES DR.	LIFE HISTORY GAPS IN REDSNAPPER, SWORDFISH, RED DRUM IN NGOM	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$55,609.00	\$55,609.00		\$111,218.00	76	3	R
91NF04.0.01	MS STATE UNIV	VEAL, DAVID DR.	EFFECT OF ON-BO AND/OR SHORESIDE HANDLG PROCEDURES ON QUALITY OF COASTAL HERRING SPECIES	1/1	07/01/91	06/30/92		\$96,636.00			\$96,636.00	72	5	NR
91NF04.A.01	LSU	ALLEN, ROBERT ET.AL.	AGE & GROWTH OF GOM LATENT RES: SPECIFIC EMPHASIS ON GULF BUTTERFISH	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	\$47,646.00	\$53,830.00	\$53,940.00	\$155,416.00	90	4	R-
91NF04.B.01	MS STATE UNIV	PETERSON, MARK DR.	SPECIES PROFILES AND PREDATOR-PREY RELATIONSHIP OF RD.HERRING & ROUGH SCAD IN GOM	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$48,011.00	\$51,626.00		\$99,636.00	75	5	NR
91NF04.B.02	SE FISHERIES ASSOC INC	JONES, ROBERT ET.AL.	FISHERY DEPENDENT FACTORS ON GROWTH, FOOD & FEEDG & ENERGY BUDGETS ON SPECIES ASSOC WITH BAITFISH FISHERY LONG NGOM	1/3	08/01/91	07/31/92	07/31/94	125,987.00	\$130,801.00	\$137,320.00	\$394,108.00	66	5	NR

PROJECT #	AFFILIANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT NAME	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	END DATE	MULTI-YEAR END DATE	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED	AVERAGE SCORE	# OF PAGES	ANNEX COMMENTATION
91MF05.A.01	UNIV OF MIAMI	EHRHARDT, NELSON DR.	BIOLOGICAL DATA FROM COM LANDINGS OF SPANISH MACKEREL IN SW FL FISHERY	1/3	12/01/91	11/30/92	11/30/94	\$68,545.00	\$58,115.00	\$61,365.00	\$188,025.00	82	6	NR
91MF05.A.02	GCRL	FRANKS, JAMES ET.AL.	RECRUITMENT PROFILE FOR GOM COBIA REC FISHERY & EST. AGE OF PRE-RECRUIT	1/1	12/01/91	11/30/92		\$15,990.75			\$15,990.75	58	5	NR
91MF05.A.03	NOTE MARINE LAB	BURNS, KAREN ET.AL.	COBIA, AMBERJACK & DOLPHIN MIGRATION & LIFE HISTORY IN GOM & SE FL	14MO	10/01/91	12/01/92		174,879.00			\$174,879.00	69	5	NR
91MF05.A.04	LA UNIV MAR CONSORTIUM	CHESNEY, EDWARD DR.	RECRUITMENT PATTERNS & GROWTH OF YOUNG-OF-YEAR COBIA ALONG LA COAST	1/2	01/01/92	12/31/93	12/31/94	\$69,472.00	\$68,016.00		\$137,488.00	78	7	NR
91MF05.B.01	TX A&M RES FOUND	GOLD, JOHN DR.	POP GENETIC STUDIES OF KING MACKEREL IN GOM	1/2	01/01/92	12/31/93	12/31/94	\$59,703.00	\$62,837.00		\$122,540.00	79	5	R-
91MF05.B.02	NOTE MARINE LAB	BURNS, KAREN	KING & SPANISH MACKEREL, RED GROUPER & RED SNAPPER STOCK ASSESSMENT GOM	1/1	10/01/91	12/31/92		231,036.00			\$231,036.00	74	6	R
91MF06.0.01	LSU	CONDREY, RICHARD DR. ET.AL.	APPL OF NEAR REAL-TIME NOAA SATELLITE HRPT DATA TO COAST FISH MNGT	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	156,662.00	\$105,260.00	\$70,204.00	\$332,126.00	73	5	NR
91MF06.A.01	USF	WILSON, RAYMOND DR.	IN-SITU & LAB STUDIES OF SURVIVORSHIP OF BYCATCH IN RED GROUPER FISHERY	18MO	01/01/92	06/30/93		\$71,157.00			\$71,157.00	84	6	R-
91MF06.A.02	NOTE MARINE LAB	WEIDIG, CAROLE ET.AL.	LAB STUDIES OF SURVIVORSHIP OF UNDERSIZED BYCATCH RED GROUPER	18MO	01/01/92	06/30/93		\$89,027.00			\$89,027.00	76	5	NR
91MF06.A.03	NOTE MARINE LAB	EDWARDS, RANDY DR.	DET. OF HOOK/RELEASE MORTALITY OF KING & SNACKEREL, AMERJACK, RED GROUP	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$64,659.00	\$41,412.00		\$106,071.00	73	4	NR
91MF06.B.01	LSU	RUSSELL, SANDRA ET.AL.	DEV & PUBL OF PRACTICAL COLOR IDENT GUIDE TO REEF FISH AND SALTN FISH	1/1	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$66,706.00			\$66,706.00	59	6	NR
91MF06.C.01	LSU	ROBERTS, KENNETH DR.	FINFISH PROCESSOR SECTOR CHANGES IN GOM FISHERIES UNDER MNGT/REGULATIO	1/1	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$51,484.00			\$51,484.00	83	7	NR
91MF06.E.01	LSU	BALTZ, DONALD DR.	INFLUENCE OF MICROHABITAT SEL ON GROWTH & PREDATION OF ESTUARINE FISH	1/2	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/93	\$73,648.00	\$65,907.00		\$139,554.00	83	4	R-
91MF06.E.02	GCRL	STEEN, JOHN ET.AL.	ROLE & EFFECT OF EDDIES/FRONTTS ON LARVAL RECRUITMENT OF SEL COM SPECIES	1/3	10/01/91	09/30/92	09/30/94	132,821.00	\$141,142.00	\$144,374.00	\$418,337.00	70	5	NR
91MF06.E.03	SMITHSONIAN INST.	MANNING, RAYMOND DR.	DEEP-SEA COM CRABS, FAMILY GERYONIDAE: AN UNTAPPED RESOURCE	1/3	07/01/91	06/30/92	06/30/94	\$12,478.00	\$8,032.00	\$16,510.00	\$37,040.00	85	7	NR

PROJECT #	APPLICANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT NAME	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	END DATE	MULTI-YEAR END DATE	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED	AVERAGE SCORE	# OF REVIEWS	NMFS RECOMMENDATION
91MF06.E.04	BURR PATTERSON	PATTERSON, BURR	UPPER BALVESTON BAY ESTUARY CRAB STUDY	1/3	08/01/91	07/30/92	07:30/94	\$49,643.00	\$49,643.00	\$49,643.00	\$148,930.00	15	5	NR
TOTALS:								4438016.38	2,652,815.50	1,428,484.34	8,576,771.22			



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

June 11, 1991 F/SER4:DE/1s

MEMORANDUM FOR: MARFIN Board
FROM: F/SER4 - Donald R. Ekberg
SUBJECT: FY91 MARFIN Proposal Selections

The final NMFS selections for FY91 MARFIN are attached. Andy's changes were approved by Bill Fox. The changes to the Board's recommendations are as follows:

1. The two Gulf Shrimp Research and Development Foundation proposals were combined.
2. The Texas Parks and Wildlife (3.D.03) and Gulf Coast Research Lab. (5.A.02) proposals were eliminated.
3. \$55,000 was removed to support the Gulf and South Atlantic Development Foundation.
4. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources proposal (3.F.02) was added from the conditional list.
5. The Mote Marine Lab. proposal (5.B.02) was increased to \$103,000.

Attachment

cc:
OA321 - J. West
F/SEC - B. Brown
F/SER - A. Kemmerer
F/BP - N. Bane



1991 NMFS S. JT REGION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS
STAGE II - MARFIN MEETING

DATE: 06/07/91

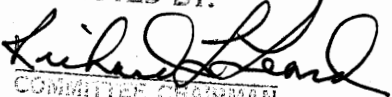
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PROJECT#	APPLICANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT TITLE	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	AVERAGE SCORE	# OF REVIEWS	\$ REQUESTED/ AND RECOMMENDED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED/ AND RECOMMENDED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED/ AND RECOMMENDED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED/AND RECOMMENDED	NMFS RECOMMENDATION
91NF01.A.1.04	LSU	BALTZ, DONALD DR.	PATTERNS IN DIST & ABUNDANCE OF FISHES AND MACROINVERTEBRATES IN LA	1/1	10/01/91	84	6	\$32,162.00			\$32,162.00	MR
								\$32,162.00			\$32,162.00	
91NF01.A.4.01	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	GIBBS, LUCY	FINFISH EXCLUDING GEAR IN SHRIMP TRAMLS IN MGNM STUDY	1/1	10/01/91	83	7	\$77,385.00			\$77,385.00	R
								\$95,000.00			\$95,000.00	
91NF01.A.4.03	LSU	RODGERS, BARTON	EVAL. OF SHRIMP TRAMLS DESIGNED TO REDUCE BYCATCH IN INSHORE WTRS LA	1/2	11/01/91	73	6	\$31,917.00	\$32,150.00		\$64,067.00	R
								\$46,917.00	\$47,150.00		\$94,067.00	
91NF01.B.01	LSU	KEITHLY, WALTER DR.	SHRIMP CLOSURES & THEIR IMPACT ON GULF REGION PROCESSG & WHOLESALG	1/2	10/01/91	93	7	\$64,838.00	\$41,360.00		\$106,198.00	HR
								\$64,838.00	\$41,360.00		\$106,198.00	
91NF02.A.3.01	UNIV OF FL	THUNBERG, ERIC DR.	ECON ANALYSIS OF US DEMAND FOR SWORDFISH & EFFECT REDUCTION MEASURES	1/1	06/01/91	82	5	\$43,287.00	\$24,649.00		\$67,936.00	R-
								\$43,287.00	\$0.00		\$43,287.00	
91NF02.B.1.02	NOTE MARINE LAB	HUETER, ROBERT DR.	BYCATCH & CATCH-REL MORTALITY OF SHARKS IN GULF COAST NURSERY OFF FL	1/2	07/01/91	82	6	\$32,143.00	\$30,366.00		\$62,509.00	R
								\$32,143.00	\$30,366.00		\$62,509.00	
91NF02.B.1.03	UNIV OF W FL	BORTONE, STEPHEN DR.	IDENT. OF STOCK STRUCTURE & RECRUITMT PATTERNS FOR RED SNAPPER IN GOM	1/3	08/01/91	82	5	\$89,918.00	\$94,415.00	\$95,827.00	\$280,160.00	R
								\$89,918.00	\$94,415.00	\$95,827.00	\$280,160.00	
91NF03.C.01	CONTINENTAL SHELF ASSOC, INC	THOMPSON, JOHN	COMPILATION OF EXISTG DATA ON LOCATION & AREAL EXTENT OF REEF FISH HABITAT ON MS/AL/FL CONTINENTAL SHELF - ECOM	6MO	06/15/91	91	6	\$20,924.00			\$20,924.00	HR
								\$20,924.00			\$20,924.00	
91NF03.F.02	AL DEPT CONS & NATURAL RES	TATUM, WALTER ET.AL	ANALYSIS OF RED SNAPPER CATCHES FROM AL CHARTER BOAT FLEET	1/2	10/01/91	72	8	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$90,000.00	R-
								\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$30,000.00	
91NF03.F.05	BCRL	LYCZKOWSKI-SHULTZ, J. DR.	SPAWNG & EARLY LIFE HISTORY OF SNAPPERS IN NORTHCENTRAL GOM	1/1	10/01/91	97	6	\$96,140.00	\$106,229.00	\$80,622.00	\$282,991.00	R
								\$96,140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$96,140.00	

PROJECT#	APPLICANT	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT TITLE	YEAR/TOTAL YEARS	START DATE	AVERAGE SCORE	# OF REVIEWS	\$ REQUESTED/ AND \$ RECOMMENDED YEAR 1	\$ REQUESTED/ AND \$ RECOMMENDED YEAR 2	\$ REQUESTED/ AND \$ RECOMMENDED YEAR 3	TOTAL \$ REQUESTED/AND \$ RECOMMENDED	NMFS' RECOMMENDATION
91NF03.F.07	LSU	WILSON, CHARLES DR.	LIFE HISTORY GAPS IN REDSNAPPER, SWORDFISH, RED DRUM IN WGOB	1/2	10/01/91	76	3	\$55,609.00	\$55,609.00		\$111,218.00	R
								\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00		\$80,000.00	
91NF05.A.01	UNIV OF MIAMI	ENRHARDT, NELSON DR.	BIOLOGICAL DATA FROM COM LANDINGS OF SPANISH MACKEREL IN SW FL FISHERY	1/3	12/01/91	82	6	\$68,545.00	\$58,115.00	\$61,365.00	\$188,025.00	HR
								\$68,545.00	\$58,115.00	\$61,365.00	\$188,025.00	
91NF05.B.01	TI A&H RES FOUND	GOLD, JOHN DR.	POP GENETIC STUDIES OF KING MACKEREL IN GOM	1/2	01/01/92	79	5	\$59,703.00	\$62,837.00		\$122,540.00	R-
								\$59,703.00	\$62,837.00		\$122,540.00	
91NF05.B.02	NOTE MARINE LAB	BURNS, KAREN	KING & SPANISH MACKEREL, RED GROUPER & RED SNAPPER STOCK ASST GOM	1/1	10/01/91	74	6	231,036.00			\$231,036.00	R
								103,000.00			\$103,000.00	
91NF06.A.01	USF	WILSON, RAYMOND DR.	IN-SITU & LAB STUDIES OF SURVIVORSHIP OF BYCATCH IN RED GROUPER FISHERY	1/1	01/01/92	84	6	\$71,157.00			\$71,157.00	R-
								\$71,157.00			\$71,157.00	
91NF06.C.01	LSU	ROBERTS, KENNETH DR.	FINFISH PROCESSG SECTOR CHANGES IN GOM FISHERIES UNDER MNGHT/REGULATIO	1/1	10/01/91	83	7	\$51,484.00			\$51,484.00	HR
								\$51,484.00			\$51,484.00	
TOTAL \$ REQUESTED:								\$1,056,248.00	1,056,248.00	\$267,814.00	\$1,859,792.00	
TOTAL \$ RECOMMENDED:								\$945,218.00	\$404,243.00	\$157,192.00	\$1,476,653.00	

16 projects

APPROVED BY:


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

STOCK ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING
MINUTES
May 30-31, 1991
Mobile, Alabama

Richard L. Leard, Interjurisdictional Fisheries (IJF) Program Coordinator, called the first meeting of the Stock Assessment Team (SAT) to order at 9:20 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Steve Atran, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL
Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Bob Muller, FMRI, St. Petersburg, FL
Mike Murphy, FMRI, St. Petersburg, FL
Joey Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Staff

Ronald R. Lukens, Assistant Director
Richard L. Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Cindy Dickens, IJF Staff Assistant

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented. NMFS in-service training/stock assessment workshops will be discussed under other business.

Election of Chairman

By consensus, the SAT agreed to defer the selection of a chairman until the next meeting.

Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program Overview

Rick Leard presented a brief overview of the commission, the IJF Act and subsequent GSMFC program. He referred to SAT to the preface of the oyster fishery management plan (FMP) which gives a general review of the IJF Program and the review and developmental process of IJF fishery management plans.

Purpose of the SAT

Rick Leard presented background which initiated the SAT. In order for a technical task force to consider management scenarios, an accurate stock assessment is needed. In the case of the black drum FMP, the technical task force felt unqualified to do the assessment. Assistance from the TCC Data Management Subcommittee (DMSC) was sought, and they agreed to help provide

available data and act in an advisory capacity. The State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee (S-FFMC) subsequently chose to form a SAT made up of state personnel; however, the S-FFMC advised that state personnel have limited time to devote to FMP stock assessments. The SAT will be a permanent group whose purpose and personnel may vary by species. The SAT will focus on biological assessments, and the TTF will incorporate economic and social aspects. In the event that a TTF feels qualified to perform a stock assessment, the SAT and DMSC will act in a review capacity. The SAT noted that a core outline for all stock assessments should be drafted and modified for species as necessary. P. Goodyear's outline was noted. The question of confidential data arose, and it was observed that the DMSC was working with the NMFS to gain access to this data for the gulf region.

Discussion of Stock Assessment for Black Drum

By consensus, the SAT agreed that the black drum stock assessment will update and expand the Louisiana stock assessment by adding other existing regional data. Joe Shepard volunteered to perform the stock assessment pending approval from his supervisors. Other possibilities included Dr. James Geaghan, Louisiana State University. State representatives will supply the needed data on disk in compatible formats, and Shepard or Geaghan will decide the analyses appropriate to data availability and species. Shepard projected that upon receipt of the additional data, the stock assessment should take approximately one month to perform. Upon completion, the SAT will review and approve sending the stock assessment to the TTF who, upon consensus, will incorporate the assessment into the black drum FMP. The DMSC will also review it. The SAT recommended amending the FMP development and approval process to show the work performed through the SAT, Data Management Subcommittee, and the TTF (see attached).

The SAT agreed that each member will provide a list of needed data to perform the ideal stock assessment.

STOCK ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING
May 30-31, 1991
Page -3-

Next Meeting

Upon completion of the stock assessment, the SAT will meet for review in mid-August.

Other Business

In-service Training of Stock Assessment Professionals. Ron Lukens reported that NMFS is planning a series of stock assessment workshops, and the GSMFC would like to facilitate participation from state and university scientists from the Gulf of Mexico region. The SAT agreed this type of training is an excellent idea. Ron Lukens will contact members of the SAT for names of educable people who will have time to do these types of analyses in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Friday, May 31, 1991, at 10:30 a.m.

BLACK DRUM TECHNICAL TASK FORCE
Minutes
June 17-18, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

R. E. Matheson

Ed Matheson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Ed Matheson, FMRI, St. Petersburg
Clarence Luquet, LDWF, New Orleans, LA
Karen Meador, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Jim Robertson, TPWD, Austin, TX
Walter Keithly, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA (6-18-91 only)
Pepper Scheffler, RFAC, Gretna, LA
Scott Gordon, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS

Staff

Rick Leard, IJF Coordinator
Cindy Dickens, IJF Staff Assistant

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was modified to allow for an informal work session from 10:10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on June 17, 1991.

Adoption of Minutes

Minutes from the March 25-26, 1991, meeting held in Mobile, Alabama, were adopted as presented.

Stock Assessment Update

Rick Leard provided an update of events regarding the Stock Assessment Team since the March meeting. Minutes from the May 6, 1991, conference call of the State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee and the May 30-31, 1991, Stock Assessment Team meeting were provided to the task force for their information. Leard noted that an original plan for Joe Shepard to perform the stock assessment was not approved by his supervisors. Leard further noted that James Geaghan of LSU had been contacted and is amiable to performing the stock assessment. A meeting with Shepard and Geaghan is scheduled for the end of this week for further discussions.

Leard also informed the task force of the draft change to the FMP review and approval process which includes the Stock Assessment Team and the Data Management Subcommittee.

Editor/Authorship Considerations

After a lengthy discussion on how to list authorship on the FMP, the task force did not come to any definite conclusion. C. Luquet did, however, suggest listing task force members and assigned sections in the introduction.

Review of Section Drafts

The task force reviewed, discussed and edited current draft sections. The task force agreed that unfinished section drafts will be completed by late July to early August.

Next Meeting

When all section drafts are completed and sent to the GSMFC office, the GSMFC will send the compiled FMP to the task force to review prior to the next meeting. The focus of the meeting will be to complete review of the FMP, to review the stock assessment, and to draft management scenarios. The next meeting should be held in September, possibly after the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Other Business

Rita R. "Pepper" Scheffler replaced Ron Lukens as the recreational representative on the task force.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Tuesday, June 18, 1991, at 10:45 a.m.

DRAFT

Robert Shipp

MARFIN
CONFERENCE CALL
MINUTES
Wednesday, June 19, 1991

Members Present

Dr. James C. Cato, FLSGP, Gainesville, FL
Mr. Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Mr. Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Mr. Wayne Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Ms. Judy Jamison, GSAFDF, Tampa, FL
Mr. William S. "Corky" Perret, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Board Members not Present

Dr. Robert L. Shipp, USA, Mobile, AL
Mr. Robert P. Jones, SFA, Tallahassee

Staff

Dr. Donald R. Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ms. V. K. "Ginny" Herring, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Dr. Andrew Kemmerer, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

The conference call was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

L. Simpson noted the reason for the conference call is concern with the Regional Director's changes to the Board's recommendations. The call's purpose is to provide a discussion among the Board and the Regional Director regarding those changes. L. Simpson felt the changes to Board recommendations should have been discussed in at least a conference call prior to the final decision being made to change the Boards recommendations.

Chairman Shipp was en route from New York and was unable to chair the meeting so Vice Chairman Cato handled the meeting. J. Cato felt the changes were substantial and protocol was not utilized. He questioned the 55K to be deducted from MARFIN funds to fund the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation when no proposal and no description of how the funds were to be used was given. He was concerned about negative comments to the Board because of this action. A. Kemmerer stated that the 55K for the Foundation was a mandate from the Inspector General's and NOAA Grant's office.

L. Simpson asked if the mandate was in writing so the Board would be covered. A. Kemmerer noted it may exist but the Board is covered. J. Cato noted there still may be criticism if we don't have a written proposal.

A. Kemmerer noted this funding is for overhead and is not a proposal. He commented again that this was not a local decision and it was not the Foundation's request or fault.

J. Jamison clarified that of the nine proposals from SK and MARFIN that were approved for funding, five were actually allowed by the Inspector General. There were three from MARFIN and two from SK. Of the four not funded, two were awarded directly to the contractors and two were not funded at all. When the Foundation received the cooperative agreement, they included twelve months of administration with six months of funding. The foundation could not provide those services for the other six months without funding. She was directed to submit a supplemental proposal which identified 31K needed to administer the MARFIN Projects for the additional six months.

C. Perret questioned the time frame when all this had occurred. J. Jamison said she received the cooperative agreements in February or March.

D. Ekberg noted he tried to introduce this issue at the Board Meeting in St. Petersburg but no one wanted to discuss it.

L. Simpson commented that no paperwork was before the Board and it wasn't appropriate then or now.

A. Kemmerer repeated that he had no option. This was done by the Inspector General and NOAA Grants. The issue is not settled and he is still trying to keep this from being deducted or reduce the deduction.

W. Swingle commented the Council does not support the Mote project increase as noted in A. Kemmerer's memo of June 18, 1991.

A. Kemmerer thought they supported mackerel landing data.

W. Swingle said that was a priority but most of the money in Mote's proposal was for length/frequency data. He felt that landings data could be obtained by the Mexican Fisheries attache.

Concerning the comments in A. Kemmerer's memo about low scores, the Board questioned the expertise of the NOAA Grants Office to interpret these averages. The Board felt that if the scores from the peer reviews are made available to NOAA Grants perhaps the Board's scores could also be used to help them with the award process.

MARFIN
CONFERENCE CALL
MINUTES
PAGE -3-

C. Perrett noted some of the National Marine Fisheries Service proposals in the past were worse than state agency proposals. The National Marine Fisheries Service proposals are not peer reviewed and scored and they are funded.

The consensus was that the Board be informed before final decisions on all modifications to the Board's recommendations are made.

L. Simpson wants to go on record as objecting to the changes and how these changes were done. He agreed that occasional and minor changes from the Board's guidance are necessary but in this case they were substantial. He specifically objected to the elimination of the Texas' and Gulf Coast Research Laboratory's proposals, the addition of 28K to Mote's proposal, and the deduction from MARFIN funds for the foundation.

L. Simpson briefed the Board on plans for the Principal Investigator's conference and Board Meeting in San Antonio on September 10-12, 1991.

A. Kemmerer stated the Board serves an important function. He felt the Board's review and advice was critical. He tries to use this advice to the maximum extent he can. The majority of the Board's recommended projects were funded and he would respond more to the PMB in the future. He stated the PMB must realize he does not have the final word.

There being no further business to discuss, the conference call adjourned at 8:58 a.m.



TCC SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Sunday, July 14, 1991
Lajas, Puerto Rico

Chairman Walter Tatum called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Barney Barrett, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Joe Kimmel, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Terry Cody (proxy for G. Matlock), TPWD, Rockport, TX

Staff

David Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator
Cheryl Noble, Staff Assistant

Others

Ken Savastano, NMFS, Stennis Space Center
Jim Hanifen, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- * Data Management Work Group Report
- * Discussion of real-time issue

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting held on April 15, 1991 in Galveston, Texas were approved with several minor changes.

Administrative Report

D. Donaldson reported that Louisiana day/night survey was conducted from March 25 - April 3 by Louisiana vessels. He stated that during the Spring Ichthyoplankton survey, NMFS sampled from April 16-30 and from May 10-24 and Florida sampled from May 7-15. He reported the Summer Shrimp/Bottomfish survey was conducted from June 3-July 12. Also, the real-time data mail survey was completed. He reported that questionnaires concerning the usefulness of SEAMAP real-time data were sent with the first mailout and responses are coming in.

* Concerning the real-time issue, W. Tatum read a letter from the Texas Shrimp Association (TSA) concerning pulse fishing apparently caused by the release of SEAMAP real-time data. The subcommittee discussed the need for recommendations concerning this issue to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that TSA needed to demonstrate that the SEAMAP real-time data really does cause pulse fishing. B. Barrett moved that based on NMFS economic evaluations of the closure its impacts are beneficial and that according to NMFS, this strategy causes localized increases of fishing effort, the SEAMAP subcommittee requests further information from TSA regarding what portion of the total localized increased fishing effort is caused by real-time data dissemination. The motion was passed.

D. Donaldson reported that the 1987 and 1988 Atlases, the 1991 Marine Directory and the 1990 Joint Annual Report have been published since the last Joint meeting. He stated that work is continuing on the 1989 Atlas. All data has been entered and the Atlas should be published in 1991 barring any major problems. D. Donaldson reported that there is a potential increase in SEAMAP funding of \$500,000 in the House mark up.

Discussion of the Polish Sorting Center

* W. Tatum stated that at the last SEAMAP meeting it was decided to look into alternative sorting centers for SEAMAP plankton samples. He reported that K. Sherman requested that the SEAMAP subcommittee reconsider their decision to no longer use the Polish Sorting Center (PSC). R. Waller moved that the SEAMAP subcommittee take no further action until the subcommittee receives D. Hoss' report concerning the advisory committee meeting and data from Atlantic Reference Center (ARC) concerning costs etc. for sorting plankton samples. The motion passed.

Discussion of the Crescent Initiative

S. Nichols reported that a review panel is convening to discuss the initiatives. S. Nichols reported that there are seven proposals which are being

considered for funding. He reported that there is no money in the current budget for the Crescent program. He stated that funding for next year does not seem likely.

Data Management Work Group Report

K. Savastano distributed and reviewed the SEAMAP Data Management Report (attached). Items noted included:

- data entry, edit and verification of the Gulf 1989 data is complete. The work on the 1990 data is continuing. The South Atlantic 1989 data is currently being converted to the SEAMAP format and processed through the SEAMAP edit software.
- processing of the 1989 SEAMAP atlas has been initiated and is approximately 15% complete.
- 102 of 104 requests for data have been completed and work is being performed on the remaining requests.
- SEAMAP Data Management efforts continue to be focused on getting the central operations in place and performing the necessary software enhancements to streamline the operational aspects of the system.

Activities and Budget Needs

Participants stated their budgetary requirements if there is level funding for FY1992. S. Nichols reported that there would be a 1.5% tax deducted from any amount awarded to the SEAMAP program. The subcommittee decided that each component of the SEAMAP-Gulf would take 1.5% cut. Taking that into account, level funding figures for FY1992 would be as follows:

- Texas - \$45,058
- Alabama - \$64,793
- Mississippi - \$94,139
- Louisiana - \$114,799
- Florida - \$73,336
- GSMFC - \$92,074

Participants also discussed the possibility of increased funding of approximately \$1.4 million. If additional funding was available, participants stated their budgetary needs for FY1992 as follows:

Texas - \$65,000 for increase of adult finfish sampling

Alabama - \$85,000 for implementation of adult finfish survey

Mississippi - \$149,000 for implementation of adult finfish survey, winter plankton survey and necessary equipment

Louisiana - \$155,000 for increasing sampling of Louisiana territorial waters

Florida - \$112,000 for increase of personnel costs

GSMFC - \$103,000 for purchase of computer and increased costs

TOTAL - \$669,000

Other Business

R. Waller stated that the TOMMY MUNRO was involved with some comparative tows with OREGON II and PELICAN in Louisiana waters. He reported that during these tows, several areas of hypoxia were encountered. He stated that sampling in these areas is extremely wasteful because a large amount of effort is expended for very little catch. W. Tatum recommended that this issue be studied and discussed by the Shrimp/Bottomfish Work Group and the Plankton Work Group.

The subcommittee discussed Mobile and Gulf Shores, Alabama as two potential sites for the January 1992 SEAMAP meeting. D. Donaldson said he would look into the costs of holding a meeting in each site and report back to the subcommittee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Approved
David Cupka 8/13/92

DRAFT
9/30/91

MINUTES

SEAMAP JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

July 15, 1991
La Parguera, Puerto Rico

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

David Cupka, SCWMRD
Michael W. Street, NCDMF
Alan Huff, FDNR
John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort
Roger Pugliese, SAFMC
Terry J. Cody, TPWD
Walter M. Tatum, ADCNR
Joe Kimmel, FDNR
Barney Barrett, LDWF
Richard Waller, GCRL
Jim Beets, USVI-DFW
Manuel Hernandez-Avila, SEAGRANT
Nancy Thompson, NMFS, Miami
Carlos Ramos, CFMC
Ivan Sanchez Ayendez, PRDNR
James Oland, PRDFWS
Scott Nichols, NMFS, SEAMAP Program Manager

Staff

Sandra M. Laureano, Caribbean Coordinator, CFMC
Dianne Stephan, South Atlantic Coordinator, ASMFC
Dave Donaldson, Gulf Coordinator, GSMFC
David Pritchard, Program Officer, NMFS
Kenneth Savastano, Data Manager, NMFS

Others

Brad Brown, NMFS, Miami
Jim Hanifen, LDWF
Laura Cotte, CFMC
Cheryl Noble, GSMFC

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. on July 15, 1991 by SEAMAP-Caribbean Chairman Manuel Hernandez-Avila. Carlos Ramos of the CFMC, speaking for executive director Miguel Rolon, welcomed all attendees to Puerto Rico.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The proposed agenda was adopted without change. The minutes of the last joint committee meeting held Tuesday, July 24 in Charleston, SC, were approved without change.

OVERVIEW OF SEAMAP-SOUTH ATLANTIC

D. Cupka thanked the Caribbean component for their hospitality and reported on the activities of the South Atlantic component as follows:

- Shallow Water Trawl Survey in second year of standardized survey, summarized results of fall 1990 and spring 1991 cruises;
- SEAMAP/Striped Bass Winter Tagging Cruise 1991 leg completed in January;
- Work Group Activities:
 - Crustacean Work Group met, published and distributed a newsletter;
 - Bottom Mapping Work Group did not meet, submitted a preproposal to NURC for funding bottom mapping project;
 - Data Management did not meet, in final stages of software modifications to convert and transfer South Atlantic data onto SEAMAP system;
- Data Usage
 - shrimp closure off SC and GA in 1990;
 - weakfish stock i.d. by VIMS;
 - weakfish FMP by ASMFC;
 - weakfish stock assessment by NMFS;
 - provided southern flounder, red drum, sheepshead, and summer flounder for biological characterization.

OVERVIEW OF SEAMAP-GULF

W. Tatum thanked the Caribbean component for their hospitality, and reported on the following activities of the Gulf component:

- Publications
 - Annual Report;
 - 1991 Marine Directory;
 - 1987 & 1988 Environmental Atlases;
- Surveys
 - 1990 Fall Plankton Survey;
 - 1990 Fall Groundfish Survey, including a comparative trawl study by AL, MS, and NMFS;
 - Louisiana Seasonal Surveys;
 - 1990 Spring Plankton Survey;
- Work Group Meetings
 - Plankton Work Group;
 - Adult Finfish Work Group;
 - Shrimp/Groundfish Work Group;
- Data Utilization
 - real time data distributed to 300, questionnaire to determine usefulness of data returned by 25% of recipients.

OVERVIEW OF SEAMAP-CARIBBEAN

S. Laureano reported on the following administrative activities:

- a Fishery Independent Data Base Directory was published in cooperation with SEAGRANT College Program;
- ORSTROM, the French Institute of Scientific Research for Development through Cooperation, has invited SEAMAP-Caribbean to participate in a fisheries resource survey of the waters of Martinique and neighboring islands.

J. Beets reported on the following technical activities:

- Reef Resources Work Group met twice to develop a statistically valid design for the Reef Fish Monitoring Pilot Study;
- The Statistical Sampling Design Analysis of the Puerto Rico Fisheries Independent Survey was completed and used to elaborate the design of the Reef Fish Monitoring Pilot Study.

GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

D. Pritchard summarized important aspects of grant administration, including:

- history of state/federal financial aid;
- general information on grants and cooperative agreements (**Attachment 1**);
- important issues to remember when filling out 1992 SEAMAP grant documents;
- submitting reports on time (better brief but on time than extensive and late);
- keeping in touch with the technical monitor.

D. Pritchard stated that he would provide an outline for reporting requirements in the next few months, and that NMFS may be changing from quarterly to semi-annual reporting requirements.

STATUS OF FY92 FUNDS

S. Nichols reported that a 1.5% tax had been imposed by Congress, which would decrease level funding by that amount, and suggested using the % breakdown per component decided on last year if an add-on is available.

D. Cupka stated \$244k is needed for the South Atlantic.

W. Tatum stated \$484.2k is needed for the Gulf (includes tax).

M. Hernandez stated at least \$100k is needed for the Caribbean in order to initiate the Reef Resources Survey Project (+ \$30k for administration).

S. Nichols stated \$209.8k was level funding for NMFS (includes tax).

Discussion ensued on allocation of the add-on. W. Tatum moved that the first \$103k of any add-on go to the Caribbean, and that priorities for funding other programs be determined by all components if additional monies were available. The motion was seconded by M. Street. The motion carried.

The components met separately to determine needs if add-on is available.

The joint meeting readjourned. Discussion ensued on the funds needed by the South Atlantic to continue their trawl program. S. Nichols stated that NMFS would provide the needed funds out of their data management budget. The 1992 budget at level funding was adopted as follows:

Caribbean	\$29,550
Gulf	\$484,199
NMFS	\$179,805
South Atlantic	\$234,316
TOTAL	\$927,870.

M. Street moved that there be no cuts to the Caribbean program in the event of less than level funding. The motion was seconded by D. Cupka. The motion carried without opposition.

The expanded budget was adopted as follows (including add-on funds only):

Caribbean	\$103,000
Gulf	\$155,000
NMFS	\$123,000
South Atlantic	\$112,000
TOTAL	\$493,000.

It was agreed that if available expanded budget funds were between the values of \$103k and \$493k that the three component chairmen and the program manager would meet to discuss allocation further.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The transfer of Federal money, property, services, or anything of value to a recipient to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by law.

- o Is NOT a contract!!!
- o Is a legally-binding agreement!!!

CONTRACT

1. Acquisition,
2. By purchase,
3. To benefit the Federal government.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

1. Transfer of \$,
2. To support or stimulate,
3. To benefit the public,
4. Authorized by law.

CATEGORIES OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

GRANTS

1. Transfer of \$,
2. To Support or Stimulate,
3. To Benefit the Public,
4. Authorized by Law,
5. NO SUBSTANTIAL FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

1. Transfer of \$,
2. To Support or Stimulate,
3. To Benefit the Public,
4. Authorized by Law,
5. SUBSTANTIAL FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT.

SUBSTANTIAL FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT EXAMPLES

1. Federal Project Management or Federal Program Assistance.
2. Federal/Recipient Collaboration in Performing Project Activities.
3. Federal Monitoring may Direct or Redirect Work.
Does Not Preclude Normal Stewardship by the Federal Grantor:
 - o Monitoring Performance/Finance
 - o Correction of Deficiencies
 - o Insure Compliance with Rules/Regulations

TYPES OF GRANTS/COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS [COMPETITIVE/NONCOMPETITIVE]

- **Competitive:** Awards made on the basis of competitive review. (The competitive process insures fair treatment for applications.)
 1. Request for Applications (RFA).
 2. Independent, objective review by one or more qualified review panels.
 3. Application evaluated by use of published selection criteria.
 4. Applications selected based on:
 - o Priorities/requirements published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.
 - o The order of rank of the applications established by the review panel based on selection criteria.

REVIEW PANEL REQUIREMENTS: The Program Officer selects the review panel which consists of at least three persons and which may include one or more persons who are not employees of the Federal government.

EXAMPLES OF COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS

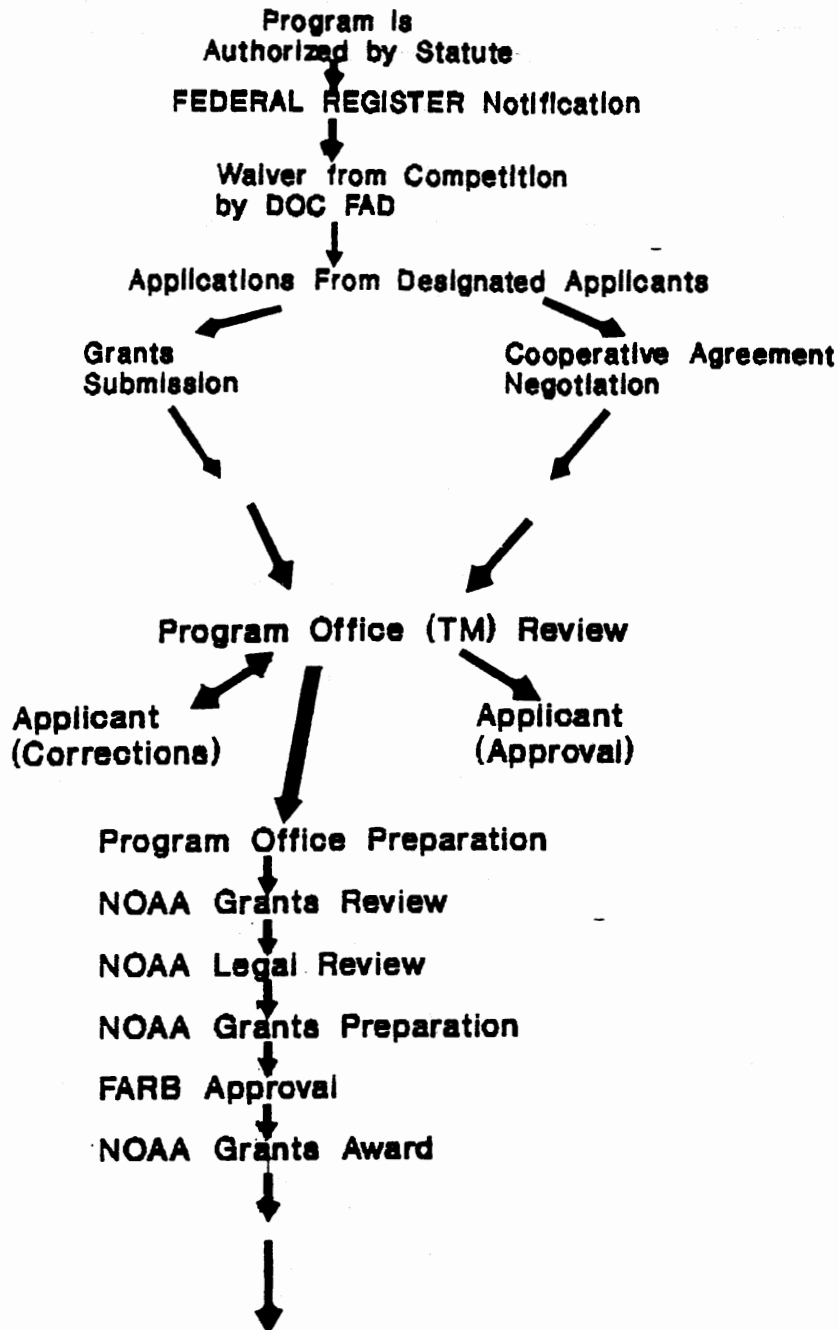
1. Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN)
2. Saltonstall - Kennedy (S-K)

- **Noncompetitive:** Federal Financial Assistance Programs are Waived from the Competitive review process due to:
 1. Enabling legislation requirements.
 2. Program requirements.

EXAMPLES OF NONCOMPETITIVE GRANTS

1. Interjurisdictional Fisheries (Formula)
2. Anadromous Fish Conservation
3. Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment
4. Cooperative Fishery Statistics
5. Fishery Management Councils
6. Special One-time Projects Authorized by Congress

THE GRANTS CYCLE - NONCOMPETITIVE



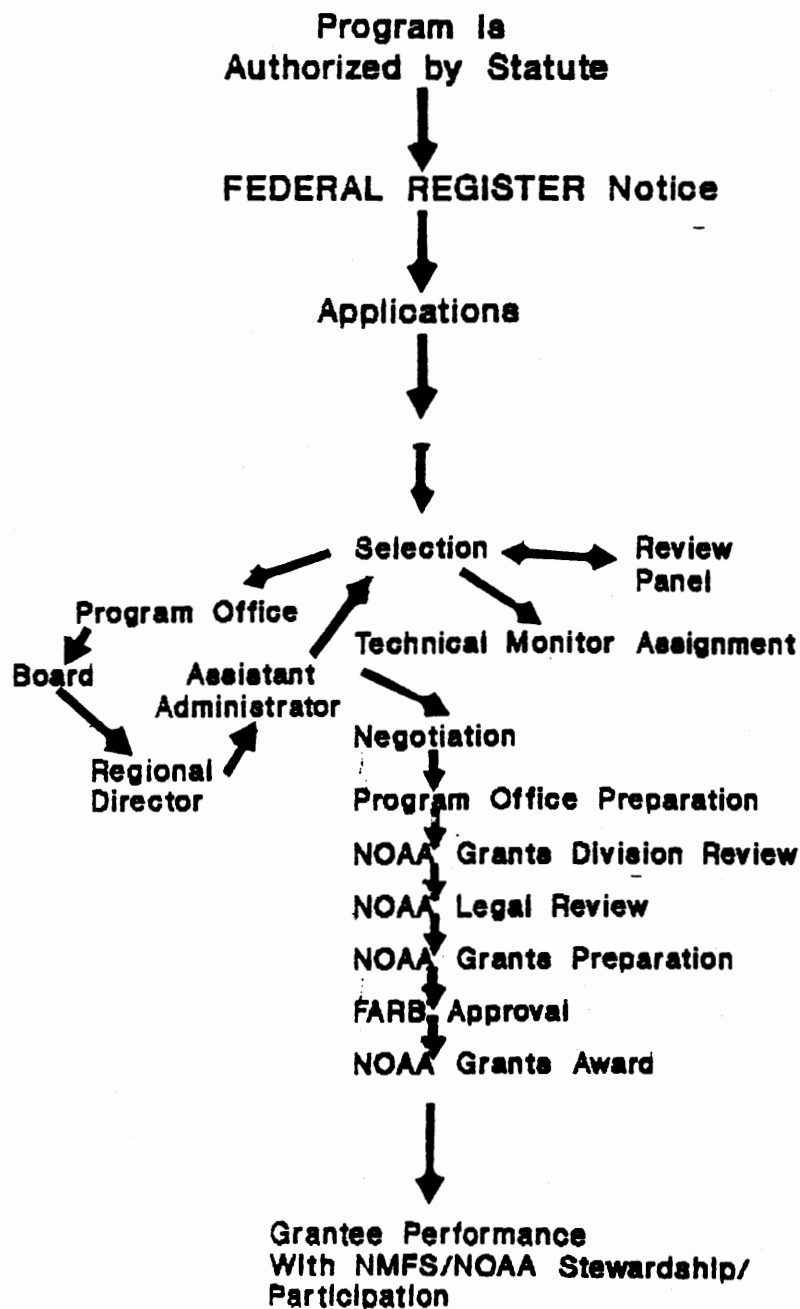
Grantee Performance With NMFS/NOAA Stewardship/ Participation

- o Financial Reports-->NOAA Grants-->Program Office
- o Performance Reports--> Program Office-->T.M. (?)
-->Program Office-->NOAA Grants
- o Site Reviews [NOAA Grants (?)Program Officer, Technical Monitor (?)]

Closeout

- o Products
- o Reports
- o Certifications
- o Audits

THE GRANTS CYCLE - COMPETITIVE



- o Financial Reports--->NOAA Grants--->Program Office
- o Performance Reports--->Program Office--->T.M.
---> Program Office ---> NOAA Grants
- o Site Reviews [NOAA Grants(?), Program Officer,
Technical Monitor(?)]

↓
Closeout

- o Products
- o Reports
- o Certifications
- o Audits

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD (PMB)
MINUTES
September 12, 1991
San Antonio, Texas

Robert Shipp
5 Dec '91

The MARFIN PMB meeting was held following the 4th Annual MARFIN Conference at the Crockett Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. Bob Shipp, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. The following were in attendance:

Members

Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
Lucy Gibbs, Commercial Industry (designee for Bob Jones), Austin, TX
Peter Hoar, G&SAFDFI, Tampa, FL
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
William S. "Corky" Perrett, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, LA
Bob Shipp, Recreational Industry, Mobile, AL
Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Wayne Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Jean B. West, NOAA Grants Mgt. Division, Silver Spring, MD (ex-officio)

Staff

Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lucia B. Hourihan, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Cynthia D. Bosworth, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was amended to include approval of minutes and approved as amended.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held May 29-30, 1991 in St. Petersburg, Florida, were adopted as presented. The minutes of the conference call held June 19, 1991 were discussed. J. West noted that she had missed the conference call due to a previously scheduled workshop and that the reporting of a NOAA Grants Office or OIG mandate to use MARFIN monies to fund \$55K to the Foundation as discussed on pages 1-2 needed clarification. West said that the final decision had been up to NMFS. NMFS had to come up with the additional funds to administer the five MARFIN and S/K proposals awarded to the Foundation from MARFIN or S/K. The conference call minutes were approved with clarification to be included in the minutes of this meeting.

Status of FY91 Financial Assistance Awards

D. Ekberg distributed a MARFIN Status Report (attachment 1) as of 9/3/91.

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
PAGE 2

West distributed an updated report (attachment 2) and noted that all continuing projects and all new projects except one had been awarded. West stated that she expected the last one to be awarded within 1-2 days.

Ekberg distributed a breakdown of the estimated FY92 MARFIN allocation (attachment 3) showing \$2437.1 available for new projects. There was discussion regarding the uncertainty of the estimation. The PMB concluded that it was necessary to wait until funds are appropriated before expressing approval for any new projects.

Discussion of Priorities for FY92 Federal Register Notice

The PMB reviewed and commented on funding priorities for FY92. Revisions made by the PMB to the FY92 funding priorities for inclusion in the Federal Register notice are attached (attachment 4). It was the consensus of the PMB that a research reference list be developed by Ekberg and included in the Federal Register notice.

Presentation of NMFS Proposals for FY92 Funds

Ekberg distributed a listing of NMFS proposals for FY92 (attachment 5) and stated that NMFS is proposing to take \$25.5K less this year than last year and to reduce the cooperative agreements by \$23K from last year in order to make up for the \$48.5K NOAA Assessment.

The PMB heard reviewer scores and comments on the NMFS proposals from S. Nichols and Ekberg.

It was the consensus of the PMB not to express approval on any of the projects until the amount of the appropriation is known. A conference call could then be held to accomplish approval of NMFS projects. It was the further consensus of the PMB to list projects which received a consensus of individual member's disapproval.

PMB members voiced disapproval for funding project 92NMFS03 "Operational Research: Improve Methods of Aging Catch for VPAs" for \$25,000 and project 92NMFS08 "Small Pelagics in the Gulf of Mexico" for \$410,000.

PMB members would like to see a better proposal on project 92NMFS11 "Econ. Analysis of Finfish Bycatch in GOM Shrimp Fishery" for \$103,000 before

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
PAGE 3

considering it for approval.

C. Perret moved that Ekberg draft a letter for the Chairman's signature to be sent to R. Schmied, PI on 92NMFS10, expressing the PMB's need to be advised of and asked for comments on any change of project direction such as had happened in FY91. The motion carried.

The PMB discussed the quality of NMFS proposals as compared to competitive proposals. NMFS proposals are lacking milestone charts, vitaes on PIs and explanation of budgets.

New Business

Nichols stated that he had copies of the latest annual reports on Mississippi Laboratories' MARFIN projects with him and available for the PMB.

Shipp initiated discussion on the need to address and revamp the review process. Shipp stated that he would like to be personally involved in the NMFS review meeting.

Ekberg suggested the PMB could provide a list of reviewers' names by category. West stated that new guidelines on reviews will be coming out shortly from the NOAA Grants Office.

It was decided that this issue will require more time for discussion. Members are to send any suggestions to Shipp who will work up a draft before the next meeting. A PMB meeting will be held prior to the Foundation meeting in December at the Holiday Inn Airport North in Atlanta, Georgia. Details of the meeting will be forthcoming.

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

Grant Number	Year	Final Years	\$ Amount	Applicant's Name	Project's Name	Principal Investigator	Status	Start Date
0X2NA90AAHMF745	2/2		\$99,650.00	SE FISHERIES ASSOC INC	CONF ON REDUCTION OF BYCATCH SHRIMP TRAWL OPERATIONS & ALTER HARVTS	JONES, ROBERT	AWARDED 08/01/91	11/01/91
0X2NA90AAHMF748	2/2		\$83,539.00	CARIBBEAN MARINE RES CENTER (CMRC)	SPAWNG BIOLOGY OF SHALLOW-WATER GOM GROUPERS	COLIN, PATRICK DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 07/29/91	10/01/91
0X2NA90AAHMF761	2/2		\$59,861.00	MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONSORTIUM	RECRUITMT & HABITAT UTIL BY BLUE CRAB: IMPORTANCE OF JUV NURSERY HABITAT	HECK, KENNETH DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 07/29/91	10/01/91
0X2NA90AAHMF762	2/2		\$47,655.00	LSU	MORTALITY RATES & MOVEMENT OF HOOK&LINE CAUGHT & RELEASED RED SNAPPER	RENDER, JEFFREY DR. ET.AL.	AWARDED 07/30/91	10/01/91
9X3NA90AAHMF724	3/3		\$84,200.00	LSU	VAR OF YR-CLASS STRENGTH & ANNUAL REPROD OUTPUT OF RED&BLACK DRUM NGOM	WILSON, CHARLES DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 07/11/91	10/01/91
9X3NA90AAHMF725	3/3		\$87,700.00	LA DEPT OF W&F	BIOL & CATCH/EFFORT SAMPLG FROM TUNA & SHARK FISHERIES IN NGOM	SHEPARD, JOSEPH A.	AWARDED 07/31/91	10/01/91
9X3NA90AAHMF727	3/3		\$79,600.00	LSU	UTILIZATION OF FISHERIES-INDEPENDENT DATA: FUTURE MANGMT IMPLICATIONS	SHAW, RICHARD DR., ET.AL.	AWARDED 07/11/91	02/01/92
9X3NA90AAHMF728	3/3		\$38,730.00	LSU	MACKEREL & REEF FISH BIOPROFILE & CATCH/EFFORT DATA COL FROM NGOM	RUSSELL, SANDRA	AWARDED 07/11/91	10/01/91
9X3NA90AAHMF734	3/3		\$4,000.00	FL DNR	AGE VALIDATION OF ADULT BLACK DRUM IN FL	MURPHY, MICHAEL, ET.AL.	AWARDED 07/13/91	02/01/92
NA17FF0263-01	1/1		\$32,162.00	LSU	PATTERNS IN DIST & ABUNDANCE OF FISHES AND MACROINVERTEBRATES IN LA	BALTZ, DONALD DR.	0A321 TO FARB 08/21/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0374-01	1/1		\$95,000.00	GULF SHRIMP RES & DEV FOUND	FINFISH EXCLUDING GEAR IN SHRIMP TRAWLS IN NGOM STUDY-BYCATCH	GIBBS, LUCY	0A321 TO FARB 08/19/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0375-01	1/2		\$46,917.00	LSU	EVAL. OF SHRIMP TRAWLS DESIGNED TO REDUCE BYCATCH IN INSHORE WTRS LA	ROGERS, BARTON	0A321 TO FARB 08/21/91	11/01/91
NA17FF0376-01	1/2		\$64,838.00	LSU	SHRIMP CLOSURES & THEIR IMPACT ON GULF REGION PROCESSG & WHOLESALEG	KEITHLY, WALTER DR.	0A321 TO FARB 08/21/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0377-01	1/1		\$43,287.00	UNIV OF FL	ECON ANALYSIS OF US DEMAND FOR SWORDFISH & EFFECT REDUCTION MEASURES	THUNBERG, ERIC DR.	0A321 TO FARB 08/19/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0378-01	1/2		\$32,143.00	MOTE MARINE LAB	BYCATCH & CATCH-REL MORTALITY OF SHARKS IN GULF COAST NURSERY OFF FL	HUETER, ROBERT DR.	AWARDED 08/30/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0379-01	1/3		\$89,918.00	UNIV OF W FL	IDENT. OF STOCK STRUCTURE & RECRUITMT PATTERNS FOR RED SNAPPER IN GOM	BORTONE, STEPHEN DR.	AWARDED 08/12/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0380-01	6MO		\$20,924.00	CONTINENTAL SHELF ASSOC, INC	COMPILATION OF EXISTG DATA ON LOCATION & AREAL EXTENT OF REEF FISH HABITAT ON MS/AL/FL CONTINENTAL SHELF - EGOM	THOMPSON, JOHN	AWARDED 08/20/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0381-01	1/2		\$30,000.00	AL DEPT CONS & NAT RES	ANALYSIS OF RED SNAPPER CATCHES FROM AL CHARTER BOAT FLEET	TATUM, WALTER ET.AL	AWARDED 08/19/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0382-01	1/1		\$96,140.00	GCRL	SPAWNG & EARLY LIFE HISTORY OF SNAPPERS IN NORTHCENTRAL GOM	LYCZKOWSKI-SHULTZ, J. DR.	AWARDED 09/03/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0383-01	1/2		\$40,000.00	LSU	LIFE HISTORY GAPS IN REDSNAPPER, SWORDFISH, RED DRUM IN NGOM	WILSON, CHARLES DR.	0A321 TO FARB 08/21/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0384-01	1/3		\$68,545.00	UNIV OF MIAMI	BIOLOGICAL DATA FROM COM LANDINGS OF SPANISH MACKEREL IN SW FL FISHERY	EHRHARDT, NELSON DR.	AWARDED 08/14/91	12/01/91
NA17FF0385-01	1/2		\$59,703.00	TX A&M RES FOUND	POP GENETIC STUDIES OF KING MACKEREL IN GOM	GOLD, JOHN DR.	AWARDED 08/16/91	01/01/92
NA17FF0386-01	1/1		\$103,000.00	MOTE MARINE LAB	KING & SPANISH MACKEREL, RED GROUPER & RED SNAPPER STOCK ASSMT SGOM	BURNS, KAREN	AWARDED 08/24/91	10/01/91
NA17FF0387-01	1/1		\$71,157.00	USF	IN-SITU & LAB STUDIES OF SURVIVORSHIP OF BYCATCH IN RED GROUPER FISHERY	WILSON, RAYMOND DR.	AWARDED 08/14/91	01/01/92
NA17FF0388-01	1/1		\$51,484.00	LSU	FINFISH PROCESSG SECTOR CHANGES IN GOM FISHERIES UNDER MNGMT/REGULATIO	ROBERTS, KENNETH DR.	0A321 TO FARB 08/21/91	10/01/91
Total:			1,530,153.00					

STATUS OF MARFIN APPLICATIONS
 1991 NEW APPLICATIONS
 As of September 9, 1991

GRANT NUMBER	STATE	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	AWARD DATE
NA17FF0263-01	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	\$ 32,162	9/10/91
NA17FF0374-01	TX	GULF SHRIMP RES. & DEV. FOUNDATION	95,000	9/12/91
NA17FF0375-01	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	46,917	9/11/91
NA17FF0376-01	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	64,838	9/11/91
NA17FF0377-01	FL	UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	43,287	9/07/91
NA17FF0378-01	FL	MOTE MARINE LAB	32,143	9/03/91
NA17FF0379-01	FL	UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA	89,918	8/12/91
NA17FF0380-01	FL	CONTINENTAL SHELF ASSOCIATION	20,924	8/20/91
NA17FF0381-01	AL	ALABAMA DEPT. OF CONS. & NAT. RES.	30,000	9/12/91
NA17FF0382-01	MS	GULF COAST RESEARCH LAB	96,140	9/05/91
NA17FF0383-01	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	40,000	9/12/91
NA17FF0384-01	FL	UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI	68,545	8/14/91
NA17FF0385-01	TX	TEXAS A & M RESEARCH FOUNDATION	59,703	8/16/91
NA17FF0386-01	FL	MOTE MARINE LAB	103,000	8/24/91
NA17FF0387-01	FL	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA	71,157	8/14/91
NA17FF0388-01	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	51,484	

STATUS OF MARFIN APPLICATIONS
1991 CONTINUATIONS

GRANT NUMBER	STATE	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	AWARD DATE
NA90AA-H-MF745	FL	SOUTHEAST FISHERIES ASSOCIATION	\$99,650	8/01/91
NA90AA-H-MF748	FL	CARIBBEAN MARINE RESOURCE CENTER	83,539	7/29/91
NA90AA-H-MF761	AL	MARINE ENVIR. SCIENCE CONSORTIUM	59,861	7/29/91
NA90AA-H-MF762	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	47,655	7/30/91
NA90AA-H-MF724	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	84,200	7/11/91
NA90AA-H-MF725	LA	LOUISIANA DEPT OF WILDLIFE & FISH.	87,700	7/31/91
NA90AA-H-MF727	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	79,600	7/11/91
NA90AA-H-MF728	LA	LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY	38,730	7/11/91
NA90AA-H-MF734	FL	FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RES.	4,000	7/13/91

09/05/91

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 SOUTHEAST REGION
 FY92 MARFIN ALLOCATION

INITIAL ALLOCATION:		2966.0
(CONGRESSIONAL REDUCTION - \$14.0K)		
(DATA MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE ASSESSMENT - \$20.0K)		
NOAA'S FY92 ASSESSMENT		-48.5
IN-HOUSE PROJECTS		
SUBTOTAL		0.0
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS: (COMMITMENTS)		
MULTI-YEAR AWARDS	404.2	
SUBTOTAL		-404.2
CONTRACT(S): (THIRD YEAR COMMITMENT)		
GSMFC (ADMIN.)	46.2	
TRAVEL	30.0	
SUBTOTAL		-76.2
TOTAL		2437.1

II. Funding Priorities.

A. Proposals for FY 1992 should exhibit familiarity with related work that is completed or ongoing. Where appropriate, proposals should be multidisciplinary. Coordinated efforts involving multiple institutions or persons are encouraged. While the areas for priority consideration are listed below, proposals in other areas will be considered on a funds available basis.

1. Shrimp.

a. Shrimp Trawler Bycatch (Very high priority).

(1) These studies should include collection and analyses of new data using a multi-species approach with emphasis on species under Federal or state management.

(2) Quantification and further analysis of existing biological data obtained from observers, fishery independent surveys and other sources.

(3) Data collection and analyses related to the economic and social consequences of bycatch and various bycatch alternatives in the shrimp fisheries, including impact of management options. Capital/labor mobility and effort changes related to costs, management and/or increased fish abundance should be considered. Sociological studies should describe the demographic, social, and cultural characteristics of the fishermen as they may affect

vocational and geographic mobility in response to changing fishery regulations. Direct and indirect economic and social consequences should be considered.

(4) Development and evaluation of gear, fishing tactics, and fish behavior to reduce inshore and offshore bycatch. Biological, economic, and social implications should be considered.

b. Bait Shrimp.

Economic and biological characterization of bait shrimp fisheries.

2. Oceanic Pelagics.

a. Longline Fishery, Including Bycatch.

(1) Quantification and analysis of existing data with special emphasis on existing logbook data.

(2) Collection and analyses of new data using a multi-species approach.

(3) Development and evaluation of gear and fishing tactics to reduce bycatch. Biological, economic, and social factors should be considered.

b. Sharks.

(1) Characterization of the directed commercial, commercial bycatch, bycatch from other fisheries, and recreational fisheries, by species and gear type, through analysis of new and existing data.

(2) Determination of baseline cost and returns for longline fisheries that target or retain sharks, and estimation of demand curves for shark products and recreational shark fisheries.

(3) Development of stock assessment and species profiles for target species.

3. Reef Fish (High priority).

a. Determination of recruitment processes for shallow and deep-water reef fish.

b. Identification of reef fish stock structure.

c. Compilation of existing data on location and areal extent of reef fish habitats.

d. Collection and analysis of life history and catch and effort data for stock assessment.

e. Information on reef species that could directly benefit strategies and techniques.

f. Studies contributing to early life history specially related to larval survival.

4. Coastal Herrings and Ground Fish.

a. Analysis of fishery independent data using resource surveys.

b. Description of predator-prey relationships.

c. Development of species profiles of coastal herrings and associated species.

5. Coastal Pelagics.

a. Determination of recruitment indices for king and Spanish mackerel, cobia, and dolphin.

b. Collection and analysis of king and Spanish mackerel data from the entire Gulf of Mexico.

6. Social and Economic.

a. Description of the demographic, social and cultural

characteristics of fishermen. Economics proposals should concentrate on the development of models that are capable of determining the economic effects of fish management, including bag limits, size limits, quotas, seasonal/area closures, gear restrictions and limited entry. Proposals should incorporate biological considerations either endogenously or exogenously. Emphasis should be placed on the development of model structures. These models may be tested using hypothetical data if sufficient empirical data are unavailable.

b. Assessment of the changes in recreational and commercial values that have resulted from the implementation of bag limits, size limits, quotas or other management rules for red drum, mackerels, spotted sea trout, and reef fish.

7. General.

a. Determination of hook/release mortality for king and Spanish mackerel, reef fish, amberjack, and dolphin as a function of capture depth, handling, tackle, water temperature and other related factors.

b. Development of educational materials and programs that can be used by recreational and commercial fishermen including identification of fish. Special emphasis should be given to sharks and reef fish.

c. Determination of sources and extent of unreported recreational and commercial catches of major Gulf of Mexico fisheries.

d. Studies that contribute to the economic and biological improvement of the estuarine fish, marine mollusks, and crab fisheries.

PROJ#	APPNAME	PROJNAME	PI	STARTDAT	ENDDATE	\$
92MMFS01	SEFC	REEF FISH SPawning PERIODICITY AND FECUNDITY ESTIMATES	JOHNSON, ALLYN DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$106,000.00
92MMFS02	SEFC	AGE AND GROWTH OF GAG, RED GROUPER, AND VERMILION SNAPPER	JOHNSON, ALLYN DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$50,000.00
92MMFS03	SEFC	OPERATIONAL RESEARCH: IMPROVE METHODS OF AGING CATCH FOR VPAS	GRIMES, CHURCHILL DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$25,000.00
92MMFS04	SEFC	MIGRATORY GROUP COMPOSITION OF KING MACKEREL IN THE FL KEYS	THOMPSON, NANCY	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$60,000.00
92MMFS05	SEFC	FISHERY INDEPENDENT TECHNIQUES FOR REEF FISH	NICHOLS, SCOTT	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$140,296.00
92MMFS06	SEFC	SHRIMP TRAWL BYCATCH REDUCTION	SEIDEL, WILBER	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$275,000.00
92MMFS07	SEFC	TED TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	SEIDEL, WILBER	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$65,000.00
92MMFS08	SEFC	SMALL PELAGICS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO	SEIDEL, WILBER	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$410,000.00
92MMFS09	SERO	MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	EKBERG, DONALD	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$75,000.00
92MMFS10	SERO	EDUCATIONAL TOOLS FOR MARINE REC FISHERMEN TO PROMOTE WISE USE AND CONSERVATION OF GULF FISHERY RESOURCES	SCHMIED, RONALD	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$11,200.00
92MMFS11	SERO	ECON ANALYSIS OF FINFISH BYCATCH IN GOM SHRIMP FISHERY	JOHN WARD	10/01/91	09/30/92	\$103,000.00

Note: Total NMFS to be reduced to \$1,279.7K (SERO 189.2 and SEC 1090.5)
A reduction of \$25.5K from last year. The cooperative agreements will receive \$23,0K less. These 2 reductions will make up the \$48.5K NOAA assessment.

~~4/1/92~~
4/1/92

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, October 14, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

TCC ANADROMOUS FISH SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday, October 14, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

Chairman Vernon Minton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Gail Carmody, USFWS, Panama City, FL
Alan Huff, FDNR/MRI, St. Petersburg, FL
Charles Mesing, FGFFC, Tallahassee, FL
Vernon Minton, ADCNR/MRD, Gulf Shores, AL
Larry Nicholson, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
David L. Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Terry D. Stelly, TPWD, Port Arthur, TX
Gary Tilyou, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Staff

Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Nancy Marcellus, Administrative Assistant

Others

Douglas J. Fruge, USFWS, Ocean Springs, MS
Frank M. Parauka, USFWS, Panama City, FL
John S. Forester, USFWS, Natchitoches, LA
Bob Cooke, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Howard E. Rogillio, LDWF, Slidell, LA
Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Leslie Holland-Bartels, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
James Lane, Bay St. Louis, MS

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without objection with no changes.

Approval of Minutes

* L. Nicholson made a motion to approve minutes from the April 15, 1991 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Update on Nuclear DNA Fingerprint Project

Lukens informed the Subcommittee that funding for the nuclear DNA work on striped bass had been secured by the USFWS Region 4 Office through the Sport Fish Restoration Administrative Program. The Regional Office then contracted with the GSMFC to administer a subcontract to the New York University Medical Center for

Dr. Ike Wirgin to conduct the work. As of the present meeting, Dr. Wirgin reports that they are roughly on schedule, continuing to test various DNA probes to find the best probe for striped bass. He indicated that work on the preserved specimens will probably begin sometime next year.

Update on Radio/Acoustic Tag Development

Frank Parauka reported that the project, being funded by the USFWS Region 4 Office using reverted funds, is progressing well. A prototype of the sonic tag is expected soon. The project, begun in 1991, is funded for two years with a total budget of \$75 thousand.

Update on Lake Talquin Study

C. Mesing reported that the Lake Talquin study began in 1987. The study was initiated to test the performance of different genotypes of striped bass, one genotype from the Atlantic Coast and one genotype from the Apalachicola River in Florida (Gulf Coast). In 1988 through 1991 equal numbers of both genotypes were stocked into Lake Talquin. Each year represents an independent study, following each year class as it grows and survives. Preliminary results indicate that the C1 (Atlantic) fish showed a faster growth rate in the first 18 months than the C2 (Gulf) fish. By 30 months there was no difference. C1 fish had a significantly higher condition factor than the C2 fish, with 2.5 and 2.3, respectively. Other preliminary results were discussed.

Mesing then indicated that it would be appropriate to begin planning for a genetics performance test in an open river system. Since Lake Talquin is a reservoir, the results may not translate to an open system. He indicated that Florida may have some extra C1 fry in 1992, and that they could be used for the test. The Subcommittee members were asked to determine if there is an appropriate river system in which to conduct the test, and if a state would be prepared to do the field work. Chairman Minton suggested that R. Lukens contact the Subcommittee members by memo and ask for the information. Lukens indicated that he would do that.

Update on Gulf of Mexico Sturgeon FMP Development

A. Huff informed the Subcommittee of the October 1 meeting of the work group to develop the sturgeon fishery management plan (FMP). As of September 30 the Gulf of Mexico sturgeon was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The work group discussed the ramifications of developing an FMP or a recovery plan. G. Carmody indicated that she would be seeking approval for her office to take the lead in recovery plan development, and if that is approved she asked that we develop the document such that it could serve as both the GSMFC FMP and the Endangered Species Act recovery plan. The work group agreed that would be a good idea. Without objection, the Subcommittee concurred with the work group that they should proceed as described. Lukens indicated that there would be a number of details to work out, such as the need to append a Wallop-Breaux logo on the document and the fact that there would be a review process totally separate from the GSMFC review process due to the involvement in the Endangered Species Act. Lukens then indicated that the next work group meeting would be in December.

Update on Lower Mississippi River Initiative

D. Fruge informed the Subcommittee that the USFWS Region 4 Office and the Corps of Engineers are spearheading an effort to get the states along the lower Mississippi River to formalize a coordinated approach to research and management of natural resources along the River, patterned after the Upper Mississippi River Coordinating Committee (UMRCC). Letters were sent out requesting a response to an invitation to enter into such an initiative and to attend an organizational meeting in the spring of 1992. They are awaiting responses. It is anticipated that the meeting will be held in Vicksburg, MS. The purpose for bringing the issue before the Subcommittee is that there is a need to coordinate the GSMFC and state efforts regarding striped bass and other anadromous fish species. Fruge indicated that he would keep the Subcommittee updated on progress on the initiative.

Discussion of Striped Bass Amendment 1

R. Lukens introduced the issue by summarizing the latest draft of Amendment 1 to the GSMFC Striped Bass Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP). He indicated that it was comprised of three main sections: 1) description of the development, administrative, approval, and monitoring process of the GSMFC Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Program, 2) recommended regulatory measures, and 3) an operational plan for restoration and management of striped bass in the Gulf of Mexico. As a result of a review of the draft, no comments were received regarding the first or third sections; however, there were comments regarding the recommended regulatory measures. Several scenarios were offered for size and bag limits.

* L. Nicholson made a motion to adopt a 6 fish per person per day bag limit and an 18 inch minimum size limit. The motion died for lack of a second. C. Mesing indicated that there may be a problem with the concept of catch-and-release of striped bass over 18 inches, due mainly to stress and mortality related to capture. Chairman Minton suggested that the Subcommittee leave all size and bag limit alternatives in the document with one marked as a preferred option, and pass it along to the Technical Coordinating Committee for their consideration. That was agreed to without objection. A suggestion was also made to strengthen some of the language under the rationale sections.

There was a question regarding receiving 90% funding for striped bass work under the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (P.L. 89-304), such that if the recommended regulations change in the Amendment, does that require a state to adopt those changes in order to qualify for 90% funding. David Pritchard indicated that the NMFS Southeast Regional Office was sensitive to the fact that the states are cooperating in co-management of striped bass, and that their interpretation would reflect that sensitivity. However, he indicated that the decision on such a matter would come from the Headquarters Office, and NOAA General Counsel would probably not allow 90% funding unless a state had adopted all recommendations. G. Tilyou suggested adding another option that would read "no regulations are recommended until such a time as data supports or indicates that such regulations are necessary." That suggested option was included as Option 4.

* C. Mesing made a motion that the Subcommittee adopt Option 1 with recommended changes as the preferred alternative. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Option 1 recommends an 18 inch minimum size limit and a bag limit of 6 fish per person per day.

A great deal of discussion took place regarding stocking as a management tool. The Subcommittee concurred on the following recommendation regarding stocking: "To support restoration needs it is recommended that the states bordering the Gulf of Mexico participate in stocking striped bass fingerlings and/or juveniles in coastal areas on an annual basis with the goal of 10 million fish per year with 500,000 being Phase II fingerling." A suggestion was then made to change the Goal Statement of Amendment 1 to read "The goal of this interstate FMP is to restore and maintain striped bass throughout the Gulf of Mexico region, and establish self-sustaining populations of striped bass in at least 10 river systems. That suggestion was accepted without objection.

* L. Nicholson made a motion to adopt Amendment 1 to the GSMFC Striped Bass FMP with the changes specified, and send the document forward for consideration by the Technical Coordinating Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan Implementation

Funding - Lukens briefed the Subcommittee on staff's efforts to acquire funding for implementation of the Strategic Plan adopted by the GSMFC in April 1991. The FY 1992 budget currently did not provide the \$750 thousand requested. Also, to make matters worse, Congress failed to include the DOI Fish and Wildlife Service portion of the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act. That means a loss of \$1.5 million nation-wide. Though that is not a great deal of money by Washington's standards, it translates to a significant loss of funds for specific programs in the Gulf of Mexico. Lukens indicated that when the FY 1993 budget process gets underway, staff will be seeking not only the Strategic Plan funding, but also restoration of the Anadromous funds lost in FY 1992.

Gulf-wide Tagging Program - Lukens explained that there are several tasks identified in the Strategic Plan which could be accomplished without additional funding. Those tasks are of an organizational or planning nature. He indicated

that he recently had a meeting with Gail Carmody and her staff regarding those tasks which she felt the USFWS could take a lead role in developing. That exercise resulted in identifying several tasks which could be done without waiting for new funding.

Regarding Gulf-wide tagging, Lukens sent out a request to the states for a brief description and explanation of any striped bass tagging efforts underway. As of the meeting, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi had responded. The goal is to first establish what kind of tagging is currently ongoing and what the programs are expected to achieve. Lukens reported that as soon as tagging information is available from the other states, he will compile the total information in a summary report. That will provide the basis for development of a Gulf-wide program.

Creel Survey Design - C. Mesing indicated that the proceedings of the Southeast Creel Workshop in 1988 would be a useful tool in developing a Gulf-wide creel for striped bass. He suggested that we may not be able to conduct the exact same creel in each state, due mainly to physical differences regarding river systems and logistics; however, he indicated that he thought we could develop a standard set of goals and objectives for conducting a creel survey so that we would all be working in the same direction. He also indicated that it would be wasteful to conduct a creel survey all year, since the fishery is very seasonal. The Subcommittee agreed to take up the issue of development of a set of goals and objectives for a Gulf-wide creel survey at the next annual meeting.

Thermal Refuge Pilot Project II - At the April 1991 meeting, the Subcommittee expressed an interest in pursuing a follow-up project on the use of the Thermal Infrared Multispectral Scanner (TIMS) to locate thermal refuges in rivers. Several problems occurred during the first effort which may have affected the outcome of the project. Lukens presented a proposal to the Subcommittee to begin seeking funding to implement the second project. He indicated that the State of Georgia had expressed an interest in cooperating if the group decided to do the project over. At that event, the TIMS flight would not only cover the Apalachicola River, but would extend up into Lake Seminole and the Flint River. Some differences in the project planning are expected to provide a more reliable outcome. They include a closer tracking of rainfall

levels, better selection for the time of year the TIMS flight is flown, and flying a lower pattern so that the pixel size in the TIMS data is smaller thus increasing resolution of the data.

Chairman Minton suggested that each member take the proposal back home and have it reviewed before making a decision. Lukens indicated that he would follow-up on those reviews and let the Subcommittee know the results.

Synthesis of Striped Bass Handling and Stocking Practices - F. Parauka informed the Subcommittee that he had sent out a questionnaire to federal field stations asking for information on handling and stocking practices for striped bass. He indicated that he sent out 37 forms and got 26 usable returns for a 70% return rate. A discussion regarding the findings of the survey ensued. Gail Carmody asked the Subcommittee if the survey should be expanded. The general feeling was that it would be useful to expand the survey to include state facilities and, particularly, western USA facilities. Carmody indicated that the data would be segregated by geographic area. Lukens suggested that the survey could serve as the basis for the development of standards and guidelines for handling and stocking striped bass, as identified in the Strategic Plan.

Summary of Laws and Authorities for Habitat Restoration Projects - D. Fruge informed the Subcommittee that he had been preparing a summary of the state and federal laws and authorities for habitat restoration and enhancement projects. He indicated that the current document is preliminary, and should be complete in the near future. This is an area which was identified by the NMFS in their review of draft Amendment 1 to the striped bass FMP which was lacking. The information will also fulfill a task related to identifying and addressing limiting habitats for all life stages of striped bass.

Striped Bass Bycatch Study Design - At the last meeting T. Stelly introduced the issue of bycatch, or incidental take of striped bass in conjunction with other directed fisheries. He indicated that this has been a problem in Texas, particularly with net fishing in the Trinity River. Stelly indicated that he thought it would be important to design and implement a study which would quantify the magnitude of bycatch so that appropriate regulatory measures could be adopted. He indicated that Texas had begun a study in which known commercial fishing gear is deployed, and the resulting catch analyzed.

This project could serve as a model for a more extensive study if it proves to be effective. Stelly also indicated that the Texas resource sampling may yield some information regarding bycatch.

Inventory of State-Federal Information and Education Programs - D. Fruge indicated that one of the problems identified in the Strategic Plan is insufficient information and education programs which address the striped bass situation. Susan Merrifield, USFWS, contacted state and federal agencies to determine the amount of information regarding striped bass which was currently available. Preliminary response indicate that there is very little information available to the public regarding the condition of striped bass stocks and regulatory and restoration efforts which are ongoing. Those programs which do have materials available will be identified along with the purpose of the materials.

Lukens summarized the agenda item by saying that the previous efforts were those identified in the Strategic Plan that could be accomplished with current manpower within current programs. He also indicated that this effort would facilitate full implementation of the Strategic Plan when additional funding is available. He then asked the Subcommittee to review all of the information presented and provide additional information as warranted. Lukens also urged the members to identify other tasks on which the Subcommittee could begin working.

Time Frame for Discussion of Future Anadromous Project Proposals

Lukens indicated that the Subcommittee had previously agreed that it would be a good idea to fully discuss all anadromous fish proposals which would be submitted for funding, particularly in light of the Strategic Plan and Striped Bass Amendment 1. The Subcommittee agreed that the Spring Meeting time frame would be a good time for that discussion, and the issue could be made a standing agenda item for that meeting time.

Other Business

David Pritchard, NMFS, provided a summary on changes in the NMFS review process wherein multi-year projects of up to three years would only have to be

reviewed by FARB one time. It is expected that this change would significantly increase the efficiency and timeliness of the review process.

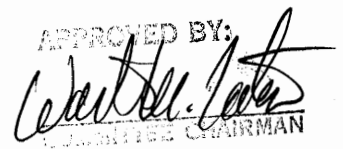
Lukens reminded the Subcommittee that the GSMFC, at the Subcommittee's request, had adopted a resolution encouraging the development of an anadromous fish hatchery on the Apalachicola River/Lake Seminole. An earlier strategy was to approach the issue from a mitigation position; however, recent advice warranted changing that strategy to get the funding put into the Corps of Engineers' budget under habitat and resource enhancement. The GSMFC staff is working with the Corps of Engineers and appropriate Congressional offices to make the funding available under the reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992.

Election of Officers

* By consensus, the Subcommittee selected Alan Huff, Florida DNR, as the Chairman and Gary Tilyou, Louisiana DWF, as the Vice-Chairman.

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

SEAMAP SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, October 14, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Walter Tatum called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Jim Hanifen (proxy for B. Barrett), LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Mark Leiby (proxy for J. Kimmel), FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Richard Waller, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
Terry Cody (proxy for G. Matlock), TPWD, Rockport, TX

Staff

Larry Simpson, Executive Director
David Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator
Cheryl Noble, Staff Assistant

Others

Ken Savastano, NMFS, Stennis Space Center
Ken Edds, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Joanne Shultz, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Albert Jones, NMFS, Miami, FL
Ralph Allemand, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Steve Heath, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- * Update on the multi-year projects
- * Discussion of additional funding allocations
- * Discussion of Cooperative Reefish Research Program

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting held on July 14, 1991 in La Parguera, Puerto Rico were approved with minor changes.

Administrative Report

D. Donaldson reported that the Fall Plankton Survey was conducted from August 23 to October 4, with vessels from NMFS, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana participating. He stated the Fall Shrimp/Bottomfish survey is scheduled to be conducted during October - December 1991 with vessels from NMFS, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas participating in the survey. He

reported that the 1991 SEAMAP Report to the TCC has been published and distributed. He reported that the 1990 Joint Annual Report is being prepared and will be ready once the information from South Atlantic and the Caribbean is received. He stated that all the data for the 1989 Atlas has been entered and should be published by the end of the year. He mentioned that there were some problems in getting the information from NMFS. He stated that if Nate Sanders could get the information earlier in the year, it would speed up the process. He distributed the final results of the real-time questionnaire and stated that the overall response was positive.

Discussion of Multi-year Projects

D. Pritchard reported that there will be single-year clearance for multi-year projects. For a three-year project, a participant would only need to get clearance from FARB for the first year and clearance from NOAA Grants in subsequent years. He stated that there are several constraints to these projects. If funding in future years changes, a participant has an outstanding debt or there are other problems, these multi-year projects would not be applicable. L. Simpson stated that HR 2130 is currently in the Rules Committee. He reported that this bill deals with multi-year projects by authorizing funding to NOAA. He stated that if this bill passed, FARB would no longer review programs such as IJF, Cooperative Statistics or programs that have customarily been administered by a State or interstate fishery commission. He stated that the last part of the statement, programs which have "customarily been" would include the SEAMAP program.

Update on Crescent Initiative

S. Nichols reported that additional funding for the Coastal Ocean Program (COP) was not obtained. He also stated that the Crescent paper did not receive high reviews. He stated the COP was level funded and no additional projects will be initiated. The future of the COP may be in jeopardy. He stated some of the criticisms for the paper included the need to better address the necessity for physical oceanography, difficulty in disentangling the component parts of the Gulf of Mexico and lack of focus and the distillation of testable hypotheses.

Recommendations to the TCC Concerning the Dissemination of Real-time Data

W. Tatum stated that the subcommittee recommend to TCC that TSA provide data that demonstrates that SEAMAP real-time data cause pulse fishing. This issue was discussed at length at the joint meeting and the recommendation was decided on at that meeting.

Status of FY1992 Funds

S. Nichols reported that the budget was out of conference with an increase of \$486K for the SEAMAP program. After a short break, D. Donaldson reported that at the Joint meeting, the subcommittee decided if there was increased funding, it would be divided into the following categories:

Reef fish survey	\$70,000
Purchase of CTD	15,000
Plankton sorting	2,000
GSMFC equipment	5,000
Florida personnel problems	22,000
Increased sampling in Louisiana	40,000
Total	\$154,000

It was decided that the discussion should be deferred to later in the meeting under the topic of funding allocations for additional funding.

Work Group Reports

Plankton

* J. Shultz reported that the Plankton work group met via a conference call on October 8, 1991. She stated that the two major topics of discussion were the activity reports from the Polish Sorting Center (PSC) and the results of the analysis of SEAMAP ichthyoplankton samples by the Atlantic Reference Center (ARC) and the resulting cost estimates. She noted that PSC has clearly improved their communication with the Gulf program, however, it was not clear why the most recent fall survey was processed before earlier fall survey samples which have been in Poland for several years. She stated that the ARC staff processed several SEAMAP samples and arrived at a total cost of \$272/bongo and \$51/neuston sample which is high compared to the cost at the PSC. It was suggested that the cost could be reduced by half if a "ceiling" was placed on the number of

specimens actually identified from each sample. She noted that the members of the work group voiced concern over limiting the number of larvae examined from each sample but after much discussion, the work group recommended that the subcommittee contract the Atlantic Reference Center for a trial period of one year to sort and identify collections from the 1991 SEAMAP Fall Ichthyoplankton survey using the 500 larvae "ceiling" method. Richard Waller moved that the 1991 Fall Plankton Cruise samples go to the ARC for processing. The motion passed unanimously. Richard Waller moved that funding for ARC will be that portion of the SEAMAP-Gulf that is diverted from the PSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion concerning which organization should contract the ARC for this work ensued. The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, the State of Florida and National Marine Fisheries Service were mentioned as possible administrators of the contract. D. Pritchard pointed out that NOAA Grants has a policy of substantial involvement which states the organization contracting with ARC would have to be substantially involved in the use or need of this data. He believed that the Commission might have trouble proving substantial involvements and suggested that the NMFS enter into the contract with ARC. W. Tatum directed S. Nichols and J. Shultz to examine this issue and determine the best procedure to handle the situation.

Shrimp/Groundfish

S. Heath reported that the Shrimp/Groundfish work group met May 3, 1991 in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. He stated that he had been elected work group leader and the main topic of discussion was the finalization of the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey. He stated that the group had not received any comment from the Environmental work group concerning collection of environmental data and purchase of CTDs. R. Waller addressed the problem of conducting comparative tows in hypoxic areas once again. The subcommittee asked the work group, at their next meeting, to try and coordinate comparative tows during the fall survey instead of the summer cruise. This would reduce the chance of sampling in hypoxic areas.

Adult Finfish

S. Nichols reported that the Adult Finfish work group met August 29, 1991

in Pascagoula, Mississippi. He stated the main topic of discussion was the review of the Cooperative Reefish Research Program for the Gulf of Mexico, which the subcommittee members have had a chance to read.

Environmental

S. Nichols reported for W. Stuntz that the work group has been active. He stated that W. Stuntz and P. Thompson have contacted personnel in the states for calibration of environmental gear.

Data Management

K. Savastano distributed and reviewed the SEAMAP Data Management Report (attached). Items noted included:

- * data entry, edit and verification of 1989 data is complete. The work on 1990 data is continuing. The South Atlantic 1989 and 1990 test data set have been received and are currently being evaluated.

- * processing of the 1989 SEAMAP Atlas has been initiated and is approximately 60% complete.

- * 106 of 108 requests for data have been completed and work is being performed on the remaining requests.

- * 1991 SEAMAP real-time data processing was complete in July using a new version of the software running on the IBM PS/2.

- * SEAMAP data management efforts will be focused on reformatting, editing data and building up the online data base as rapidly as possible.

Other Business

- * S. Nichols reported that the Cooperative Reefish Research Program was reviewed by MARFIN and has been sent to the Reefish Stock Assessment Panel (RSAP) of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. It was reported that the RSAP reviewed the document and recommended to the Gulf Council that they approve the program. Richard Waller moved that SEAMAP proceed with the Cooperative Reefish Research Program for the Gulf of Mexico. The motion passed unanimously.

W. Tatum restated the allocation of additional money discussed early in Status of FY1992 Funds section. The subcommittee decided to add the purchase of CTDs into the reef fish survey so the total cost of the survey was \$85K. The

subcommittee decided that the additional money would be divided among the States and the Commission as follows:

Florida	\$42,000
Alabama	20,000
Mississippi	22,000
Louisiana	40,000
Texas	20,000
GSMFC	5,000

This amount is just the increase. It does not include level funding for the previous year. Each state should submit for this amount **plus** their funding amount for last year.

The subcommittee discussed the location of the January meeting. The site of Gulf Shores, Alabama was chosen and the meeting will be held at the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center during the week of January 13th.

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



TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

**Tuesday, October 15, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana**

TCC DATA MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 15, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

Chairman Skip Lazauski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Henry "Skip" Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Joe Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Tom Van Devender, MDWFP/BMR, Biloxi, MS
Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
Al Jones, NMFS, Miami, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Nancy Marcellus, Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Noble, Staff Assistant

Others

David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
James Geaghan, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA

Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Lazauski indicated that items 5, 6, and 9 should be shifted to the end of the agenda since they involve Ron Lukens, who would be in the meeting later. With the noted changes, the agenda was adopted without objection.

Approval of Minutes

It was noted that there was an extra nine in the date on the first page. With that change noted, the minutes were approved without objection.

State/Federal Reports

During this time, the state and federal members of the Subcommittee provided updates of activities in their respective offices since the last meeting. At this time David Pritchard of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Southeast Regional Office provided a review of changes in the approval process for multi-year projects. He indicated that multi-year projects up to three years would not have to be subjected to an annual FARB review.

"For-Hire" Vessel Workshop Proceedings

R. Lukens indicated that he had gotten comments on the draft proceedings back from everyone on the Subcommittee. John Witzig, NMFS Headquarters Office had provided extensive comments. Lukens indicated that as of the meeting, no progress had been made to incorporate the comments. He then asked permission of the Subcommittee to work with the Chairman to incorporate the comments, since many were of a very technical nature. That request was approved without objection. Lukens indicated that the Subcommittee would have a final opportunity to review the document following the incorporation of the comments. Completion of the document is critical to completion of the final report which will encompass all Subcommittee activities regarding recreational fisheries data collection and management.

Memorandum of Agreement on Data Confidentiality

Lukens explained that this agreement is intended to address the important issue of use and transfer of confidential data collected in conjunction with commercial fisheries activities. Amendments to the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act now provide for exchange of confidential data with all state and federal employees who are so certified. Comments from a preliminary legal review indicated that the States of Texas and Louisiana could adopt the agreement immediately. Mississippi indicated that adoption of the agreement would require an ordinance change, which was now in the planning stages. Alabama had not completed its legal review, and Florida indicated that there are some legal constraints to adoption of the agreement. J. Shepard suggested that the word "marine" be deleted from the document when used in conjunction with data or programs, since it would unduly restrict the agreement to only marine species. That change was made without objection.

A discussion ensued regarding the intent of the agreement. It was agreed that the intent is to allow each state in the Gulf of Mexico region to have access to confidential data from the other states through the NMFS data base, and to allow states to exchange confidential data among themselves.

Lukens indicated that the intent was to have a complete legal and content review and concurrence from the states prior to submitting the document to NMFS.

At that time NMFS would be able to conduct a thorough review based upon the knowledge that the agreement has been cleared by all states involved.

T. Van Devender indicated that the document was policy in nature and as such suggested that the Subcommittee request of the Technical Coordinating Committee that oversight of the completion of the agreement be shifted to the State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee. That suggestion was agreed upon without objection. The Subcommittee, by consensus, agreed to hold the document until such a time as all the states had approved it both from a legal and substantive perspective. Upon such approval, the document would then be submitted to the State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee for their approval to submit to the full Commission.

RecFIN Update

R. Lukens indicated that much had happened regarding RecFIN since the last meeting. Currently, NMFS is negotiating with the Pacific Commission and its member states on the provisions of the agreement which will allow RecFIN to be implemented there. That process is being pursued first because the NMFS Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey (MRFSS) has been discontinued on the Pacific Coast for the last two years. It is expected that much of the content of that agreement can be used during the negotiations with the Gulf States. NMFS is concerned regarding the potential for different scenarios on the three coastlines for implementation of RecFIN, particularly regarding the perceived roles of the different partners. The GSMFC is supportive of the regional approach to developing the RecFIN agreements; however, we feel that ongoing coordination with all three coastlines for a national approach is also necessary.

Lukens indicated that increased funding for recreational fishery data collection was approved by Congress for FY 1992. The increase is \$2.2 million, and is supposed to be used to increase the precision and accuracy of recreational fishery data collection in the southeast. The Subcommittee report from Congress, in which Congress' intent is outlined, names RecFIN as the program through which to accomplish the enhancement program. Lukens cautioned the members to remember they will still be expected to provide some funding for RecFIN, regardless of the recent increase in funding. Chairman Lazauski asked Lukens if it would be

appropriate for a representative of the Subcommittee to attend 1992 wave meetings of the MRFSS. Lukens said yes, but that he thought it would be better if each state representative on the Subcommittee could do so. He said that he would review the budget and determine if this would be possible.

In-service Training for Stock Assessments

As previously indicated, the GSMFC is attempting to coordinate with NMFS to conduct a course in stock assessment techniques as in-service training for state agency employees. Lukens indicated that a discussion with Brad Brown at the NMFS Southeast Fisheries Center revealed that there is also a course being planned for the Atlantic coast, and we would be able to combine the two. Brown conveyed that he already had two NMFS employees working on the curriculum. The course is tentatively planned for the first quarter of 1992. Lukens said that he would contact the Region 4 Office of the Fish and Wildlife Service about combining the meetings, since they had expressed a willingness to assist in funding. The Subcommittee members will be updated as soon as information is available.

Black Drum Interstate Stock Assessment

Dr. James Geaghan, Louisiana State University, has been contracted to conduct a stock assessment for the GSMFC interstate fishery management plan for black drum in the Gulf of Mexico. He presented a preliminary discussion on his progress to date. Following a discussion of the technical aspects of the stock assessment, Dr. Geaghan indicated that he should have the completed stock assessment in two to four weeks. There was a short discussion as to the format of the final report, since many times interpretation of such a technical document is difficult. Dr. Geaghan indicated that he would provide interpretive information as needed.

Recreational Fisheries Data Collection Analysis Report

R. Lukens opened the discussion indicating that a completion report on all recreational fisheries data collection activities of the Subcommittee since the original 1989 workshop in Miami would be due by the end of December 1991.

Chairman Lazauski indicated that the overall structure of the report should be worked into the context of RecFIN. It was determined by the Subcommittee to have the Chairman and Lukens work on a preliminary outline of the final document. The report can then be compiled following that exercise.

Other Business

Chairman Lazauski indicated that Maury Osborn, Subcommittee member from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, had moved from Texas to the Washington, D.C. area to work for NMFS on the MRFSS. Peng Chai, new state representative from TPWD was introduced.

Election of Officers

A motion was made and seconded that the current Chairman, Skip Lazauski, be retained. That motion passed unanimously. Peng Chai, TPWD, was elected as Vice-Chairman.

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

 4/2/92

TCC HABITAT SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 15, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

TCC HABITAT SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 15, 1991
New Orleans, LA

Larry Lewis, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The following persons were in attendance:

Members

Gail Carmody, USFWS, Panama City, FL (proxy for Jay Troxel)
Terry Cody, TPWD, Rockport, TX (proxy for C.E. Bryan)
Jim Hanifen, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Alan Huff, FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL (proxy for Ken Haddad)
Larry Lewis, MDWFP, Biloxi, MS
R. Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL

Staff

Rick Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Larry Simpson, Executive Director

Others

Douge Frugé, USFWS, Ocean Springs, MS
Charles Eleuterius, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS

Adoption of Agenda

*V. Minton moved and J. Hanifen seconded that the agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes

*T. Cody moved and V. Minton seconded that the minutes of the April 9, 1991, conference call be approved with the correction of one typographical error. The motion carried unanimously.

General Remarks

L. Lewis gave a brief overview of the subcommittee and its mission. He also described several general habitat issues and suggested that a round table discussion be used to focus specific issues in each state and the gulf region.

State Reports

Texas - T. Cody stated that within the TPWD the usual first contact for habitat issues is Mr. Larry McKinny with the Resource Protection Division. T. Cody briefly described the operation of the division with particular regard

to oil spill response and some research. He further described the role of the Fisheries and Wildlife Division and in particular the Coastal Fisheries Branch.

He identified the Galveston Bay Estuary Program as an example of a cooperative effort to address a number of habitat issues in the Galveston Bay area. He noted that a report should be available in the near future.

T. Cody stated that Texas was in the process of revising regulations regarding aquaculture of exotic shrimp. This was primarily being done in response to the potential for, and one documented case of, the release of exotic shrimp from operations in the Brownsville, Texas, area.

T. Cody described various issues currently and recently being addressed including oil spill response, water rights, habitat deterioration, and others.

Alabama - V. Minton stated that three agencies in Alabama had various responsibilities regarding habitat issues. The Department of Economic and Community Affairs handles various block grants, the CZM program (consistency) and national estuarine research programs. The Department of Environmental Management develops policies and permits for air and water discharges as well as solid waste disposal. The ADCNR, MRD is responsible for living marine resource management, and it works with both agencies and the USFWS, NMFS, and COE to provide information on impacts to these resources.

V. Minton noted that the MRD was currently working with USFWS on Coastal America projects and also looking at habitat restoration projects, initially using an experimental plot for growing marsh grasses. He stated that raising and planting grasses in disturbed areas was a more preferred mitigation than simply transferring grasses from one area to another.

V. Minton described problems with the recent discovery of cholera in Alabama waters. He noted speculation that the cholera may have been introduced from ship ballast and the potential that ballast might introduce other exotic species. The subcommittee decided to discuss this as a separate agenda item.

Louisiana - J. Hanifen described agencies in Louisiana that deal with habitat issues. He noted that the LDWF is primarily responsible for living resources and comments on habitat issues that effect these resources. He stated that the LDNR handles coastal management and restoration programs, but the governor's office oversees these functions. The LDEQ is responsible for air and

water quality, and the Department of Health and Hospitals deals with health-related environmental issues.

J. Hanifen noted the recent passage of the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act by the Louisiana legislature. He stated that the act would improve the state's ability to address oil spills and their potential (especially from LOOP) by coordinating the responsibilities of DEQ, DNR, and DWF. He also noted that a coordinator would be based in the governor's office.

J. Hanifen reported that the Louisiana Geological Survey had established shoreline cleanup and assessment teams (SCATs) to address potential spills with the idea of getting as many agencies as possible involved at the same time. He noted that LOOP was involved and that a draft plan had been developed.

Florida - A. Huff advised the subcommittee of various habitat programs being conducted by FDNR, MRI including the GIS Habitat Inventory, CZM, stock enhancement research and other research with exotic species. He further noted participation in other programs: Coastal Ocean Program (seagrass research); National Estuary Program (habitat restoration); Surface Water Improvement Program (standing marsh grasses); and enhancement and mitigation programs and problems with their transfer from one area to another.

A. Huff reported that a recent workshop was held that included reports on habitat enhancement, both natural and artificial. The subcommittee requested that staff obtain copies of the workshop proceedings and distribute them to the members.

Mississippi - L. Lewis described the role of the BMR in habitat issues. He noted that BMR issues permits for activities under the state's Coastal Wetlands Protect Act and administers the CZM program. He further described the BMRs interaction with the state DEQ, USFWS, NMFS and COE.

L. Lewis described a recent study funded by BMR (Mitigation and No Net Loss of Wetlands in Coastal Mississippi) that looked at other state programs and attempted to develop a model policy regarding mitigation and wetlands loss. He described an aquaculture study by Mississippi/Alabama Sea Grant Consortium which is looking at developing citing criteria for various types of operations. L. Lewis also reported on the Coastal Mississippi Wetlands Initiative which is a

joint project between BMR and EPA to address wetlands issues, their identity, etc. throughout Mississippi.

L. Lewis noted that Mississippi would be applying for funds to accomplish various wetland related projects under the Coastal America Program. He also stated that the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Conservation Act was being used as a potential source for funds to purchase wetland areas for preservation. Lastly, he noted that the Gulf of Mexico Program has developed a Bulletin Board wherein persons can access various information via a direct computer linkage free of charge (1-800-235-4662).

USFWS - G. Carmody reported that the national list of Coast America projects for funding should be available by October 31. She further stated that the USFWS is working with the COE to develop their habitat enhancement projects and that such projects are being developed by Corps district.

G. Carmody also noted that the USFWS was working to expand their Private Lands Partnerships and that there may be some habitat enhancement funds available. G. Carmody introduced Doug Frugé, the Gulf Coordinator of the Fisheries Assistance Office in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. He described the role of the office in coordinating fishery related activities primarily dealing with anadromous fish issues but also in detection monitoring for zebra mussels.

Wetlands Issues

L. Lewis noted that over the past two to three years, a great deal of habitat focus has been on the delineation of wetlands. He noted that the COE has developed a Wetlands Delineation Manual (WDM) that is currently under review. He also noted that as a result of the original revision of the WDM (1989), a significant amount of controversy has developed and various pieces of legislation, especially H.R. 1330, have been introduced to further address the issue. He described the primary controversy as being an expansion of wetlands permitting authority, especially on private lands, as the result of changes in Corps policies regarding wetlands.

During extensive discussions, the subcommittee expressed concern that the Corps WDM (1989) was perhaps too stringent in scope; however, they were also concerned that ramifications of the controversy, especially some provisions of

H.R. 1330, could lead to reduced protection of valuable wetlands. G. Carmody suggested that the subcommittee obtain a copy of the federal agencies (USFWS, EPA, COE) report(s) on various wetlands types and distribute it to the five states for review. The states could then evaluate coastal ramifications and impacts to fisheries. The status of such report(s) was uncertain.

By consensus, the committee directed R. Leard and L. Lewis to attempt to obtain copies of the report(s) and distribute them to the subcommittee. They also agreed to compile written comments previously sent by the states regarding the Corp's WDM and H.R. 1330 and assess impacts. After reviewing this information, the subcommittee (via L. Lewis) will decide whether a conference call or other discussion/response is needed. A list of needed actions and materials will be sent to subcommittee members.

Aquaculture Issues

L. Lewis discussed guidelines being updated in Mississippi. After discussion and by consensus, the subcommittee directed that L. Lewis send a memo to each state asking that they update their aquaculture guidelines where applicable.

Gulf and Caribbean Aquaculture Symposium

L. Lewis reported contacts with Dr. Aaron Rosenfield, NMFS, regarding a workshop or symposium on the introduction and transfer of biological agents in the gulf and Caribbean. After discussion, the subcommittee directed L. Lewis to contact Dr. Rosenfield regarding the status of plans, agenda, etc., and he would report to the subcommittee at the next meeting or sooner if necessary.

Ballast Water as a Source of Exotic Introductions

V. Minton previously discussed the incidence of cholera in Alabama and indicated a possible source as being ballast from ships. The subcommittee discussed the possibility of this source introducing other nuisance species. The subcommittee noted the need to determine the current regulations regarding ballast discharge. L. Simpson will assist in this effort and advise.

Election of Chairman

*V. Minton nominated L. Lewis, and J. Hanifen seconded. L. Lewis was elected by acclamation.

Election of Vice Chairman

*V. Minton moved and J. Hanifen seconded that C.E. Bryan be elected vice chairman. C.E. Bryan was elected by acclamation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



JOINT MEETING
S-FFMC MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
and
NATIONAL FISH MEAL AND OIL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 15, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

S-FFMC MENHADEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 15, 1991
New Orleans, LA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wilmer LaPointe at 1:10 p.m.
The following persons were in attendance:

Members

John C. Barnes, III, AMPRO Fisheries, Weems, LA
George Brumfield, Zapata Haynie, Moss Point, MS
Lee Green, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Vince Guillory, LDWF, Bourg, LA
Wilmer LaPointe, Daybrook Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
Jack Simpson, ABC Bait Company, Amelia, LA
Borden Wallace, Wallace Menhaden Products, Inc., Mandeville, LA

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Richard L. Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Dave Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator

Others

Jim Barfoot, Zapata Haynie, Hammond, LA
Paul Bauersfeld, NMFS, Charleston, SC
Tony Bimbo, Zapata Haynie, Reedville, VA
Dalton Berry, Zapata Haynie, Hammond, LA
Floyd Carmichael, AMPRO Fisheries, Inc., Roswell, GA
Cookie Haynie, ABC Bait Co., Morgan City, LA
Mark Hoenes, Daybrook Fisheries, Inc., Morristown, NJ
Gregory Holt, Daybrook Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Leroy Kiffe, Tom Kiffe & Son, Lockport, LA
Eldon Levi, NMFS, Gulf Breeze, FL
Rick Marks, NFMOA, Washington, DC
Bill Pendleton, Gulf Protein, Inc., Amelia, LA
Mae Dean Simpson, ABC Bait Co., Morgan City, LA
Joe Smith, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Glenn Speakman, Daybrook Fisheries, Inc., Morristown, NJ
Ed Swindell, Zapata Haynie, Hammond, LA
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Peggy Thompson, Daybrook Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
Lee Weddig, NFMOA, Washington, DC
Jesse Wheeler, Gulf Protein, Inc., Amelia, LA

Adoption of Agenda

With the switching of items 4 and 6 in the order presented, the agenda was adopted without objection.

Adoption of Minutes

G. Brumfield moved and J. Merriner seconded that the minutes of the April 16, 1991 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Review of 1991 Fishing Season

J. Merriner and J. Smith discussed the status of the 1991 fishing season in the gulf and Atlantic through September 1991. Gulf landings were 514,000 metric tons, 3% greater than 1990. Landings for the year were anticipated to be 550,000 MT or 4% above 1990. Inclement spring weather and a reduction of two plants and 17 boats in the fishery likely caused the low production compared to historical production. Age composition amounted to: 50% age-2, 43% age-1, and 7% age-3+ in the gulf.

Effort in vessel-ton-weeks was down 19% from 1990 (354,000 vs. 438,500). Effort was only expected to reach 400,000 vessel-ton-weeks by the end of the season.

J. Smith also discussed landings in the Atlantic and noted that they had dropped 9.6% from 288,693 MT in 1990 to 261,007 MT in 1991. They were, however, about 9% ahead of the previous 5 year average (1986-1990).

Discussion of Committee Make-up

L. Simpson presented a draft document entitled "Operating Procedures for Menhaden Advisory Committee of the S-FFMC." He noted that the committee should particularly review part C (composition) and part D (administrative procedures). He also reviewed other aspects of the draft.

*Following discussion, G. Brumfield moved and B. Wallace seconded that parts D3 and D5 be reversed in order and that they be modified as shown in Attachment 1. The motion carried unanimously.

*After additional discussion, V. Minton moved and G. Brumfield seconded that part D1 be revised as shown in Attachment 1. The motion passed without objection.

*The committee discussed part C1 at length with the desire to maintain parity of representation between the reduction industry and the states. After taking up the remainder of the agenda and discussing this issue further, B. Wallace moved and V. Minton seconded that part C1 be approved as shown in Attachment 1. The motion was unanimously approved.

*J. Barnes then moved and G. Brumfield seconded that the operating procedures be approved as amended and as shown in Attachment 1, and that they be recommended to the S-FFMC for their approval. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Captain's Daily Reports

J. Merriner distributed sample copies of the report forms and reviewed their content. He noted that the forms are paid for by the industry, but they are distributed, collected and maintained by NMFS in Beaufort, NC. He stated that the forms had been in use since 1978-79 and presently approximately 8,000 forms are generated in the gulf and 3,000 to 3,500 in the Atlantic each year.

J. Merriner further described the past attempts to computerize the data from these forms and to make it useful for management. He noted only sporadic entry and use of the data from forms collected in 1978, 1980-81, 1983-84, and 1988-89. He did, however, state that all forms collected from 1978-present are on file in the NMFS Beaufort Laboratory.

He further noted that very little funding and staff are available to accomplish the computerization task. He stated that NMFS' present objective, with available support, was to finish keying reports from the Atlantic.

The committee discussed various sources of additional funding for data entry and processing (MARFIN, S-K, etc.). These existing sources were deemed doubtful, and new funding from the Global Climate Change Program or a similar new source was thought to be the only real possibility. The committee then discussed future possibilities of placing electronic equipment aboard vessels and/or aircraft to enter data during fishing operations. J. Merriner noted that MARFIN

might be a source of funding for such equipment, and V. Minton suggested that the Cooperative Statistics Program might be of assistance.

*W. LaPointe suggested that a subcommittee be used to assess needs and funding sources. J. Merriner, E. Swindell, and V. Guillory volunteered to serve on the subcommittee and by consensus they were approved.

Status of Menhaden Bycatch Study

L. Weddig reported that the National Fish Meal and Oil Association had submitted the bycatch proposal for S-K funding; however, with little money available for new projects the outlook for funding was dubious. He further described the status of the proposal as "awaiting funding."

Election of Chairman

*With the chairmanship rotation to the National Marine Fisheries Service, John Merriner was elected by acclamation.

New Member

W. LaPointe stated that a new company was operating in the gulf under the name Gulf Protein, Inc. He noted that under the committee's operating procedures, they would be added to the membership list with J.W. "Bill" Pendleton as their representative and Jesse Wheeler as the alternate.

Membership Change

W. Lapointe noted that Florida had assigned Dr. Behzad Mahmoudi to replace Charles Futch on the committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

D R A F T

OPERATING PROCEDURES
for
Menhaden Advisory Committee
of the
State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee

A. Establishment

The Menhaden Advisory Committee (MAC) of the State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee (S-FFMC) is established under the authority of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (Public Law 81-66, 63 stat. 70, approved May 19, 1949) and in accordance with the provisions of Section 308 of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act, Title III of Public Law 99-659, approved November 14, 1986.

B. Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the committee shall be:

1. To develop and advise the S-FFMC of alternative approaches to fishery management for the gulf menhaden fishery.
2. To aid the S-FFMC in describing the biological and socio-economic impacts of these alternatives.
3. To assist the S-FFMC in implementing various activities to attain the goals and objectives of the gulf menhaden management plan.
4. To be the regional forum for the industry, states and federal government to discuss issues and activities concerning all aspects of the menhaden resource.

C. Composition

1. The MAC shall be comprised of one member from each of the menhaden reduction companies in the gulf, one member representing the menhaden bait fishing industry, one member from each of the five Gulf State's fishery agencies, and one non-voting member from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). If the number of members from the reduction fishery falls to less than 5, the NFMFA may designate members to bring that compliment to 5. If the number of members in the reduction fishery increases above 5, the S-FFMC may designate members to bring the state representation to a number equal to that of the reduction industry.
2. The chairman of the MAC shall be elected by the MAC for a one-year term on a rotating basis among industry, states and the NMFS.
3. Staff support will be provided by the GSMFC through the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program.

D R A F T

4. The MAC may solicit assistance from other sources not represented within its structure, as appropriate.

D. Administrative Procedures

1. The MAC shall meet a minimum of twice each year or as deemed necessary by a simple majority of voting members or at the direction of the S-FFMC.
2. The MAC shall routinely meet in the area encompassed by the S-FFMC's constituent states except that in cases which require coordination with an outside issue or group which is allowed.
3. All regular business of the MAC shall be conducted by a quorum of (70 percent) of the voting members or their proxies.
4. The designated federal representative shall have no vote but may serve as committee chairman.
5. All MAC actions shall be approved by a (simple majority) of those present and voting.
6. Changes to these procedures shall be at the pleasure of the S-FFMC and approval of the MAC.
7. The MAC shall report recommendations and actions to the S-FFMC.

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STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 16, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 16, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by L. Simpson. By consensus, L. Simpson continued to serve as moderator for the meeting with the following persons in attendance:

Members

John Brown, USFWS, Atlanta, GA (proxy for James Pulliam, Jr.)
Dan Furlong, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL (proxy for Andrew Kemmerer)
Joe Gill, Jr., MDWFP, Biloxi, MS
R. Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Dauphin Island, AL
William S. "Corky" Perret, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA (proxy for
A. Kell McInnis)
Rudy Rosen, TPWD, Austin, TX
Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS (nonvoting)
Roy O. Williams, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL

Staff

Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Rick Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Dave Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator

Others

George Brumfield, Zapata Haynie, Moss Point, MS
Gail Carmody, USFWS, Panama City, FL
Don Duden, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Conrad Fjetland, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
Doug Frugé, USFWS, Ocean Springs, MS
Lee M. Green, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Peter Hoar, GSAFDF, Tampa, FL
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Leroy Kiffe, Tom Kiffe and Son, Lockport, LA
Will LaPointe, Daybrook Fisheries, Inc., Empire, LA
John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Chris Nelson, Bon Secour Fisheries, Bon Secour, AL
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ralph Rayburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
Tom Van Devender, MDWFP, Biloxi, MS

Adoption of Agenda

*J. Gill moved and V. Minton seconded that the agenda be adopted with the addition of a discussion of recent court decisions on Spanish mackerel in

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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Florida, possible ramifications and subsequent actions. The motion unanimously carried.

Adoption of Minutes

*J. Gill moved and V. Minton seconded that the minutes of the April 17, 1991, meeting in Galveston, Texas, be approved as written. The motion unanimously carried.

*J. Gill moved and V. Minton seconded that the minutes of the conference call held May 6, 1991, be approved as written. The motion unanimously carried.

Menhaden Advisory Committee Report

W. LaPointe reported that the committee had reviewed the status of the 1991 fishing season and the processing of data from the Captain's Daily Reports being submitted to NMFS. He noted that the gulf season was slightly better than last year but still far below the previous 5-year average. He further advised that a subcommittee was appointed to look at data needs and data processing capabilities.

W. LaPointe reported that the committee had developed and revised its membership and function incorporating them into an operating procedure document (Attachment 1).

*LaPointe presented the document as a committee motion for approval by the S-FFMC. The motion carried without objection.

IJF Plan Implementation Matrix

R. Leard reviewed the FMP implementation matrix that had been requested by the committee at their April 17, 1991, meeting. He described how it was developed and the content for each fishery: menhaden, Spanish mackerel, blue crab, and oyster and requested any comments. The committee discussed various aspects of the matrix and made several changes which are incorporated in Attachment 2.

*By consensus, the S-FFMC expressed a desire to review an updated version of the document annually.

Review of Stock Assessment Team (SAT) Actions

R. Leard reported on several actions of the SAT as a result of their meeting May 30-31, 1991. He noted for black drum the SAT recommended that Mr. Joe Shepard, LDWF, do the assessment or Dr. James Geaghan as an alternate choice. He further noted that due to time constraints, Dr. Geaghan was chosen and had almost completed the assessment. A progress report has been reviewed by the Data Management Subcommittee (DMS), and the completed assessment will be reviewed by the DMS and SAT as soon as possible.

He also noted the interest of the SAT in a training program for personnel to do stock assessments.

Revised IJF Plan Approval Process

R. Leard noted that the SAT had, in particular, reviewed their role in FMP plan development. He presented the revised FMP plan approval process (Attachment 3) as recommended by the SAT for S-FFMC action. He described how the change would affect the development of FMPs.

R. Rosen questioned the use of a scoping process to gain outside input prior to the S-FFMC releasing the completed plan for review. It was noted that each TTF is made up of representatives from the Commercial Fisheries Advisory Committee, Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee, and Law Enforcement Committee. It was further noted that these representatives should be encouraged to seek input from constituents and provide this to the TTF.

*After further discussion, C. Perret moved and J. Gill seconded that the FMP approval process be amended as requested. The motion carried without objection.

Stock Assessment Training Workshop

R. Lukens noted that the S-FFMC had expressed the desire to have state personnel involved in stock assessment work. With this direction, staff attempted to ascertain the needs and desires of states for training of key personnel involved with stock assessment in their respective states. Dr. Brad Brown, NMFS, SEFC, was contacted as a possible sponsor of a training

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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workshop and 36 people in the 5 Gulf States had indicated an interest in attending.

J. Merriner described progress in setting up a workshop. He stated that an approximately 3-day meeting sponsored by NMFS and USFWS is tentatively scheduled for February 1992 in Brunswick, Georgia. He noted that USFWS may provide funding for two persons per state. States will be informed of details as they are developed.

Striped Bass Amendment 1

R. Lukens distributed copies of Amendment 1 and noted that it will be substituted for Section 8 of the FMP. He described the changes developed by the Anadromous Fish Subcommittee and the changes approved by the TCC. He noted that the TCC Committee motion was the approval of the amendment with modifications to Option 1, p. 8-4 and release for public review. R. Lukens further states that this language, as modified by the TCC, would likely preclude any state from receiving 90-10 funding.

*After further discussion, J. Brown moved to substitute the TCC motion by reinserting the original language from the Anadromous Fish Subcommittee in Option 1, p. 8-4. V. Minton seconded the motion, and the motion was approved with C. Perret casting a dissenting vote.

*R. Lukens described changes to Section 8.4.3 (Stocking) on p. 8-5. There being no further changes, J. Gill moved and V. Minton seconded that Amendment 1 as shown in Attachment 4 be approved for release for public review. The motion carried unanimously.

Status of Black Drum and Striped Mullet FMPs

R. Leard reported that funding for formal meetings during the remainder of the fiscal year was not available. He noted, however, that individuals from each task force are continuing to collect data and draft section assignments, and that funding problems would not affect this work. He stated that meetings would resume in January 1992.

Discussion of Uniformity of Regulations

L. Simpson introduced a matrix of regulations by state showing consistencies and inconsistencies. J. Gill noted the inconsistencies in regulations among states and the problems it causes. He stated the need for more consistent regulations. L. Simpson informed the committee that the Law Enforcement Committee had on various occasions requested that regulations be made uniform if there is no biological reason for differences. J. Gill stated a particular desire to address regulations for red drum, spotted seatrout, cobia, king mackerel and Spanish mackerel in an expeditious manner.

After a lengthy discussion, C. Perret suggested that federal regulations be added to the matrix along with other species including brown shrimp, white shrimp, blue crabs, tarpon and perhaps others. C. Perret also suggested that, as a starting point, appropriate personnel from Mississippi and Louisiana should meet to address particular inconsistencies in red drum and spotted seatrout regulations. Both suggestions were supported by the S-FFMC.

*J. Gill moved that GSMFC set up a meeting with appropriate representatives from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, NMFS, and the Gulf Council, inclusive of enforcement personnel to discuss inconsistencies in regulations regarding red drum, spotted seatrout, cobia, king mackerel, and Spanish mackerel. V. Minton seconded the motion, and it carried without objection.

*The S-FFMC agreed by consensus to revise and update the matrix for the next meeting.

Mackerel Court Cases in Florida

R. Rosen and R. Williams outlined the results of recent federal court judgments striking down certain landing provisions of Florida law pertaining to Spanish mackerel. They further discussed the possible implications of this action on other fisheries and other state laws. They explained that under the interpretation whenever a federal FMP is adopted, any and all state laws are superseded by the plan and sole management of that particular fishery lies with the federal government.

It was noted that Florida was appealing the decision and other states and organizations were joining Florida by filing Amicus curiae briefs. R. Williams

STATE-FEDERAL FISHERIES
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and R. Rosen advised that a same brief would be provided to each gulf state, and they suggested that state representatives review its content with their respective attorney generals and file similar briefs if they deem it appropriate.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

OPERATING PROCEDURES
for
Menhaden Advisory Committee
of the
State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee

A. Establishment

The Menhaden Advisory Committee (MAC) of the State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee (S-FFMC) is established under the authority of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (Public Law 81-66, 63 stat. 70, approved May 19, 1949) and in accordance with the provisions of Section 308 of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act, Title III of Public Law 99-659, approved November 14, 1986.

B. Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the committee shall be:

1. To develop and advise the S-FFMC of alternative approaches to fishery management for the gulf menhaden fishery.
2. To aid the S-FFMC in describing the biological and socio-economic impacts of these alternatives.
3. To assist the S-FFMC in implementing various activities to attain the goals and objectives of the gulf menhaden management plan.
4. To be the regional forum for the industry, states and federal government to discuss issues and activities concerning all aspects of the menhaden resource.

C. Composition

1. The MAC shall be comprised of one member from each of the menhaden reduction companies in the gulf, one member representing the menhaden bait fishing industry, one member from each of the five Gulf State's fishery agencies, and one non-voting member from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). If the number of members from the reduction fishery falls to less than 5, the NFMFA may designate members to bring that compliment to 5. If the number of members in the reduction fishery increases above 5, the S-FFMC may designate members to bring the state representation to a number equal to that of the reduction industry.
2. The chairman of the MAC shall be elected by the MAC for a one-year term on a rotating basis among industry, states and the NMFS.
3. Staff support will be provided by the GSMFC through the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program.
4. The MAC may solicit assistance from other sources not represented within its structure, as appropriate.

D. Administrative Procedures

1. The MAC shall meet a minimum of twice each year or as deemed necessary by a simple majority of voting members or at the direction of the S-FFMC.
2. The MAC shall routinely meet in the area encompassed by the S-FFMC's constituent states except that in cases which require coordination with an outside issue or group which is allowed.
3. All regular business of the MAC shall be conducted by a quorum of (70 percent) of the voting members or their proxies.
4. The designated federal representative shall have no vote but may serve as committee chairman.
5. All MAC actions shall be approved by a (simple majority) of those present and voting.
6. Changes to these procedures shall be at the pleasure of the S-FFMC and approval of the MAC.
7. The MAC shall report recommendations and actions to the S-FFMC.

MENHADEN

Recommendations	FL	AL	MS	LA	TX
-----------------	----	----	----	----	----

Establish uniform seasons (third Monday in April through Friday following second Tuesday in October)	NI ¹	I	I	I	I
---	-----------------	---	---	---	---

Industry provide data on fleet composition & captain's daily fishing reports	I	I	I	I	I
--	---	---	---	---	---

¹ bait fishery only, seasons not determined necessary

Key:

- I = implemented
- NI = not implemented
- PA = partially implemented
- PR = proposed

SPANISH MACKEREL

Recommendations	FL	AL	MS	LA	TX
Establish fishing year of April 1 - March 31	I	NI	NI	PA	NA ³
Establish annual TAC consistent with annual stock assessments conducted by NMFS	I	NI	NI	PA	NA ³
Prohibit use of purse seines	I	I	PA	I	I
Gill and trammel nets -- mesh size of 3 1/2" stretch or larger & max. length of 1800'	PA	PA	PA	I	I ¹
Achieve 50-50 balance of allocation between commercial and recreational fisheries		I			NA
Establish minimum size limit (recreational) of 12" fork length (14" total length)	I	NI	I ²	I	I
Establish bag limits (recreational)	I	I	NI	I	I

¹ no nets allowed

² 14" fork length

³ no commercial fishery

Key:

I = implemented

NI = not implemented

PA = partially implemented

PR = proposed

NA = not applicable

BLUE CRAB

Recommendations	FL	AL	MS	LA	TX
Establish fees and permits to identify commercial and/or recreational effort	I	I	I	I	I
Establish minimum carapace width of 5" for hard blue crabs	I	I	I	I	I
Establish a trap identification system	I	PA	I	PR	I
Mandate biodegradeable escape panels	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI

Key:

I = implemented
 NI = not implemented
 PA = partially implemented
 PR = proposed

OYSTER

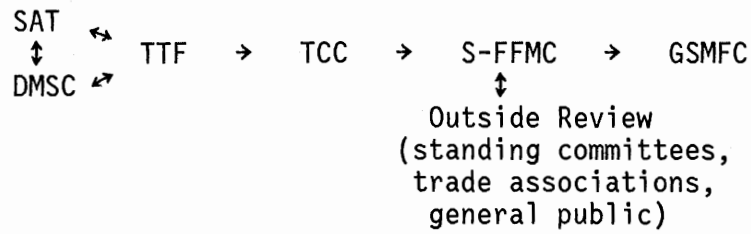
Recommendations	FL	AL	MS	LA	TX
Increase cultch planting	PR	PA	PR	PR	PR
Develop uniform size limits on reefs that are continuous with 2 state's boundaries	I	I	I	I	I
Establish uniform criteria for opening and closing reefs in close proximity to state boundaries	NI	NI	PR	PR	NA ¹
Increase penalties for harvesting and possessing oysters from "polluted" areas		I			I
Establish uniform gear on reefs that are harvested by fishermen from 2 or more states	I	I		NI	NA ¹

¹ such oyster reefs are permanently closed

Key:

I = implemented
 NI = not implemented
 PA = partially implemented
 PR = proposed
 NA = not applicable

FMP Review and Approval Process



Once approved by the GSMFC, plans are recommended to the individual states for consideration of adoption and implementation.

-
- DMSC = Data Management Subcommittee
 - GSMFC = Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - TCC = Technical Coordinating Committee
 - TTF = Technical Task Force
 - SAT = Stock Assessment Team
 - S-FFMC = State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee

STRIPED BASS FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

AMENDMENT 1

published by

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
P.O. Box 726
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PREFACE

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC), through its TCC Anadromous Fish Subcommittee, developed and adopted an interstate fishery management plan (FMP) for striped bass in the Gulf of Mexico in 1986. Subsequently, cooperation among the states and the federal agencies has continued to grow, culminating in the development of a state-federal strategic plan for restoration of anadromous fish resources, primarily striped bass, in the Gulf of Mexico. Implementation of the strategic plan will significantly increase the quality and quantity of data and information regarding striped bass, thus improving restoration and management efforts.

Recognizing the need to assess the GSMFC interstate FMP for striped bass in relation to the current knowledge and understanding of the resource and the fishery, the GSMFC, through its TCC Anadromous Fish Subcommittee, has developed and adopted Amendment 1, contained in this document. Amendment 1 accomplishes three main goals:

- 1) Description and documentation of the administrative mechanism and the development and adoption process for GSMFC interstate FMPs
- 2) Establishment of uniform/compatible regulatory recommendations through which to manage the Gulf of Mexico striped bass fishery
- 3) Establishment of a detailed action plan for research and data collection for management of striped bass.

The numbering system for this document begins with 8.0. This was done to ensure that anyone using this document will recognize that Amendment 1 is intended to replace Section 8.0 in the original FMP document published in 1986. The GSMFC intends to readdress the entire FMP document at a later date.

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8.0 MANAGEMENT GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) was established by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Compact under Public Law 81-66 which was approved by Congress on May 19, 1949. Its charge is to promote the better management and utilization of anadromous and marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico.

The GSMFC is composed of three members from each of the five Gulf States. The head of the marine resource agency of each state, a member of the state legislature from each state, and a private citizen with knowledge of and interest in marine fisheries, who is appointed by the respective governor from each state constitute the fifteen commissioners who make up the primary administrative body of the GSMFC. The offices of chairman and first and second vice-chairman are rotated annually from state to state.

The GSMFC is empowered to recommend to the governor and legislature of the respective states action on programs which will positively impact the management of anadromous and marine fisheries. The states do not relinquish any of their rights or responsibilities to regulate their own fisheries by being active members of the GSMFC.

One of the most important functions of the GSMFC is to serve as a forum for the discussion of the various problems and needs of marine management authorities, the commercial and recreational fisheries industries, researchers and others. The GSMFC also plays a key role in the implementation of interstate fishery management plans (FMP).

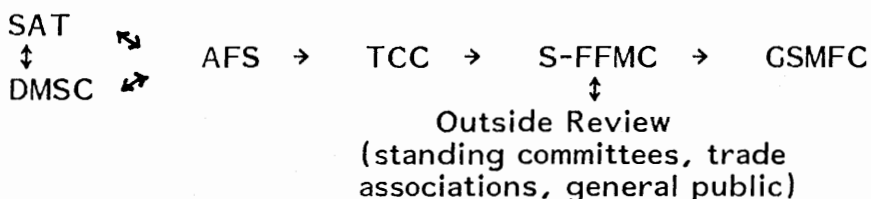
The interstate FMPs are established to: (1) promote and encourage state activities in support of the management of interjurisdictional fishery resources and (2) promote and encourage management of interjurisdictional fishery resources throughout their range. Congress also authorized federal funding to support state research and management projects which are consistent with these purposes.

The GSMFC has initiated a process for the planning, development, and approval of an interstate FMP for striped bass. The interstate FMPs are patterned after those of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. This ensures compatibility in

format and approach to management among states, federal agencies, and the Council.

The GSMFC established that the interstate FMP for striped bass would be developed by its TCC Anadromous Fish Subcommittee (AFS), a panel of experts from each state along with representation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The review and approval process established by the GSMFC is as follows:



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- AFS = Anadromous Fish Subcommittee
 - DMSC = Data Management Subcommittee
 - GSMFC = Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - TCC = Technical Coordinating Committee
 - SAT = Stock Assessment Team
 - S-FFMC = State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee

Upon approval and adoption by the GSMFC, the interstate FMP is recommended to the individual states for their adoption and implementation. Any updates or amendments to the interstate FMP for striped bass are accomplished through the same mechanism.

8.1 GOAL

The goal of this interstate FMP is to restore and maintain striped bass throughout the Gulf of Mexico region, and to establish self-sustaining populations of striped bass in at least ten coastal river systems.

8.2 MANAGEMENT UNIT

The management unit for management under this interstate FMP is striped bass (Morone saxatilis Walbaum).

8.3 MANAGEMENT AREA

The management area for this interstate FMP is the state jurisdictional waters of the Gulf of Mexico region, including the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida (west coast only).

8.4 MANAGEMENT MEASURES

8.4.1 Sale and/or Purchase

It is recommended that the sale and/or purchase of striped bass harvested from public waters be prohibited.

Rationale - It is generally accepted that striped bass populations in the Gulf of Mexico region are in a state of severe decline, and that stocking efforts by the states and federal agencies are primarily responsible for those that occur. It is also thought that the abundance of striped bass in Gulf of Mexico waters is too low to support viable commercial harvest. Market recognition of striped bass in the Gulf of Mexico region is low to non-existent, and commercial harvest of the species has not occurred since the 1930s in Texas and Florida and the 1960s in Alabama. Since current state laws for the Gulf of Mexico territorial sea prohibit the sale and/or purchase of striped bass harvested from public waters, it appears to be counter-productive to restoration goals to encourage the development of a commercial fishery for the species.

8.4.2 Bag Limits and Size Limits

A maximum bag limit of six (6) fish per person per day with a minimum size limit of eighteen (18) inches total length is recommended.

Rationale - While striped bass populations in the Gulf of Mexico are in a severe state of depletion and population recovery efforts are underway, historically anglers have not been severely restricted Gulf-wide from harvesting striped bass. There is a significant lack of data with which to justify appropriate bag and size limits; however, most fisheries managers acknowledge that some harvest restrictions are necessary. Age-length data are not available for striped

bass in the Gulf of Mexico region, and conclusive age-at-maturity data are lacking as well; however it is thought that females do not reach spawning maturity until about four years of age, and males at two years of age. The recommended measure will increase the probability of more fish reaching a larger size, thus increasing the probability of a larger spawning stock, while still allowing some recreational harvest. Though data are not available to specifically support this conclusion, striped bass appear to occur in large aggregations, particularly in the early year classes. This, coupled with the aggressive nature of the species, indicates a high probability that a six fish bag limit would be exceeded once an aggregation of fish were located by an angler. Anecdotal information indicates that individual daily catches of twenty (20) fish are not unusual once an aggregation of fish is located, especially in the warmer months when they aggregate in known thermal refuges. This led the State of Georgia to close the recreational fishery for striped bass during several months in the summer. It is believed that stress related mortality may increase with size thus indicating that fish above eighteen (18) inches may not survive hook and release activity. It is anticipated that study in this area will provide better data with which to address this issue. This size and bag limit recommendation is intended to serve as a general rule for the Gulf of Mexico region. States are encouraged to enact regulations which are more restrictive as appropriate based on the specific needs of the fishery within their jurisdiction. Implementation of the GSMFC strategic plan for restoration of striped bass will increase the quality and quantity of data available to make informed, data-based decisions.

8.4.3 Stocking

To support restoration needs, it is recommended that the states bordering the Gulf of Mexico region participate in the stocking of striped bass fry and/or fingerling in coastal areas on an annual basis, with the goal of ten million fish per year stocked with 500,000 being phase two fingerling.

Rationale - Stocking of striped bass in the Gulf of Mexico has been ongoing for many years. It is thought that occurrence of striped bass in most areas of the Gulf of Mexico region is attributable to stocking efforts. In an effort to enhance the probability of achieving restoration goals, stocking must continue. The

GSMFC publication entitled "Habitat Criteria for Striped Bass Stocked in Rivers in the Northern Gulf of Mexico" will provide guidance for those habitat parameters necessary to enhance survival potential of stocked fish. Other factors affecting rearing, handling, transport, and stocking of striped bass will be addressed as a part of the GSMFC strategic plan for restoration of striped bass. A document setting forth guidelines and standard practices for handling, transport, and stocking of striped bass will be developed and implemented in separate action by the GSMFC.

8.5 RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT:

8.5.1 Fishery Dependent Data

Creel census data for striped bass along Gulf of Mexico river basins are limited, inconsistent, and not species directed. As striped bass restoration efforts increase across the region, a quantitative and standardized creel census program will be critical to the realization of goals/objectives and to measure progress.

8.5.1.1 Objective

Develop and implement a standardized creel census program for striped bass in selected Gulf of Mexico river basins.

8.5.1.2 Tasks

1. Select Creel Census Design

Each state should identify and prioritize river basins for creel census surveys with ongoing striped bass restoration projects. Survey design should include annual/peak season estimates for harvest, effort, success, species composition, age structure, growth, recapture data for tagging projects and socio-economics of fisherman.

- Product: sampling design

2. Implement Standardized Creel Census Programs

Creel surveys will provide fisheries data for a region- wide database which will be utilized to measure striped bass restoration and management efforts in selected river basins throughout the Gulf of Mexico.

- Product: Regional database for monitoring restoration efforts and future management programs.

3. Data Analysis and Reporting

Data will be summarized and statistically analyzed to provide annual/peak season estimates for striped bass harvest, effort, and success in selected river basins.

- Product: Annual and Completion Reports

8.5.2 Fishery Independent Data

There is a lack of a standardized fishery independent sampling program for striped bass along the coastal Gulf of Mexico. Such a sampling program should address age structure, condition, size of stock, and genetic composition of striped bass stocks. Additional information to evaluate survival, growth, and harvest of both stocked and naturally produced striped bass will be obtained. Present striped bass sampling by states across the Gulf is being conducted at various levels of effort. This Gulf-wide independent sampling program will allow states to both increase sampling effort and to use standardized procedures in documenting striped bass populations and recovery actions.

8.5.2.1 Objective

Evaluate striped bass age structure, condition, size of stock, and genetic composition in selected river and bay systems along the Gulf of Mexico.

8.5.2.2 Tasks

1. Select Sampling Design

A standardized sampling program will provide information on age structure, condition, stock size, and genetic composition of striped bass in selected river basins.

- Product: Sampling design

2. Implement Standardize Fishery Independent Sampling Program

Data resulting from the standardized fishery independent survey will provide fishery managers with the necessary information from which to make decisions regarding the restoration and maintenance of striped bass populations.

- Product: Data base

3. Analyze Data and Compile Report

Data will be summarized and statistically analyzed to provide fishery independent information annually.

- Product: Annual and completion reports

8.5.3 Tagging

A Gulf-wide, coordinated tagging program is presently lacking for both juvenile and adult striped bass. Such a program would provide critical information on distribution and movement patterns, as well as growth and other information necessary for proper management of the species.

8.5.3.1 Objective

Develop and coordinate a system of tagging and rewards for all Gulf states which would be ongoing and would provide information vital to a plan for management.

8.5.3.2 Tasks

1. Summarize Status and Coordination of Existing Tagging Programs
Most Gulf states are tagging juvenile striped bass, but specifics of these programs are not well known from state to state. Description and coordination of these programs as well as dissemination of gained information will be summarized.
- Product: Summary Report
2. Develop and Coordinate a Gulf-wide Tagging Program for Juvenile and Adult Striped Bass
Use success and failure rate information from past and current tagging studies as criteria in establishing a Gulf-wide program.
- Product: Data Base
3. Summarize Tag-Return Data and Publish in Annual and Summary Reports
Analysis of tagging results should produce insights on strategy options especially concerning species management by geographic units.
- Product: Annual Report, Summary Report

8.5.4 Thermal Habitat

Striped bass adults seek out cool water areas (thermal refuges) during warmer months and remain in them until water temperatures moderate. The size and location of thermal refuges in selected river basins are not known. This information would assist resource managers to 1) determine if sufficient thermal refuges are present to sustain populations, and 2) help prevent the loss of this critical habitat through changes caused by water control projects.

8.5.4.1 Objective

To identify and describe thermal refuges on selected river basins in the Gulf of Mexico region.

8.5.4.2 Tasks

1. Determine the Best Methods to Identify and Describe Thermal Refuges

A review of previous studies and investigation of additional methods will be accomplished. Investigative techniques for selected river basins will be developed.

- Product: Summary Report and Recommendations

2. Data Collection

The recommendations in Task 1 will be carried out on selected river basins by the appropriate government agencies.

- Product: Database

3. Data Analysis and Reporting

Data will be analyzed to accomplish activity objectives. Summary and annual reports will detail the results of the activities and provide recommendations for enhancing and protecting thermal habitat.

- Product: Annual Reports and a Summary Report

8.5.5 Spawning Habitat

All Gulf of Mexico states have either proof or strong indications of natural striped bass spawning. However, the identification and protection of spawning habitat is lacking. These actions are critical toward the restoration of striped bass.

8.5.5.1 Objective

To identify and quantify the spawning habitat in selected river basins in the Gulf of Mexico region.

8.5.5.2 Tasks

1. Determine the Best Methods to Identify and Quantify Spawning Habitat

A review the literature will be conducted which will assist in the formulation of appropriate investigative techniques to identify and quantify the spawning habitat for selected river basins.

- Product: Summary Report and Recommended Study Design

2. Data Collection

The recommendations made in Task 1 will be carried out on selected river basins by the appropriate government agencies.

- Product: Data Base

3. Data Analysis and Reporting

Data will be analyzed to accomplish activity objectives. Summary and annual reports will detail the results of activities and provide recommendations for enhancing and protecting spawning habitat.

- Product: Annual Report and a Summary Report

8.5.6 Nursery Habitat

If striped bass are successful in spawning, nursery habitats become critical. Identifying, protecting, and enhancing these areas is a critical step in restoring striped bass.

8.5.6.1 Objective

Identify and quantify nursery habitats in selected river basins in the Gulf of Mexico region.

8.5.6.2 Tasks

1. Determine the Best Methods to Identify and Quantify Nursery Habitat
A review of the literature will be conducted which will assist in the formulation of appropriate investigative techniques to identify and quantify the nursery habitat for selected river basins.
- Product: Summary Report and Recommendations

2. Data Collection Phase of Research Project
The recommendations made in Task 1 will be carried out on selected river basins by the appropriate government agencies.
- Product: Data base

3. Data Analysis and Reporting
Data will be analyzed to accomplish activity objectives. Summary and annual reports will detail the results of activities and provide recommendations for enhancing and protecting nursery habitat.
- Product: Annual Reports and a Summary Report

8.5.7 Habitat Assessment

Activities under 8.5.4, 8.5.5, and 8.5.6 will identify and quantify three habitats that may potentially limit the population of striped bass in individual river basins. Activities under Section 8.5.8 will compare these habitats and determine the limiting habitat in selected river basins. With this information, managers can identify existing and potential habitat degradation and loss threats to striped bass populations.

8.5.7.1 Objective

Identify limiting habitats for selected river basins and identify existing and potential habitat degradation and loss threats.

8.5.7.2 Tasks

1. Identify Limiting Habitat For Selected River Basins

Information on thermal refuges and spawning and nursery habitats on selected river basins, gained through Tasks 8.5.4, 8.5.5, and 8.5.6 will be compared. The results of that effort will indicate which of the identified habitats (if any) is limiting to the success of striped bass populations.

- Product: A Report Identifying Limiting Habitat Areas

2. Notify Appropriate Agencies as to the Importance of Limiting Habitats

Each state has several agencies, both state and federal, which review projects that may adversely affect striped bass habitat. When it is determined that a particular habitat area along selected rivers is critical to striped bass populations, the information should be relayed to the appropriate agencies. Projects in river basins should be reviewed to determine if they will adversely impact critical striped bass habitats.

- Product: Letters of Notification and Distribution of Report

8.5.8 Fish Stocking Strategies

Optimum stocking strategies are needed to economically facilitate the successful reestablishment of striped bass in various aquatic habitats along the Gulf of Mexico. Standardized stocking strategies must be developed for selected river basins and other management units throughout the historical range of striped bass in the Gulf of Mexico.

8.5.8.1 Objective

By 1994, prepare striped bass stocking protocols and standards for implementation by state fishery agencies and federal cooperators to restore and/or maintain striped bass populations in selected river basins and other management units throughout their historical range along the Gulf of Mexico.

- A. Biological Standards for Stocked Striped Bass
- Genetic composition
 - Body condition
 - Length at stocking
 - Stocking frequency
 - Stocking density
 - Time of year stocked
 - Expected mortality rates by size of stocked fish
- B. Standards for Stocking Striped Bass
- Harvest from aquaculture facilities
 - Timeliness
 - Scheduling
 - Transportation/stocking
 - Time of day stocked
 - Characteristics of hauling/receiving waters (salinity, hauling time, conductivity, treatment, oxygen, temperature, pH)
 - Location of stocking (open water, vegetated water; lentic, lotic environments)
 - Techniques for physically handling fish as they are stocked
- C. Habitat Standards and Characteristics of Receiving Waters
- Physical and chemical characteristics
 - Contaminants
 - Water flow
 - Thermal requirements
 - Food availability
- D. Methods of Measuring Stocking Success or Failure
- Growth/reproduction
 - Catch (hours, pounds, numbers)
 - Impact on existing aquatic community

8.5.8.2 Tasks

1. Review of Scientific Literature
Conduct a review of scientific literature and a survey of the Gulf of Mexico state fishery agencies and cooperating federal agencies to determine desired and limiting standards and practices used to insure that healthy striped bass are stocked into suitable habitats.
- Product: Data Base/Preliminary Report
2. Develop Stocking Guidelines
Analyze data and prepare draft guidelines that provide the desired and limiting practices and standards necessary to insure that healthy striped bass are stocked into suitable habitats.
- Product: Draft Guidelines
3. Develop Stocking Principles and Standards
Publish a technical report on striped bass stocking principles and standards to assist state fishery agencies and federal cooperators in achieving conservation and management goals for restoring and maintaining striped bass populations. The publication will include stocking strategies and guidelines.
- Product: Published Guidelines for Stocking Striped Bass in Selected Areas of the Gulf of Mexico
4. Annual Review of Stocking Guidelines
Annually revise the striped bass stocking guidelines by conducting surveys of new scientific literature and by analyzing stocking results. Modifications necessary to facilitate the cooperative striped bass restoration program will be documented.
- Product: Technical Report
5. Survey of Hatchery and Brood Fish Production Capabilities
Develop and implement a survey to determine current and potential hatchery and brood fish production capabilities of state and federal facilities.

- Product: Summary Report

8.5.9 Habitat Restoration

The Water Resources Act of 1986 authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to pursue environmental enhancement projects in conjunction with existing federal water projects. In addition, the Corps has recently issued a policy directive to provide for coordination with appropriate state and other federal agencies to develop environmental projects which would mitigate, enhance, or replace fish and wildlife habitats that have been altered or destroyed by existing federal water development projects.

8.5.9.1 Objective

Design and pursue implementation of habitat improvement/creation projects on selected rivers along the Gulf. The projects would mitigate and/or enhance anadromous fish habitats altered by federal water development projects.

8.5.9.2 Tasks

1. Identify Ongoing Corps Projects

A request will be made of each Corps District Office in the Gulf of Mexico region to provide information on ongoing initiatives relative to new environmental policies within the Corps.

- Product: Report

2. Select and Prioritize Potential Sites for Habitat Improvement/Creation Projects

The states and federal cooperators will be asked to identify potential habitat improvement/creation projects which will be prioritized and recommended to the Corps for implementation.

- Product: Report and Recommendations to the Corps

3. Implement the Highest Priority Projects

The states and federal cooperators will assist the Corps in implementing and monitoring the highest priority projects for which funding can be secured.

- Product: Report on Habitat Improvement/Creation Projects

8.5.10 Species Competition

Species competition of striped bass and associated finfish species is not well understood. As the density of striped bass increases in any given river basin, the potential for competition with other fish species increases.

8.5.10.1 Objective

Evaluate species competition on selected river basins in the Gulf of Mexico region.

8.5.10.2 Tasks

1. Evaluate Existing Data and Identify Potential Problems

Existing information will be used to establish potential problems regarding species competition.

- Product: Accomplished under 8.5.1

2. Develop Special Studies as Needed

Information from existing programs and 8.5.1 will be monitored by the GSMFC TCC Anadromous Fish Subcommittee to determine if problems related to competition may exist. Special studies will then be designed and implemented to address such problems.

- Product: Special Report

8.5.11 Bycatch

Incidental harvest (bycatch) of striped bass associated with other directed fisheries is not documented or well understood.

8.5.11.1 Objective

Design and implement a study to assess the magnitude and impact of the incidental harvest of striped bass on selected river basins in the Gulf of Mexico.

8.5.11.2 Tasks

1. Assess the Magnitude of Bycatch

Through activities related to Sections 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.5.3, and other sources, assess the frequency and magnitude of the incidental catch (bycatch) of striped bass in other directed fisheries.

- Product: Special Report

8.5.12 Information and Education Program

Information and education programs are not coordinated across the Gulf of Mexico. Moreover, those that do exist are not aimed at anadromous fisheries. Anadromous fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico have severely declined in past years, therefore, general public awareness of those foregone fishing opportunities and problems which exist is lacking.

8.5.12.1 Objective

Develop and implement a Gulf-wide coordinated information and education program element for striped bass and other anadromous fish species in cooperation with existing programs.

8.5.12.2 Tasks

1. Inventory and Profile All Existing Information and Education Programs, Both on the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts

Each state and most federal agencies have existing information and education programs. An inventory and profile of these programs would identify the most efficient mechanism by which to introduce anadromous fish program information into the current system.

- Product: Report

2. Improve Communication and Coordination Through Periodic Newsletter Production and Distribution

Of vital importance to the success of any multidisciplinary/multiagency program is an effective mechanism for communication and coordination. The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission will serve to coordinate activities and will maintain effective communication through the development and distribution of a newsletter specific to the program.

- Product: Periodic Newsletter

3. Development and Production of Educational and Promotional Materials

The success of any fishery restoration effort is dependent upon public awareness of not only the fish populations themselves but also the importance of state and federal involvement through development and implementation of management actions. Compliance with catch restrictions must be high in order to produce positive results.

- Product: Brochures, Posters, Radio Spots, and Videos

8.5.13 Coordinated Management Strategies

The five Gulf states have used stocking and regulations for striped bass management since the late 1960s. These states also periodically have conducted various population and habitat studies to evaluate management practices and find additional ways to enhance striped bass restoration. Despite mutual concerns, management strategies differ and coordinated approaches are limited.

8.5.13.1 Objective

To identify, prioritize, and coordinate management strategies for striped bass in the Gulf coast region.

8.5.13.2 Tasks

1. Hold Annual Workshop to Document Progress and Identify Future Needs and Amend Annual Work Plan

All Gulf states have ongoing management and field research projects. An annual workshop will permit key workers to meet, exchange information, collate interim results, and make adjustments in activities as needed.

- Product: Progress Reports

2. Develop Recommendations for Management Actions

All identified activities will, in addition to providing new information, provide a means of continued evaluation of ongoing management by the states. All information will be used to develop management recommendations for specific coastal river systems. Because it usually takes a number of years before the effects of a management action can be detected and measured, management recommendations will include plans for evaluation in ensuing years.

- Product: Report - Management Plan

8.5.14 Program Coordination

Any multistate/multiagency program must have formal provisions for coordination of the various activities which will be ongoing.

8.5.14.1 Objective

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission will provide the vehicle through which coordination of the Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan will be accomplished.

8.5.14.2 Tasks

1. Meeting Logistics, Travel, and Information Coordination

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission will coordinate meeting logistics and planning, travel, and information production and distribution related to implementation of the Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan.

- Product: Meeting Minutes, Proceedings, and Reports

2. Coordination With Other Agencies

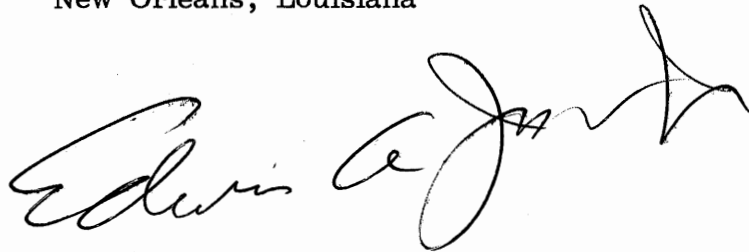
The state-federal cooperative program funds will be administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Southeast Regional Office of the National Marine Fisheries Service will also cooperate regarding planning and implementation of tasks.

- Product: Annual Report on Coordination Activities within NMFS

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 16, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin A. Jant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "E" and a long, sweeping tail.

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, October 16, 1991
New Orleans, LA

Chairman Ed Joyce called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The following members and others were present:

Members

Tom Van Devender, BMR, Biloxi, MS
Tom McIlwain, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Alan Huff (proxy for K. Steidinger), FDNR, St. Petersburg, FL
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Corky Perret, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Karen Foote (proxy for B. Barrett), LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Walter Tatum, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Vernon Minton, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Ralph Rayburn(proxy for C. E. Bryan), TPWD, Austin, TX
Hal Osburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
John Brown (proxy for J. Pulliam), USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Albert Jones (proxy for B. Brown), NMFS, Miami, FL

Staff

Larry Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
David Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator

Others

Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Dan Furlong, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lee Green, TPWD, Rockport, TX
Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Conrad Fjetland, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
Charles Eleuterius, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Gail Carmody, USFWS, Panama City, FL
Leroy Kiffe, GSMFC, Lockport, LA
Doug Fruge, USFWS, Ocean Springs, MS
Ginny Vail, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
Eldon Levi, NMFS, Gulf Breeze, FL
Joseph Smith, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
John Merriner, NMFS, Beaufort, NC
Nancy Rabalais, LUMCON, Cocodrie, LA

Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved as presented. The minutes of the meeting held April 17, 1991 in Galveston, Texas were approved.

Status Report on Controlled Freshwater Introduction into Louisiana and Mississippi Marshes

D. Etzold reported on the status of several freshwater diversion projects. He stated the National Environmental Leadership Conference was held June 3-5 in Washington, D.C. The main goal of the conference was to discuss ways to initiate and implement projects to improve the environment. He reported that the Caenarvon project was formally dedicated on April 12, 1991 and is fully operational. He reported the Bonne Carre project is currently on hold. He stated that a law has been passed which appropriated funding (\$64K) for the project. The federal government and the state of Mississippi are ready to continue the project but Louisiana has some concerns pertaining to the project.

Status of TEDs and FEDs

D. Furlong reported that NMFS has had a dual focus regarding TEDs. The principal one being the compliance effort in terms of NMFS enforcement personnel working with the Coast Guard and the States. The other focus has dealt with the shrimp embargo legislation which ensures that exporters have conservation programs equivalent to those programs the shrimp industry has in the U.S. He stated that TED workshops and lost gear trials have been conducted to determine the effect of TEDs on shrimp catch but it is difficult to draw conclusions since the database is so small. He stated that TEDs not certified could be used under experimental conditions to test new designs. He reported that the new regulations for enforcement and conservation of TEDs have stalled at the Washington, D.C. level.

D. Furlong also addressed the issue of FEDs which are now referred to as bycatch reduction devices (BYRDs). He stated that the reauthorization of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation Act charged NMFS to develop a program to identify stocks which are subjected to the significant incidental harvest from the shrimping industry. He reported that NMFS is working on defining bycatch composition, updating the bycatch estimates, identifying stocks impacted by incidental harvest, developing and evaluating BYRDs, evaluating the biological and economic impact of BYRDs and developing an educational program. He stated a major problem is the lack of available data. He reported that an onboard observer program is being developed to increase the available data. However, an obstacle encountered is the stigma of trying to solve a problem that could

adversely affect the industry. He stated that NMFS with the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation is in the process of developing a data collection program.

Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resources Agreement (MICRA)

* R. Lukens reported that MICRA is a program which is targeting the Mississippi River drainage system since there are a number of shared fishery resources in the Mississippi River. He stated that historically the Mississippi River has been ignored as a resource and MICRA is attempting to develop a strategic plan which the GSMFC has been asked to support. MICRA is essentially an umbrella organization for the smaller coordinating organization throughout the Mississippi River system. C. Perret moved that the TCC support MICRA and that a letter be drafted inviting a representative from MICRA to attend the next meeting to explain the program.

Status Report on the Fisheries Leadership Forum

C. Perret reported that the Fisheries Leadership Forum was held in Snowbird, Utah. He stated that it was attended by personnel from all the Gulf States, the Regional Councils, Canada, and a variety of other areas. He reported the forum was divided into three areas: long-term, short-term and visionary. L. Simpson added that the forum was sponsored by the Fisheries Administration Section of the American Fisheries Society. He stated the forum did not provide specific useable ideas but served a purpose of sharing and describing the problems and issues for fresh and saltwater as well as regional outlook.

Discussion of EPA's Gulf of Mexico Program Overenrichment Study

N. Rabalais reported that the nutrient enrichment technical committee is one of several committees of the EPA Gulf of Mexico Program. She stated the nutrient enrichment is a problem in the Gulf of Mexico and the committee was charged with updating the status and trends of eutrophication of the Gulf of Mexico. For the report, she stated that the focus was on levels of dissolved oxygen and areas considered to be hypoxic had level of < 2ml of dissolved oxygen. She reported that the Mississippi River is the dominate inflow of freshwater into the Gulf of Mexico. She stated that over the years, the suspended load has

decreased, which increases the water transparency in the Mississippi River Plume. She reported that nitrate levels have increased, silicate levels have decreased and there were no findings for the phosphate levels. She stated that all these levels can influence the phytoplankton production which can effect hypoxic areas. She stated that hypoxic areas affect the resources by several ways such as direct mortality, migration of organisms out of the area and stress to organisms which can make them more susceptible to predation. She reported that a status matrix of bay systems in the Gulf of Mexico was developed. This matrix outlined the various levels of nutrients in major estuaries in the Gulf and determined the status of each estuary.

Subcommittee Reports

(1) Recreational Fisheries Management - Virginia Vail, Chairperson

* V. Vail reported that the subcommittee met last May. The subcommittee discussed a resolution for the use of incinerator ash in construction of artificial reefs (attached). V. Vail moved on behalf of the subcommittee to accept a resolution requesting the EPA to develop standards and guidelines for the use of incinerator ash for artificial reefs. W. Tatum amended the motion to include a statement for rapid development of guidelines and give the GSMFC staff editorial license to amend the resolution. The motion was passed unanimously. R. Rayburn moved to charge the Recreational Fisheries Management Subcommittee to develop guidelines for the use of incinerator ash. The motion passed unanimously.

(2) SEAMAP - Walter Tatum, Chairman

* W. Tatum reported that the SEAMAP Subcommittee addressed several topics at their last meeting. W. Tatum moved on behalf of the subcommittee to ask the TCC to request TSA to provide data that demonstrates that SEAMAP real-time data causes pulse fishing. The motion passed unanimously. W. Tatum moved on behalf of the subcommittee that the 1991 Fall Plankton Cruise samples go to the Atlantic Reference Center (ARC) for processing. The motion passed unanimously. W. Tatum moved on behalf of the subcommittee that funding for ARC will be that portion of the SEAMAP-Gulf that is diverted from the Polish Sorting Center (PSC). The motion passed unanimously. W. Tatum moved on behalf of the subcommittee that

SEAMAP proceed with the Cooperative Reefish Research Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

(3) Anadromous - Vernon Minton, Chairman

* V. Minton reported that the subcommittee discussed the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. V. Minton moved on behalf of the subcommittee to accept option 1 of Amendment 1 to the Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan. An amendment was made to the motion which added the following wording to option 1 "or limits as dictated by the conditions of the stock in the state as determined by the respective personnel in a state agency. The amended motion passed with Alabama, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service voting against. V. Minton moved on behalf of the subcommittee to send the Amendment to the S-FFMC for their consideration. The motion passed with Alabama, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service voting against. V. Minton reported that Alan Huff was elected chairman.

(4) Data Management - Skip Lazauski, Chairman

S. Lazauski reported the subcommittee discussed the memorandum of agreement regarding the confidentiality provisions of commercial data collection programs. S. Lazauski moved on behalf of the subcommittee to transmit the oversight of this memorandum of agreement to the S-FFMC. The motion passed unanimously. S. Lazauski reported that he was reelected chairman.

(5) Crab - Harriet Perry, Chairperson

R. Leard reported for H. Perry that the subcommittee had no action items. He stated the subcommittee discussed the revision of the blue crab plan and the profile on Mennippe. He reported that H. Perry was reelected chairman.

(6) Habitat - Larry Lewis, Chairman

R. Leard reported for L. Lewis that the subcommittee reviewed habitat work for each state. He stated the two major issues discussed were wetlands and aquaculture. He stated that a discussion of the wetland delineation manual occurred and the subcommittee wanted some direction from the TCC concerning this issue. He reported that states discussed their guidelines for aquaculture and

the possibility of conducting a habitat workshop. He reported that the subcommittee supported the effort of symposium regarding introduction of exotic species but needed an update from Aaron Rosenfield concerning the progress of the conference. He reported that L. Lewis was reelected chairman.

Election of Officers

Ed Joyce was reelected chairman and Corky Perret was reelected vice chairman of the TCC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Leroy Giff

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, October 17/Friday, October 18, 1991
New Orleans, Louisiana

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, October 17, 1991

New Orleans, Louisiana

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am by Chairman Don Duden. He requested the Executive Director to call roll and review pertinent rules and regulations regarding the appropriate meeting procedures.

L. Simpson established a quorum. The following Commissioners and/or proxies were present:

Members

Rudy Rosen	TX
Charlie Belair	TX
Tom Van Devender	MS
Tommy A. Gollott	MS
Paul Delcambre	MS
Don Duden	FL
Sam Mitchell	FL
A. Kell McInnis, III	LA
Leroy Kiffe	LA
Vernon Minton	AL
Chris Nelson	AL

Other persons attending were:

Staff

Larry B. Simpson, Executive Director
Ron Lukens, Assistant Director
Ginny Herring, Executive Assistant
Richard Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Dave Donaldson, SEAMAP Program Coordinator
Lucia Hourihan, Publication Specialist

Other

Ralph Rayburn, TPWD, Austin, TX
Ed Joyce, FDNR, Tallahassee, FL
David Pritchard, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
John Brown, USFWS, Atlanta, GA
Conrad Fjetland, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
Peter Hoar, G&SAFDF, Inc., Tampa, FL
Rusty Savoie, Congressman Tauzin, Wash., D.C.
Jerald K. Waller, ADCNR/MRD, Dauphin Island, AL
Corky Perret, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
Gail Carmody, USFWS, Panama City, FL
Doug Fruge, USFWS, Ocean Springs, MS
Dan Furlong, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Roy O. Williams, FMFC, Tallahassee, FL

L. Simpson reviewed voting procedure. Voting is by individual Commissioner. If there is a question about the vote each state delegation shall

COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING
MINUTES
PAGE -2-

cast one vote. If only two Commissioners are present from a state, they must agree or their votes will offset each other. If only one Commissioner from a state is present their vote shall represent the state.

L. Simpson briefed the Commissioners on procedures for closed meetings and changes to rules and regulations. Changes to the Commissions Rules and Regulations may be made at any meeting provided due notice has been given in the call for the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes for the April 18, 1991 meeting held in Galveston, Texas were approved as presented.

NMFS Southeast Regional Office Report

Dan Furlong, Deputy Regional Director, NMFS Southeast Regional Office reported on NMFS efforts on a national and regional level. The four major areas of effort are: rebuild U.S. fisheries; protected species; habitat; and, seafood safety. He reported that the current administration is supportive of NMFS efforts as reflected by the FY92 budget of \$226 million, a \$14 million increase over FY91. Other major concerns in the Regional Office deal with the bycatch issue.

USFWS Region 4 Report

John Brown reported on the establishment of a USFWS office in Ocean Springs, MS. He introduced Doug Fruge, Gulf Coast Fisheries Coordinator, Ocean Springs, MS. Mr. Fruge's office will work closely with all regional coordinators on joint efforts dealing with anadromous fish, sturgeon and striped bass. Mr. Brown expressed appreciation for assistance from the GSMFC staff in establishing the new USFWS office. Also introduced was Gail Carmody, Field Supervisor, Panama City, FL. Ms. Carmody will work with cooperative state-federal fisheries efforts. He reported that the USFWS budget has been approved in both houses and

is currently in conference. He pointed out that the budget did not include anadromous fish grants to the states. Although there is an outside chance that these grants may be restored in conference, it appears doubtful and Mr. Brown reported that efforts are underway to have anadromous grants replaced in the FY93 budget.

Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Report

E. Joyce reported that the TCC met on Wednesday, October 15, 1991. Items discussed included the status of controlled freshwater diversion structures, various subcommittee reports and discussions on TEDs and FEDs and EPA's Gulf of Mexico Program Overenrichment Study.

Other items discussed involved a TCC recommendation. On behalf of the TCC Recreational Fisheries Management Subcommittee E. Joyce requested that the Commissioners adopt a resolution on the use of combustion/incineration ash for artificial reef construction. The resolution request that the EPA develop and adopt standards for the use of combustion/incineration ash products. S. Mitchell motioned to approve the resolution (attached) and to distribute the resolution to the appropriate agencies. V. Minton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) Report

J. Waller reported that the LEC met on Wednesday, October 16, 1991. He reported that Suzanne Montero and Morris Pallozi, NMFS, outlined requirements of the states before they can share in forfeitures/fines under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Other LEC business involved a proposal from the Blackford Company for publication of the State Laws/Regulations Summary. J. Waller stated that after review the LEC recommended that the Commissioners approve the proposal. No action was taken at this time since the proposal was listed on the agenda later in the day.

Commercial Fisheries Advisory Committee (CFAC)

L. Simpson reported that the CFAC met on Wednesday, October 16, 1991. A quorum was not established. The committee is still in its organizational stages.

Discussion centered on ways to increase participation. The group present would like a more open forum with invitations extended to associations and other interested parties to participate and discuss relevant issues. C. Nelson suggested a wider distribution of the agenda prior to the meeting.

Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee (RFAC)

R. Lukens reported that the RFAC met on Tuesday, October 15, 1991. A quorum was not established. Of the three members present it was decided that they would come to the GSMFC office in Ocean Springs to discuss why members are not participating. Perhaps through written and telephone communications a solution to the lack of participation can be resolved.

State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee (S-FFMC)

L. Simpson reported that the S-FFMC met on Wednesday, October 16, 1991. Topics discussed included a review of GSMFC Stock Assessment Team action; progress on the Black Drum and Striped Mullet FMP; a report from the Menhaden Advisory Committee; review of IJF plan implementation matrix; status of a stock assessment training workshop; and, Amendment 1 to Striped Bass FMP.

An item requiring action was a revision to the IJF Plan Approval Process. The revision includes the Stock Assessment Team in the overall process.

* C. Belaire motioned to approve the revision as presented. T. Van Devender seconded. The motion carried.

A major topic of discussion was the need for more uniform regulations among the Gulf States if no biological reason for differences exist. A starting point will include a meeting between appropriate Mississippi and Louisiana personnel to address particular inconsistencies in red drum and spotted seatrout regulations. In addition, the Commission will set up a meeting with appropriate representatives from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, NMFS, enforcement personnel and the Gulf Council, to discuss inconsistencies in regulations regarding red drum, spotted seatrout, cobia, king mackerel, and Spanish mackerel.

R. Rosen and R. Williams briefed the Commissioners on a discussion of a recent federal court judgement striking down certain landing provisions of Florida law pertaining to Spanish mackerel. They reported other possible

implications of this action on other fisheries and states laws. They explained that under the interpretation, whenever a federal FMP is adopted, any and all state laws are superseded by the plan and sole management of that particular fishery lies with the federal government. They see this problem not as commercial versus recreational, but as State laws versus Federal laws.

It was noted that Florida was appealing the decision and other states and organizations were joining in the appeal by filing Amicus curiae briefs. R. Rosen and R. Williams advised the Gulf States to also file a brief if they deem it appropriate.

Report on Bycatch Issue

D. Furlong reported that bycatch was of major importance to NMFS and that funds had been made available for research. P. Hoar, Gulf & South Atlantic Research Foundation, Inc. reported on a federally funded project to address this research. The Foundation is approaching the research cooperatively with the their role being an educational one with a goal of integrating the interest of the industry with other major concerns. A steering committee has been established. Membership on this committee included association directors, state and federal government representatives, including the GSMFC Executive Director and the Gulf Coast Conservation Association. A research plan will be developed that will include management methods; gear management; socio-economic affects; and, information and education. A technical review panel consisting of 12 members with objective expertise will look at socio-economics, population dynamics, biology, gear modification and educational effort. P. Hoar anticipates that the research plan will be complete by the end of January 1992. Although progress is being made, he does anticipate that problems may occur due to extreme points of view. The Foundation is currently addressing a problem regarding the definition of a standard net. NMFS has determined that a standard net has to have a certified TED. The Foundation is trying to determine if any flexibility exist. Other problems include funding and timing as it relates to TED rules and regulations.

C. Nelson asked what the Foundation role was in regards to the Magnusom Act. P. Hoar stated that the need for bycatch research was an important one and

that the Foundation felt that a cooperative effort was critical to insure that industry and liaison organizations were involved and not just polilitics. There was a brief discussion regarding the necessity to gather information with nets equipped with TEDS versus nets without TEDS. P. Hoar explained that industry believes that a reduction has already been achieved and that industry should get credit for this reduction.

T. Van Devender, MS Bureau of Marine Resources reported that a two year study is currently being conducted by the State of Mississippi in areas that fish survival might be affected. This is fishery independent data. He also noted that salt boxes have been banned in an attempt to steer shrimping efforts away from areas with small fish.

V. Minton, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources reported that Alabama was doing similar research. Results so far have not been encouraging. He stated that preliminary test show that fish have a higher survival level in salt boxes up to certain concentrations. Alabama has currently repealed regulations banning their use but continue to do test.

R. Williams, Florida Marine Fisheries Commission has received funds to begin a study. Information regarding the study should be available in the Spring of 1993. The Commission is committed to a 50% reduction in bycatch. Florida has also banned the use of salt boxes.

R. Rayburn, Texas Parks and Wildlife reported that they are identifying what species are being impacted by bycatch. He anticipates industry involvement in bycatch research in the State of Texas.

Report on Pipeline Safety Legislation

Rusty Savoie from Congressman Tauzin's office briefed the Commissioners on the history of legislation dealing with pipeline safety. Because of serious accidents involving loss of life regulations were re-examined. P.L. 101-599 requires all Gulf of Mexico natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines in waters of 15 feet or less to be inspected by the pipeline operator to determine if the line is properly buried. This requirement is the first such pipeline safety law that considers the concern for the safety of other users of the waterways. P. L. 101-599 will be expanded to include the Pacific and Atlantic coasts in this

years reauthorization. Other legislation being addressed includes requirements for better oversight by the federal government of underwater abandoned pipelines. This problem is being addressed by Congressman Tauzin in his amendment to H.R. 1489. Senator Breaux is offering a companion bill, S.1583. R. Savoie stated that the industry must be able to utilize our nation's waterways without fear of explosion or harm caused by other industries in the area.

Report on Federal Wetlands Legislation

R. Savoie briefed the Commissioners on recent efforts by Congressmen Tauzin and Hayes. They have introduced legislation, H.R. 1330, the "Comprehensive Wetlands Conservation and Management Act of 1991" that would grant priority status to properly identified wetlands and allow for limited use of lands falling into type "B" or type "C" categories. Thus, wetlands which do have a direct benefit to the local marine life would receive the full protection of the federal government, however, falsely identified wetlands would no longer have such unsupported restrictions. In addition this legislation would have the federal government agree to compensate land owners if his land is designated as a wetland. H.R. 1330 has been referred to the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and the Public Works and Transportation Committee. Hearings are currently being held. R. Savoie will continue to keep the Commissioners and staff aware of actions being taken.

Discussion of Coast Guard Form to Carry Fuel

Lt. Cmdr. Phil Wieczynski, U.S. Coast Guard, Eight District discussed the requirements of a Declaration of Inspection (DOI) form. It is required when there is a transfer of oil to, from, or within any vessel with a capacity of 250 or more barrels of that oil. He reported that as of September 15, 1991, Bob Lynch was the new Safety Vessel Fishing Coordinator for the region.

L. Kiffe pointed out that the form was duplicative since both the vessel and the dock were required to fill it out. He asked if it were possible to waive the vessel requirement. He does not see the importance of the vessel size. He questioned the the use of a DOI when a vessel does not utilize its full capacity. Lt. Cmdr. Wieczynski stated that the DOI was in support of pollution reducing

legislation and therefore the form would not be eliminated.

L. Kiffe felt the requirement to fill out the form and hold it for one month, then throw it away was a paperwork burden that was just unnecessary. He noted that the majority of fuel spills were small quantities and from vessels which are not required to fill out a DOI.

L. Simpson questioned the need to keep the form for a period of one month. He asked if citations were being written. Lt. Cmdr. Wieczynski said no citations had been written. L. Simpson also asked who the DOI was designed to target and if the Coast Guard had been aware that the shrimp industry would be affected when the DOI was implemented. Lt. Cmdr. Wieczynski reported that the DOI was intended for anyone who transferred oil in bulk and that the shrimp industry was taken into consideration when the DOI was designed. He further stated that 4,000 spills had occurred in this region and that two spills exceeded 100,000 gallons.

Discussion of State Actions with regard to implementation of Interstate Fishery Management Plans

R. Leard reported that at the Commissioners request he had developed a method to monitor the implementation of FMPs in the Gulf by using a simple matrix form. By using this procedure states can evaluate their individual progress and that of other Gulf States. FMPs addressed were Spanish mackerel, blue crab, oyster, and menhaden. He briefly discussed progress in each FMP and reported that he will update the matrix annually for Commission use.

Overview and Status of Recreational Fisheries Information Network

R. Lukens briefed the Commissioners on activities that led to the development of a recreational fishery data initiative, RECFIN. This program, once implemented, will provide state and federal fishery managers with data of precision, accuracy, and timeliness necessary to make management decisions. He reported that the first component of RECFIN will be implemented by the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission in mid 1992. He anticipates that the Gulf and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commissions will begin planning implementation in January 1993. He feels confident in the outcome. Dr. Bill Fox, NMFS is solidly behind this important project.

L. Simpson stated that RECFIN cannot exist unless there is a cooperative effort between states. This is not a federal program.

He reviewed H.R. 2130, a NOAA program authorization act. He pointed out that the bill would also eliminate the Federal Assistance Review Board (FARB). It also strengthens the States and Commissions relationship with NMFS through cooperative agreements for data collection and management among other things.

Overview of NMFS FY 1992 Fisheries Budget

L. Simpson reported that overall the NMFS budget was good for marine fisheries programs in the Gulf of Mexico. Specifically, the House and Senate Conference calls for: SEAMAP - \$500K increase to \$1,419,000; MARFIN - \$1 million increase to \$4 million (includes \$500K for South Atlantic and \$1,300K for bycatch studies); Recreational Fisheries Statistics - \$2,200,000 increase to \$4,000,000; Councils - \$700K increase to \$9,200,000; Interjurisdictional Fisheries - level funded at \$3,483,00; Commissions (IJF) - level funded at \$328K; Anadromous - level funded at \$2,342,00; Fish Oils - level funded at \$937K; and, a new Seafood Inspection Program - \$3 million.

C. Nelson requested to know the total amount of Saltonstall-Kennedy (S-K) funding and the source of the funds? L. Simpson stated that the total program was approximately \$35 million. The overall fundings comes from a 3 percent of tax imposed on imported fisheries products that come into this country. Industry grants have been eliminated this year with all the S-K funding used by NMFS to offset their budget needs.

L. Simpson stated that future Commission objectives would be concentrated on securing increased funding for Interjurisdictional Fisheries programs, RECFIN and Anadromous.

Subsequent to this meeting, the President signed the Commerce Appropriations Bill on October 28, 1991. The above amounts became Law under P.L. 102-140.

Discussion of GSMFC Involvement with Gulf Wide Fishery Regulations Publication and Distribution

L. Simpson reported that the Commission is currently compiling and

publishing a summary of marine fishing laws and regulations on an annual basis. The expense is paid by Commission funds. The demand for the publication has increased since it was first published in 1987. At the request of the LEC, GSMFC staff solicited for bids from companies that currently publish state hunting and fishing regulations free of charge. Subsequently, a bid was received from Blackford Company. After review by GSMFC staff and the LEC, it is their recommendation to accept the proposal and proceed with the publication.

The proposal includes 1 million copies for delivery on or before December 1 of each year at no cost to the Commission. Advertising would cover the cost of the publication. All advertising revenues would be retained by Blackford Company to offset the cost of the publication. The publication would consist of 32 pages of Commission copy including cover. Advertising may meet but not exceed the number of pages designated for Commission use. Delivery will be to one location in each of the five Gulf States. The five Gulf States marine agencies would accomplish distribution of the publications through license dealers.

* S. Mitchell motioned to accept the proposal from Blackford Company. After discussion, V. Minton amended the motion to accept the proposal with editorial review to insure that advertising does not conflict with goals and objectives of the Commission. T. Gollott seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

R. Rosen requested that any extra space be utilized to educate the public on something other than bag limits, e.g. By utilizing all space we cannot get tied into a limited amount of space.

Discussion of Distribution of Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) "Real-Time" Data

L. Simpson reported that at the Commissioners request a survey was developed and distributed to 298 participants. An overall response rate of 25% was achieved. The majority of respondents wished to continue to receive the SEAMAP data as well as finding it useful to their fishing activities. L. Kiffe supports the SEAMAP program as it is currently functioning. No action was required.

Administrative Report

L. Simpson distributed a financial statement as of September 30, 1991. He pointed out that an overage in operating funds due to an approved equipment purchase. He also noted that due to the necessity to subcontract for stock assessment data under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program, an overage may be realized prior to the end of the cooperative agreement.

He reviewed the status of the Commissions computer accounting program. He anticipates full use by January 1, 1992. After review by Commission auditor and staff of current accounting methods for federal grants, it has been determined that an indirect cost method would not be to the Commissions advantage. No action was necessary.

Budget Committee Report

D. Duden reported that the committee had reviewed the proposed budget and financial situation of the Commission. The committee found the Commission to be financially healthy. On behalf of the Budget Committee he recommended the budget be adopted as presented with all staff receiving a 5% salary increase or a minimum of \$1,000.

* S. Mitchell motioned to approve the committees recommendation. K. McInnis seconded. The motion carried.

Future Meetings

G. Herring reported that the April 13-16, 1992 meeting would be held in Biloxi, Mississippi. A hotel has not yet been selected. T. Gollott stated that he would assist G. Herring in arranging a trip on a cruise ship for participants.

The October 12-16, 1992 meeting will be held in Alabama. A definite city has not yet been selected. V. Minton will contact other Commissioners to determine a site.

R. Lukens reviewed some staff suggestions regarding meeting format. This review led to discussion by all Commissioners regarding the annual meetings. Suggestions were to keep participants geared toward better participation, during meetings and after meetings. It was the consensus that separating the technical meetings from the business meetings would not be beneficial. The State Directors

would encourage their staff to stay for the entire meeting if the meeting could be condensed. All agreed that a shorter meeting would be more desirable. GSMFC staff will attempt to modify the April 1992 meeting based on these discussions. Commissioners will review modifications at the next meeting.

Several topics for general sessions were discussed. Although most present agreed that general sessions are beneficial, format and time allocation were factors that needed to be addressed. Round table discussions of relevant topics were easily addressed during meetings. Information from other Commissions would also be desirable. Staff will work on some type of presentations for future meetings.

Discussion of Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Agreement (MICRA)

The general purpose of MICRA is to address interjurisdictional aquatic issues, to develop strategic plans for these interjurisdictional resources, and to cooperatively carry out operational strategies with respect to the Mississippi River Drainage Basin's aquatic resources. The Commission has been asked to support MICRA. Although no cost would be involve, a limited amount of time and travel would be necessary by GSMFC staff.

* R. Rosen motioned to approve of the Commission's limited involvement in MICRA. V. Minton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Election of Officers

* K. McInnis nominated L. Kiffe for Commission Chairman for 1991-92. T. Van Devender seconded. L. Kiffe was unanimously elected.

* V. Minton nominated Harper Taylor for Commission Vice-chairman for 1991-92. T. Van Devender seconded. Harper Taylor was unanimously elected.

* C. Belaire nominated R. Rosen for Commission Second Vice-chairman for 1991-92. T. Van Devender seconded. R. Rosen was unanimously elected.

L. Kiffe thanked D. Duden for his outstanding job as Commission Chairman for 1990-91 and presented him with a gift of appreciation from the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

P. O. Box 726
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
(601) 875-5912
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**Gulf States Marine
Fisheries Commission**

Larry B. Simpson
Executive Director

RESOLUTION

State-Federal Programs

WHEREAS, partnerships between the states and the federal government have historically been necessary for the effective management of the nation's fishery resources throughout their range, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for continuing a strong state-federal partnership regarding management of our shared fishery resources, and

WHEREAS, fishery dependent and independent data collection, management and dissemination require substantial involvement of both the state and federal fishery resource management agencies, and

WHEREAS, such substantial involvement and interaction strongly justify the continued use of a noncompetitive cooperative agreement process, as stated in Open Channel, Volume 1, Number 3, a newsletter of the NOAA Grants Management Division, to support the continuing relationships among the states, interstate commissions, and regional management councils, and

WHEREAS, the states have exclusive legislative mandates for activities related to fishery resources management, including data collection, management, and dissemination in the territorial seas, and

WHEREAS, substantial cost savings can also be realized due to state contributions and the lack of profit motivation, and

WHEREAS, long-term consistent databases are critical for effective management of fisheries resources, and highly successful infrastructures and mechanisms to develop and maintain such databases are in place and working through cooperation between the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Region and the states, interstate commissions, and regional councils to conduct noncompetitive cooperative fishery resource data collection and management activities, and

- Member States -

Texas

Louisiana

Mississippi

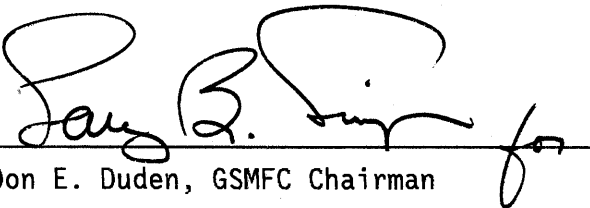
Alabama

Florida

WHEREAS, currently noncompetitive cooperative programs, such as but not limited to the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) and State-Federal Cooperative Statistics, are working to the benefit of the states, federal agencies, the fishery management councils, the fishery resources, and the citizens of the Nation,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission through its member states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida strongly recommend that the National Marine Fisheries Service through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration continue to approve the use of noncompetitive cooperative agreements for appropriate programs related to marine fisheries management, such as but not limited to SEAMAP, the State-Federal Cooperative Statistics Program, and the proposed Recreational Fisheries Information Network (RecFIN).

Given this the 18th day of April in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Ninety-one.


Don E. Duden, GSMFC Chairman

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD
October 31, 1991
Conference Call
MINUTES

Bob Shipp
5 Dec 91

The conference call originated by Larry Simpson and Bob Shipp was called to order at 9:05 am. Those present on the call were:

Members

Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Bob Shipp, Recreational Industry, Mobile, AL
Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
Peter Hoar, G&SAFDI, Tampa, FL
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
William S. "Corky" Perret, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, AL
Jean West, NOAA Grants Office, Silver Spring, MD (ex-officio)

Others

David Pritchard (for Don Ekberg), NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ellie Roche, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL

Staff

Lucia B. Hourihan, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

L. Simpson listed items which should be discussed. J. Cato reported that he had sent a letter to Andy Kemmerer expressing concerns regarding NMFS proposals as had been discussed at the September PMB meeting. The PMB members will be receiving a copy of the letter.

Review of Funding Status

Simpson reported on the House/Senate conference report on the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies; and Senate report 102-106. He noted in particular language from the Senate report regarding coordination with the Foundation: "In addition, the Committee anticipates that at least \$1,800,000 of the funding for MARFIN will be made available to implement a program for assessing the impact of fishery resources in the Southeast of the incidental harvest by the shrimp trawl fishery. This program should build upon and incorporate the ongoing efforts of the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation to develop and implement a by-catch management program for the shrimp fishery." The President did sign the Appropriations Bill for Commerce on October 28, 1991. \$4 million has been appropriated for FY92 MARFIN funds. Deducting the monies for bycatch, continuing projects, South Atlantic MARFIN component, and proposed NMFS projects for FY92,

between \$835,500 - \$980,000 will remain available for competitive projects. B. Shipp reported on communication with A. Kemmerer regarding the funding breakdown and noted that Kemmerer made no mention of NMFS proposed latent resources project. Shipp said that Kemmerer intends to begin an observer program with bycatch monies, guided through the Foundation's steering committee but funded through NMFS. P. Hoar said bycatch monies should be used to emphasize education/information, gear modification and agreed that observer data was essential.

Peer Review Modifications

Shipp reported that he, S. Nichols, D. Ekberg, and Kemmerer are working on modifications to the review process. The PMB will have something to review at the December meeting. Shipp listed suggestions as follows: groups of projects by category, having four to five different people giving project analysis reports to the PMB; a small honorarium for external reviewers; a method to deal with outliers; the use of the same review form or with modifications but looking at how points are allocated; external reviewers judging the technical quality of the project, the PMB judging the importance of the project. Members should send any comments to Shipp for inclusion.

Gulf and South Atlantic MARFIN Program Interactions

Members noted that Congress has mandated interaction by the two groups on bycatch. Shipp noted that Kemmerer had described possible scenarios for the two groups as 1) no boards involved, 2) maintain Gulf board and create South Atlantic board, and 3) reconstitute the Gulf PMB to include South Atlantic representatives. It was suggested that because only \$500,000 was available for the South Atlantic MARFIN program, it might be beneficial/educational to initially include South Atlantic representatives on the Gulf PMB.

December Meeting

The PMB agreed by consensus to meet on Thursday, December 5, 1991 from 8:30 am - 12 noon at the Holiday Inn Airport North in Atlanta in conjunction with the

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
Page -3-

Foundation's steering committee meeting. The possibility of inviting Ed Joseph (SA MARFIN) to the meeting was discussed.

Publications

Simpson reported that the "Executive Summary to the Annual Report" had been published and would soon be transmitted to members of Congress. Work is also underway on the "Proceedings of the Fourth Annual MARFIN Conference."

There being no further business the conference call was ended at 9:45 am.

MINUTES of the Joint ASMFC and GSMFC Meeting, held at the Fifth International Conference of Artificial Fisheries Habitat, Long Beach, California, Nov. 2, 1991

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization/Agency</u>	<u>Number</u>
Ron Lukens	GSMFC, Mississippi	(601) 875-5912
John Cirino	MS DWF&P	(601) 385-5860
Bob Cooke	USFWS/Federal Aid	(404) 331-5446
Wally Wahlquist	USFWS/Federal Aid	(404) 331-5446
Steve Heins	NYSDEC	(516) 751-8611
Mel Bell	SC Marine Resources Division	(803) 762-5066
Wayne Hall	SC Marine Resources Division	(803) 795-6350
Henry Ansley	GA Dept. of Natural Resources	(912) 264-7218
Jim Eskridge	VA Marine Resources Commission	(804) 247-2263
Jeff Tinsman	DE Division of Fish & Wildlife	(302) 739-3441
Bill Seaman	FL Sea Grant, Univ. of Florida	(904) 392-5870
Joe Halusky	FL Sea Grant Extension Program	(904) 471-0092
Kurtis Gregg	NC Division of Marine Fisheries	(919) 726-7021
Steve Murphey	NC Division of Marine Fisheries	(919) 726-7021
John Foster	Maryland DNR-Fisheries	(301) 974-3664
DeWitt Myatt	Maryland DNR-Fisheries	(301) 974-3664
Bill Figley	NJ Div. Fish, Game & Wildlife	(609) 748-2020
Hal Osburn	TX Parks & Wildlife Department	(512) 389-4863
Frank Steimle	NMFS, Sandy Hook, New Jersey	(908) 872-3059
Ed Irby	FL DNR, Tallahassee	(904) 488-1554
Ginny Vail	FL DNR, Tallahassee	(904) 922-4340
Rick Kasprazak	LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries	(504) 765-2375
Mike Meier	VA Marine Resources Commission	(804) 247-2263
Tina Berger	ARDC, Washington, D.C.	(202) 898-0770
Joe McGurrian	ASMFC, Washington, D.C.	(202) 387-5330
Karen Bugley	MA Div. of Marine Fisheries	(617) 888-1155
Tony Martin	Pensacola, Florida	(904) 438-3260
Don Blancher	ARCOA, Mobile, Alabama	(205) 479-0394
Bob Andrews	VA Power, Ashland, Virginia	(804) 550-5861
Lily Romina-Salgudo Castro	Natl. Inst. of Fishery (CRIP) Ensenada, Baja California-Mexico	
Erik Baqueiro	Universidad Autonom de Campeche, Mexico P.O. Box 587, Campeche Mexico C.P. 24000	
Ramon Mendez Lanz	Secretaria Desarroll Pesquero de Campeche, Mexico, 12 #203 Centro C.P. 24000	

MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was jointly led by Michael Meier, Chairman of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Artificial Reef Committee, and Virginia Vail, Chairman of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's (GSMFC) Artificial Reef Working Group. Attendees included artificial reef coordinators/managers and representatives from the ASMFC, GSMFC, the U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service, and interested parties from within and outside the United States.

The major objective of the meeting was to bring the two groups together to discuss and exchange ideas, as well as highlight common problems and goals. As it turned out, the issues of greatest importance to the two groups were: (1) the use of stabilized combustion/incineration ash as artificial reef substrate; (2) the establishment of a materials criteria document; (3) the use of Special Management Zones to conserve reef species; (4) the pros and cons of general permitting; (5) the comparative utility of estuarine reefs versus offshore reefs; and (6) the Surplus Vessel Act. Each of these issues and future committee actions relating to these issues are briefly discussed below.

I. STABILIZED COMBUSTION/INCINERATION ASH

Over the last several years, there has been increasing pressure placed on artificial reef managers and coordinators (directly and indirectly by power and energy interests, and solid waste managers) to use stabilized combustion/incineration ash (commonly defined as the remains of burning coal, oil or municipal waste) as artificial reef substrate. Concomitant with this pressure, has been a growing concern within the artificial reef community that the use of such material in the long term may be hazardous to marine organisms and the aquatic environment as a whole. While there have been several studies conducted on the environmental suitability of ash (measured in terms of leachability and the uptake of leachates by organisms), these studies have been limited to very specific types of ash/concrete mixtures and conducted over relatively short time periods. In sum, there are no definitive findings regarding the suitability of stabilized combustion/incineration ash as artificial reef substrate.

In light of these concerns, the Artificial Reef Committees of both the ASMFC and the GSMFC recently passed nearly identical resolutions about the use of stabilized combustion/incineration ash as artificial reef substrate. Specifically, these resolutions request that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS) develop and adopt standards for the use of stabilized combustion/incineration ash products in the marine environment, particularly as artificial reef substrate. Until such time as these or similar guidelines and standards are adopted, the Commissions oppose the use of stabilized combustion/incineration ash products for anything other than experimental applications. It was brought out at the joint meeting that pressure to use stabilized combustion/incineration ash as artificial reef substrate will only increase as land-based disposal alternatives decrease. State reef managers within New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Mississippi have already been approached by energy companies to use stabilized combustion/incineration ash as both an artificial reef substrate and a disposal method. By 1994/1995, EPA will outlaw the disposal of such materials in most landfills.

ACTION ITEM

Ron Lukens (GSMFC) suggested another joint meeting of the two artificial reef groups, scientists, and power companies and waste management companies, in order to address the artificial reef managers' concerns regarding stabilized combustion/incineration ash; establish research protocols; and stimulate the

development of national criteria and standards by federal agencies. Ron agreed to work up a proposal and outline for the meeting.

II. NATIONALLY CONSISTENT MATERIAL GUIDELINES

Stabilized combustion/incineration ash is not the only artificial reef material for which reef managers have no nationally consistent guidelines or standards to base reef development on. In fact, the United States lacks national consistent guidelines for almost all artificial reef materials. Meeting attendees expressed particular concern about the lack of consistent guidelines for cleaning and preparing vessels for deployment. Some members stated that they would like to see EPA adopt a national policy statement regarding the removal of materials such as asbestos and cosmoline from vessels. The policy statement would address the issue of whether or not it is actually necessary to remove these materials and, if so, what is the safest and most cost effective way for removal.

One possible role that the joint committee could play in the development of a national policy statement would be to adopt a joint resolution urging the EPA, Corps of Engineers and U.S. Coast Guard to establish nationally consistent guidelines and standards for artificial reef materials. While all the attendees agreed that this would be a good idea in theory, many expressed reservations about the utility of the idea, stating that there are so many local and regional differences in the requirements of each of the federal agencies that it would be very difficult to establish uniform guidelines. In addition, artificial reef managers may encounter increased scrutiny; practices which they have found to be safe and effective may be disallowed, while other practices that they have come to reject based on their past experiences may be used instead.

ACTION ITEM

The meeting attendees agreed that the formulation of nationally consistent material guidelines was certainly an issue of great importance, however, it was not within the scope of this meeting to come to an ultimate resolution of the issue. Bill Figley (NJ) agreed to put together a document on materials criteria, based on on-going work by the ASMFC Artificial Reef Committee. He will send a draft of this document to both reef groups (and possibly some agency people) for comment. It was also suggested (Steve Murphey - NC) that the document include not only materials criteria but also what agency is ultimately responsible for material approval. Further action will be open to discussion in a future meeting of the two groups.

III. SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES

Special Management Zones (SMZs) have been used extensively in the South Atlantic (i.e., Georgia, South Carolina and Florida) to conserve reef species from overexploitation and/or destructive fishing methods. In most cases, the SMZ surrounds permitted artificial reef(s). Usually within these zones the only permitted gear type is hook and line, with the use of fish traps and power spearheads usually prohibited.

At the joint meeting, Joe McGurrin (ASMFC) initiated discussion on SMZs and their potential use in the Mid-Atlantic. In particular, Joe was interested in

the group's feed-back (especially ASMFC people) to the possibility of drafting language for Amendment 3 to the Mid-Atlantic Council's Demersal Species Fishery Management Plan, which would allow for the establishment of SMZs around permitted artificial reefs.

ACTION ITEM

After some discussion about some of the issues surrounding SMZ designation and enforcement authority, the ASMFC Artificial Reef Committee agreed to formulate appropriate SMZ language for Amendment 3 to the demersal FMP. The Committee already drafted such language in 1990 and sent it to the Mid-Atlantic Council Chair Gordon Colvin. Because planning for sea bass and scup was delayed, **no action** was taken on the proposal. The Committee should resurrect its earlier submittal and update for use in Amendment 3 (scup and black sea bass) which will be developed in 1992. Assigned to this task were Bill Figley (NJ), Steve Heins (NY) and John Foster (MD).

Similarly, Ron Lukens talked about the efforts of the Gulf Banks Fishing Club to have the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council consider amending the Reef Fish Management Plan to allow for SMZ designation.

IV. GENERAL PERMITTING

Virginia Vail (FL DNR) asked the joint committee if they were interested in addressing the different ways the general reef permit (SAJ-50) is interpreted, implemented, etc. by individual states. Is there a need for standardization? In Florida, for example, the Corps has not allowed a permittee to "sub-permit" or use cars (unless compacted) or tires (unless TIC units). In Alabama, however, the Corps allows the state "sub-permit."

ACTION ITEM

Although a lengthy discussion of the general permitting issue occurred, no specific action was taken.

V. ESTUARINE REEFS VERSUS OFFSHORE REEFS

Ron Lukens (GSMFC) raised the question of the comparative utility of estuarine reefs versus offshore reefs. Ron has found that there is a general perception among artificial reef users that one reef is very much like another reef, regardless of where the reef is located and what it is constructed of. The question raised was whether artificial reef managers should clearly discriminate between these reefs and the differing roles they may play in fisheries management?

For instance, most artificial reef managers would contend that offshore reefs are more effective in concentrating larger fish and providing fishing opportunities, whereas, inshore or estuarine reefs are better suited to provide spawning and nursery habitat. Unfortunately, many times this distinction is not made clear to the recreational and commercial fishermen who benefit either directly or indirectly from these reefs. In some cases, artificial reef managers are not aware of the differences between inshore, estuarine and offshore reefs, in terms of their overall function and importance to the different life stages of fish and invertebrate species.

ACTION ITEM

The joint committee entered into a lengthy discussion of these questions. There was the general consensus that there are real differences between inshore, estuarine and offshore reefs and that these differences are not always clearly distinguished or identified to fishery user groups, or by managers as well. The group agreed that there needs to be an increased emphasis of the comparative importance of these differences -- emphasizing that each reef plays an important, although very different role, in fisheries conservation and management. The joint committee agreed to look at this issue both individually and jointly at future meetings.

VI. SURPLUS VESSEL ACT

Joint hearings on the Surplus Vessel Act were held by both the Small Business and Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committees. Both Committees now agree that approximately 110 victory ships should be removed from the fleet and that some should be donated to states under the same terms as the old Liberty Ship Law. The next step is for passage of the bill through the House of Representatives in early 1992 (has already occurred). The bill has now been forwarded to the Senate for approval and passage.

ACTION ITEM

Richard Christian will continue to track the bill for the Committee. If possible under the final law, a working group (tentatively comprised of Mel Bell, Steve Murphey, Michael Meier and Ron Lukens) will arrange for final vessel disbursement and distribution.

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD (PMB)
MINUTES
December 5, 1991
Atlanta, Georgia

*Approved
By Shipp
5/20/92*
DRAFT

The MARFIN PMB meeting held in the Porcelain 4 meeting room of the Holiday Inn Airport North was called to order by Chairman Bob Shipp at 8:35 am. The following were in attendance:

Members

Jim Cato, Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
Lucy Gibbs, Commercial Industry (designee for Bob Jones), Austin, TX
Peter Hoar, G&SAFDFI, Tampa, FL
Scott Nichols, NMFS, Pascagoula, MS
William S. "Corky" Perret, Gulf States, Baton Rouge, LA
Bob Shipp, Recreational Industry, Mobile, AL
Larry B. Simpson, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Wayne Swingle, GMFMC, Tampa, FL
Jean B. West, NOAA Grants Mgt. Division, Silver Spring, MD (ex-officio)

Staff

Don Ekberg, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Lucia B. Hourihan, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Ron Lukens, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Andy Kemmerer, NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
Ed Joseph, SC Wildlife & Marine Resources Dept., Charleston, SC
David Cupka, SC Wildlife & Marine Resources Dept., Charleston, SC
Bob Mahood, SAFMC, Charleston, SC
Wally Schaffer, South Carolina Shrimpers Assoc., Mt. Pleasant, SC

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was amended to include a "Discussion of the Peer Review Process" and an "Administrative Report". The agenda was adopted as amended.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held September 12, 1991 in San Antonio, Texas and the conference call held October 31, 1991 were adopted as presented.

Proposed Organization of MARFIN Board and Operating Procedures

A. Kemmerer reported that although appropriations were signed a month ago, NMFS does not yet have final target figures for MARFIN. \$1.3 million of the MARFIN appropriation was dedicated by Congress for bycatch in the Gulf and South Atlantic and Kemmerer reported that NMFS has elected to use that to initiate in-

MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT BOARD
MINUTES
PAGE 2

house programs immediately utilizing most of the funds for observer activities to begin in January 1992. A Research Requirements Document has been developed and will be available at the Foundation's Bycatch Steering Committee meeting (today).

L. Gibbs asked if the bycatch monies were to spent for inshore or federal waters. Kemmerer said the emphasis in the Magnuson Act is for species under the two Councils' jurisdiction which implies federal waters but through the overall planning effort there will be coverage from federal waters to the inshore waters with some areas probably being targeted much more intensely than others inshore.

Kemmerer reported that extensive work had been done on a draft operations plan for the MARFIN program (Gulf phase and South Atlantic phase) but the negotiation phase was still underway with NMFS, Washington, General Counsel and NOAA Grants regarding the organization of MARFIN and how it functions. He was not at liberty to distribute copies of the draft at this time but anticipated completion of the document within two months. Copies will be distributed to the PMB for comment when legal issues are resolved.

Kemmerer stated the philosophy right now is that there would be one board with dual representation (13 members) from the Gulf and the South Atlantic, co-chaired by the Gulf and South Atlantic. He said the intent would be to make sure that those funds allocated to the South Atlantic would minimally be the funds spent on the South Atlantic phase. Members would be selected to represent states, Sea Grant, commercial industry, recreational industry, Councils, Commissions and NMFS (one voting, one ex-officio). Kemmerer said the Foundation would be removed from the Board because much of its funds are obtained from MARFIN.

Functions of the Board would be basically the same. Regarding the setting of priorities, Kemmerer stated that he likes the idea of going out to organizations, states, etc. to put priorities together and then have the board review those priorities. Kemmerer and West both stated that regarding review of projects they have been running into significant concerns over the appearance of conflict of interest. It has been decided that a board member cannot be a principal investigator or co-investigator on a proposal seeking MARFIN funds. If a Board member's institution submits a proposal, the Board member would have

to be recused from any discussion of such. Advice to the Regional Director regarding funding of individual projects (including any comments) will still be provided by each member and it may be provided in written form. Kemmerer said the Board's primary role is to provide advice and recommendations to the Regional Director and to disseminate information. He would like to see the Board involved in the development of more programs for cooperative research.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of applying for FACA status and chartering under FACA to detail membership. Kemmerer said that the strong advice is not to charter under FACA.

P. Hoar stated that many people on the proposed Board would be receiving funding from MARFIN and that he fails to see why the Foundation which represents a consensus of industry in the Gulf and South Atlantic has any more conflict of interest than people proposed to be on the board. Kemmerer stated that the Foundation would be placed in jeopardy because its funding source is exclusively from NMFS and if the Foundation were seated on the Board then it could not submit proposals. Hoar stated that he feels the industry would be losing a voice in making programmatic decisions.

J. Cato asked if NMFS representation on the Board affected NMFS ability to submit proposals. Kemmerer said there was not a legal problem for NMFS because they don't have to be competitive.

C. Perret requested Ekberg to provide the PMB with a breakdown, from program inception to present, of MARFIN funding to states, NMFS, industry and universities.

FY1992 MARFIN Funding and Federal Register Notice Status

Ekberg reported that the Federal Register notice had been sent forward on December 4. The notice had been held up by NMFS in order to seek and incorporate comments from South Atlantic interests. It is hoped that publication will be within three months. NMFS needs to have certification of funds before the notice is published. West stated that July 1 is the deadline set by the NOAA Grants Office for accepting proposals seeking FY92 funds.

FY1992 NMFS Projects

Ekberg distributed a listing of NMFS projects (attachment 1) which had been recommended for funding by the Regional Director and sent on to Dr. Fox. There was discussion regarding project 92NMFS08 "Small Pelagics in the Gulf of Mexico" which had previously received negative comments from the Board. Dr. Kemmerer said he recommended the project be funded because it would supply needed baseline information. Project 92NMFS10 "Educational Tools for Marine Rec Fishermen to Promote Wise Use and Conservation of Gulf Fishery Resources" was discussed and approved for funding by individual members. Concerns were expressed regarding reporting of matching funds and a desire to see more Gulf people put on the panel. Project 92NMFS11 "Economic Analysis of Finfish Bycatch in Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery" was discussed and it was noted that the economic model could not be evaluated because it was not specified in the proposal. The project received individual member approval for funding.

Ed Joseph requested Kemmerer to provide the South Atlantic representatives with copies of the NMFS proposals.

Peer Review Process

Suggested modifications to the review process by Shipp (attachment 2) and Cato (attachment 3) were discussed. It was agreed by all that the process needed improvement. West said NOAA Grants Office new set of guidelines for review processes had not gone any further.

C. Perret moved that regarding number 1, the panel discussion leader from the panel review team would be available to the PMB to report on that group of projects; regarding number 2, NMFS reviewers would be kept separate from outside reviewers and an attempt made to add outside reviewers; that the PMB would like to add an honorarium for reviewers and would therefore ask Jean West to check on the ramifications of such; and that the NMFS panel leader would provide information to the PMB on outliers. The motion was seconded. W. Swingle amended the motion regarding number 2 to read, NMFS reviewers would be kept separate from outside reviewers and to select four and possibly five external reviewers to be added to the NMFS panel. The amended motion carried with Nichols (NMFS) abstaining.

Administrative Report

L. Simpson reported that GSMFC had been verbally notified that the government desires to exercise option 2 of its contract. He noted that Ginny Herring projects this year's contract will be overspent by up to \$1,000 and that GSMFC will pick up the overage. He requested Board members to send in their travel expense reports quickly because the contract will be closed out December 31, 1991. The Annual Report was distributed in October, the Executive Summary to the Annual Report was distributed in November, the Proceedings of the Fourth Conference is out to authors for review and will be published in December and distributed in January. Simpson also requested that terms of PMB members be reviewed and elections held if necessary. The Southern Division of AFS will meet at the Sheraton in Corpus Christi October 24-28, 1992 in conjunction with the Southeastern Division of IAFWA. The IAFWA controls the meeting and at its last meeting voted not to allow any concurrent sessions or any meetings before or after its meeting. Simpson said that Texas will be the host state for those meetings and volunteered to discuss the situation with Rudy Rosen. The PMB recommended that Simpson pursue the issue with Rosen and also research meetings in the South Atlantic area.

New Business

Cato said that he had received no response from his letter to Kemmerer regarding proposal solicitation within NMFS. Kemmerer stated that he in general agrees with Cato's comments.

Ed Joseph expressed his appreciation for being invited to the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

NMFS' RECOMMENDATION

PROJ#	APPNAME	PROJNAME	PI	STARTDAT	ENDDATE	SCORE	\$
92NMFS01	SEFC	REEF FISH SPAWNING PERIODICITY AND FECUNDITY ESTIMATES	JOHNSON, ALLYN DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	89	\$106,000.00
92NMFS02	SEFC	AGE AND GROWTH OF BAG, RED GROUPER, AND VERMILION SNAPPER	JOHNSON, ALLYN DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	81	\$50,000.00
92NMFS04	SEFC	MIGRATORY GROUP COMPOSITION OF KING MACKEREL IN THE FL KEYS	THOMPSON, NANCY DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	92	\$60,000.00
92NMFS05	SEFC	FISHERY INDEPENDENT TECHNIQUES FOR REEFFISH	NICHOLS, SCOTT DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92	77	\$140,296.00
92NMFS06	SEFC	SHRIMP TRAWL BYCATCH REDUCTION	SEIDEL, WILBER	10/01/91	09/30/92	92	\$275,000.00
92NMFS07	SEFC	TED TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	SEIDEL, WILBER	10/01/91	09/30/92	93	\$65,000.00
92NMFS08	SEFC	SMALL PELAGICS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO	SEIDEL, WILBER	10/01/91	09/30/92	82	\$410,000.00
92NMFS09	SERO	MARFIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	EKBERG, DONALD DR.	10/01/91	09/30/92		\$75,000.00
92NMFS10	SERO	EDUCATIONAL TOOLS FOR MARINE REC FISHERMEN TO PROMOTE WISE USE AND CONSERVATION OF GULF FISHERY RESOURCES	SCHMIED, RONALD	10/01/91	09/30/92	93	\$11,200.00
92NMFS11	SERO	ECON ANALYSIS OF FINFISH BYCATCH IN GOM SHRIMP FISHERY	WARD, JOHN	10/01/91	09/30/92	88	\$103,000.00

\$ Sum = \$1,295,496.00



MARFIN REVIEW PROCESS

SUGGESTED REVISIONS

1. Panel review/panel discussion leader.

With so many proposals (@60-70/year) I think the NMFS review team needs to be broken into panels, or at least assign a review/discussion leader for sets of proposals. This discussion leader would need to be especially familiar with his/her group of proposals, and can present panel sentiments in depth to the Marfin Board. This will enable the Board to receive better information about the detailed contents and design of the proposals.

2. Honorarium for external reviewers.

External reviewers will respond more timely, reliably, and follow review guidelines more exactly if they are receiving an honorarium. Even if this is a token amount, no more than \$50 to \$100, it will ensure a higher quality review. The cost is likely to be negligible compared to the improved quality of the reviews and resultant quality control on the process.

3. Reviewer grading/evaluation sheet.

Although reviewers are expected to comment primarily on the technical component of the proposals, and not their importance, it is nearly impossible to divorce one's assessment of relevance to a review. This is likely the cause of the "zero" scores received frequently in the past, as well as some "100s." The evaluation sheet is quite good if reviewers would adhere to it. I think they could be encouraged to do so if a separate "RELEVANCE" category were added which enabled them to express, subjectively or numerically, their sentiments in this regard, thus they would be less inclined to bias the technical evaluation.

4. Outliers and contaminated scores.

Scores well outside the mean need to be addressed to eliminate the "blackball" possibilities, as well as scores that result from non entry of numerical evaluations in some categories. I don't favor a rigid formula, but highlighting of apparent anomalies during review, with the option of eliminating such scorers from a final evaluation.

2
3



FLORIDA SEA GRANT COLLEGE

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November 26, 1991

FLORIDA STATE MARINE
 FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

TO: Bob Shipp

FR: James C. Cato *Jim Cato*

RE: Comments on MARFIN Review Process

Here are my comments on the suggestions in your November 11, 1991 letter.

Point 1: Agree

Point 2: Partially agree.

If external peer reviewers (by mail) are used, then the \$50 fee will probably suffice, and will result in better, more timely reviews.

However, I would suggest an alternative to points 1 and 2, at least for discussion. This alternative is:

- Conduct reviews by panels.
- Also solicit external academic peer reviews either with \$25 fee or no fee.
- The panel would then meet, with the academic review panel chosen so that a 4 to 8 person panel would have members who could also do reviews on 4-6 proposals. They would then review the proposals, and also review the quality of the external reviews, and offer an opinion on the overall quality of the proposals. The actual panel members would be paid a \$500 honorarium. This review system would also result in high quality proposals and results. I can explain it in more detail during the Atlanta meeting, if you are interested.

Florida A&M University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida International University, Florida State University,
 University of Central Florida, University of Florida, University of Miami, University of North Florida, University of South Florida,
 University of West Florida.

Jim Cato
 11/26/91

R

M

Point 3: Agree.

My alternative above would also help here, because a panel member reviewer would be commenting on the overall quality of the extreme review.

Point 4: Agree.

JCC/jw/b:bshipp.12

cc: MARFIN Board

TRI-STATE MEETING
Alabama-Mississippi-Louisiana
December 10, 1991
Biloxi, Mississippi

L. Simpson was chosen to moderate the meeting and called it to order at 9:10 a.m. Introductions were made, and the following were in attendance:

Attendees

Pat Anglada	BMR
Michael Brainard	BMR
Michael Buchanan	BMR
Tommy Candies	LDWF
John Cirino	BMR
Allan Coker	NMFS
Joe Gill, Jr.	BMR
Scott Gordon	BMR
Michael Goza	BMR
Ed Hackett	MDWFP
Chris Johnson	BMR
Chris Lagarde	Congressman Gene Taylor
Bill Lindall	NMFS
A. Kell McInnis, III	LDWF
Vernon Minton	ADCNR/MRD
John Roussel	LDWF
Darrel Saxton	BMR
Tom Shuler	NMFS
Walter Tatum	ADCNR/MRD
Tom Van Devender	BMR
Jerry Waller	ADCNR/MRD
James Warren	GCRL
George Wright, Sr.	BMR

Staff

Larry B. Simpson	GSMFC
Ron Lukens	GSMFC
Rick Leard	GSMFC

Meeting Background

L. Simpson described concerns expressed by the Law Enforcement Committee and the State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee regarding the lack of consistency in regulations among the Gulf States. He noted that both groups have expressed a desire to standardize regulations where possible.

L. Simpson noted the purpose of the meeting was to address this issue by reviewing the size limits and bag/possession limits for spotted seatrout, red drum, cobia, king mackerel and Spanish mackerel in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana to determine discrepancies and possibilities for increased consistency.

J. Gill described concerns of recreational fishermen in Mississippi over differences in regulations, particularly with Louisiana.

Objectives of the Meeting

L. Simpson stated that the main objective of the meeting was to establish some philosophy or purpose for regulations and to determine reasons for variances among the states. He further asked the attendees for additional suggestions of objectives or agenda items. B. Lindall suggested adding snapper/grouper to the species discussions. T. Shuler suggested discussion of the "filleting law" among the states. These items were added without objection.

Review of Size and Bag/Possession Limits by Species

Each state's representatives described the biological concepts and rationale applied to the development of their respective states regulations by species. They also noted the public comments and reviews which accompanied the promulgation of current regulations.

Discussion of Issues by Species

Red Drum

T. Candies noted enforcement problems with Mississippi being the only state allowing a commercial harvest. It was noted that the Mississippi legislature will likely address this issue in January 1992.

J. Gill questioned the possibility of all states going to 18" minimum TL like Florida. Alabama and Louisiana noted problems with maintaining a 16" minimum TL due to the success of these limits in increasing the number of fish being caught. They have preliminary estimates of around 30% escapement with these management measures.

The group also discussed probable problems with the commercial quota in Mississippi (35,000 #) being exceeded by landings or shipment of legally and perhaps illegally begotten fish in Alabama and Louisiana. These fish are being declared as caught in Mississippi, but they are not being counted against Mississippi's quota. The group agreed to look for ways to share data among the states to assist Mississippi in counting fish declared against its quota.

Spotted Seatrout

The group noted that Louisiana was the only state with a 12" minimum TL (others 14"). J. Roussel reviewed the Louisiana stock assessment recently completed and noted that if you sex specific growth rates developed by LSU, all scenarios developed from their models showed that with a 12" minimum you maximize catch while giving up very little in overall yield. L. Simpson stated that there is a need to document fishermen's preference with regard to size in Louisiana. J. Roussel also said that the magnitude of the problem of inconsistent size and bag limits between states should be documented.

Cobia

It was noted that all Gulf States had, in spirit, identical size and bag/possession limits. There were, however, minor enforcement problems with discrepancies between a 33" FL and 37" TL. Mississippi agreed to consider changing its 33" minimum FL to 37" minimum TL to resolve any problems among the 3 states. Note: The federal regulations are listed as 33" FL or 37" TL.

Spanish Mackerel

It was noted that Louisiana had fully complied with federal regulations developed for the EEZ in the gulf. Alabama was in compliance with bag/possession limits but indicated no desire to promulgate size regulations due to extensive hooking mortality in their fishery.

King Mackerel

It was again noted that Louisiana was in compliance with federal EEZ regulations. Mississippi and Alabama were consistent with Louisiana and the EEZ regarding bag/possession limits.

Discussion of Filleting Law

T. Shuler noted problems with enforcing size restrictions and bag limits when fish are being filleted at sea. He said that the most preferred regulations would be landing whole fish or fish that had only been gutted or gilled. It was noted that the three states had laws requiring landing of whole fish or fish with

heads and tails attached; although Mississippi described user pressures to allow filleting.

Discussion of Snapper/Grouper


B. Lindall suggested that Alabama and Mississippi consider adopting comparable regulations to Louisiana and the EEZ. It was further noted that Alabama was in compliance with regulations on the species complex with the exception of seabass. Mississippi agreed to consider regulations.

B. Lindall also questioned states closing of their waters when the EEZ is closed. He noted that Louisiana was complying. It was noted that Alabama was complying with initial closures but was limited by statute to 120 days by emergency rule. It was also noted that Mississippi was constrained by a statutorily-mandated 60 day promulgation process.

Summary

- L. Simpson summarized agreement points of the meeting as follows:
1. Mississippi will consider changing minimum size limits for cobia from 33" FL to 37" TL.
 2. Mississippi legislature will likely address gamefish status for red drum in January 1992.
 3. All states expressed a willingness to close state waters in conjunction with EEZ closures.
 4. Mississippi will consider development of regulations regarding reef fish consistent with the EEZ.
 5. Louisiana will look at public preference regarding minimum size limits for spotted seatrout.
 6. All states will attempt to document the magnitude of the inconsistent bag and size limits between states.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

STOCK ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING
MINUTES
December 19, 1991
Mobile, Alabama

Richard L. Leard called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The following were in attendance:

Members

Peng Chai, TPWD, Austin, TX
Skip Lazauski, ADCNR, Gulf Shores, AL
Bob Muller, FMRI, St. Petersburg, FL
Joey Shepard, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA

Others

James Geaghan, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Chris Dyer, USA, Mobile, AL

Staff

Richard L. Leard, IJF Program Coordinator
Cindy Bosworth, IJF Staff Assistant

Adoption of Agenda

NMFS in-service training/stock assessment workshops, the addition of socio-ecological information in the stock assessment, and the election of a committee chairman were added to the agenda. Item #3, approval of the minutes, was deferred to the afternoon session.

Adoption of Minutes

Minutes to the meeting held May 30-31, 1991, in Mobile, Alabama, were approved with a minor change.

Election of Chairman

By consensus, the SAT agreed to defer the selection of a chairman until the next meeting. The SAT agreed that Rick Leard should continue as the committee moderator.

Stock Assessment Training Course

The stock assessment training course sponsored by the NMFS and FWS is tentatively scheduled for March 1992. Funds to defray travel costs for one person from each of the Gulf States were not approved. The GSMFC will continue efforts to facilitate participation by the Gulf States.

Black Drum Stock Assessment

Review by J. Geaghan - J. Geaghan reviewed the black drum stock assessment that had previously distributed to the SAT. With regard to the fishery, he noted that the gill net portion, the largest, was in essence two separate fisheries: (1) a large mesh, "strike" fishery for large fish; and (2) a small mesh, "stake" fishery for small fish. He noted deficiencies in available data, particularly with effort and all aspects of the recreational fishery. He further described the methods employed and limitations of the analysis.

Discussion - The SAT discussed all aspects of the assessment and indicated general approval and acceptance of its overall content. They agreed to supply additional written comments to J. Geaghan by mid-January 1992 so that a final draft can be developed.

In the course of discussion, the SAT noted possible effects of changes in laws and regulations on the assessment. They recommended that the TTF consider developing a history of these changes and a discussion of how they may have affected catch and the assessment itself, and include it in Section 6. They also noted the need for evolution of market changes and other social and economic factors on the assessment.

The SAT also discussed how the assessment should be incorporated into the Black Drum FMP. After a lengthy discussion, the SAT recommended that J. Geaghan develop an expanded version of the introduction and discussion/conclusions portion in similar form as an executive summary and include this in the body of Section 6 of the FMP. They also recommended that the assessment in its entirety be included as an appendix.

In reviewing the assessment, the SAT noted the following data needs and recommended that the TTF consider including them in Section 13 of the plan: (1) separation of data on catch by large mesh gill nets from small mesh nets; (2) catch and effort data; and (3) age frequency data, not length frequency.

Inclusion of Social Science Data

Chris Dyer gave a brief presentation of planned recommendations to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council for incorporation of social science data into stock assessments and evaluation of regulatory impacts through social impact

STOCK ASSESSMENT TEAM MEETING
Minutes
Page -3-

analysis (SIA). He also discussed how such efforts could be used in a comanagement strategy.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.