## environmental and biological atlas of the gulf of mexico 2013


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# SEAMAP ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL ATLAS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO, 2013 

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## INTRODUCTION

The Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) is a State/Federal/university program for the collection, management, and dissemination of fishery-independent data (information collected without direct reliance on statistics reported by commercial or recreational fishermen) in United States waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Eldridge 1988). A major SEAMAP objective is to provide a large, standardized database needed by management agencies, industry, and scientists to make sound management decisions and further develop fishery resources in a cost-efficient manner. To accomplish this goal, survey data must be disseminated in a useful format to SEAMAP participants, cooperators, and other interested organizations.

The SEAMAP Program began in March 1981 when the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), presented a SEAMAP Strategic Plan (1981) to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC). This strategic plan outlined the proposed program organization (goals, objectives, procedures, resource requirements, etc.). A SEAMAP Subcommittee was then formed within the existing framework of the GSMFC. The Subcommittee consists of one representative from each state fishery management agency [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC); Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR); Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) represented by the University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (USM/GCRL); Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF); and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)], one from NMFS SEFSC and a non-voting member representing the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC). The Subcommittee has organized and successfully coordinated numerous resource surveys from 1982 through 2013 (Table 1). The resultant data are published in atlases for the surveys in 1982 (Stuntz et al. 1985); 1983 (Thompson and Bane 1986a); 1984 (Thompson and Bane 1986b); 1985 (Thompson et al. 1988); 1986 (Sanders et al. 1990a); 1987 (Sanders et al. 1990b); 1988 (Sanders et al. 1991a); 1989 (Sanders et al. 1991b); 1990 (Sanders et al. 1992); 1991 (Donaldson et al. 1993); 1992 (Donaldson et al. 1994); 1993 (Donaldson et al. 1996); 1994 (Donaldson et al. 1997a); 1995 (Donaldson et al. 1997b); 1996 (Donaldson et al. 1998); 1997 (Rester et al. 1999); 1998 (Rester et al. 2000); 1999 (Rester et al. 2001); 2000 (Rester et al. 2002); 2001 (Rester et al. 2004); 2002 (Rester et al. 2008); 2003 (Rester et al. 2009); 2004 (Rester 2009); 2005 (Rester 2010); 2006 (Rester 2010); 2007 (Rester 2010); 2008 (Rester 2011); 2009 (Rester 2011); 2010 (Rester 2012); 2011 (Rester 2014); and 2012 (Rester 2014). Environmental assessment activities that occurred with each of the surveys can be found in Table 1. All data are available to researchers or interested individuals. Details about how to obtain SEAMAP data can be found in the Data Request section of this document.

In early 2013, the SEAMAP Subcommittee identified and began to plan the year's SEAMAP survey activities for the Gulf of Mexico. In keeping with the program goal of establishing a coordinated long-term resource database, it was decided to continue the same types of survey activities conducted in 1982 through 2012. Overall survey objectives in 1982 to 2013 were to assess the distribution and abundance of recreational and commercial organisms collected by plankton, trap/video, bottom longlines, hook and line, and trawl gears, and document environmental factors that might affect their distribution and abundance. Data from plankton surveys are used for detection and assessment of fishery resources; in the determination of spawning seasons and areas; in investigations of early survival and recruitment mechanisms; and in estimation of the abundance of a stock based on its spawning production (Sherman et al. 1983). Assessment of the Texas Closure (Nichols 1982, 1984; Nichols and Poffenberger 1987) was the rationale for the establishment of the trawl surveys and to
establish a seasonal database to assess the abundance and distribution of the shrimp and groundfish stocks across the northern Gulf of Mexico. The Reef Fish Survey is designed to determine the relative abundance of reef fish populations and habitat using a fish trap/video recording system (Russell, unpublished report).

A major purpose of SEAMAP is to provide resource survey data to State and Federal management agencies and universities participating in SEAMAP activities. This thirty-first in a series of SEAMAP environmental and biological atlases presents such data, in a summarized form, collected during the 2013 SEAMAP surveys.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Methodology for the 2013 SEAMAP surveys is similar to that of the 1982 through 2012 surveys. Sampling was conducted within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and state territorial waters. The NOAA Ship OREGON II collected plankton and environmental data during the Winter Plankton Survey from February 1-28. The NOAA Ship OREGON II collected plankton and environmental data during the Spring Plankton Survey from May 1-29, while the USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO sampled on May 21 and May 22, and the Louisiana vessel BLAZING SEVEN sampled from May 6-9. Vessels that participated in collecting plankton and environmental data during the Fall Plankton Survey included the NOAA Ship GORDON GUNTER (August 21 September 28), the Alabama vessel DISCOVERY (September 6), the Louisiana vessel BLAZING SEVEN (September 13-14), and USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO (September 5-6).

Vessels that participated in the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey and concurrently sampled plankton and environmental data included the USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO (July 12-14), the Louisiana vessel PELICAN (June 8-12), and the NOAA Ship OREGON II (June 9 - July 18). The Alabama vessel DISCOVERY (June 3 and June 12), Texas vessels SABINE LAKE, SAN JACINTO, NUECES BAY, R.J. KEMP, and SAN ANTONIO BAY (June 3-27), and Florida using the TOMMY MUNRO (June 8-25) did not sample plankton in conjunction with the summer survey.

NOAA Ships participated in the Reef Fish Survey from February 2 - June 4. Florida sampled from August 1 through October 31 aboard the R/V Gulf Mariner.

Vessels that participated in the Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey and concurrently sampled plankton and environmental data included the NOAA Ships OREGON II (October 28 - December 6); the USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO (November 11-12); and the Louisiana vessel BLAZING SEVEN (October 28-30 and November 18). The Alabama vessel DISCOVERY (November 22), Texas vessels SAN JACINTO, SABINE, MATAGORDA BAY, SAN ANTONIO BAY, and NUECES BAY (November 11-21), and Florida using the TOMMY MUNRO (October 9-19) did not sample plankton in conjunction with the fall survey.

Mississippi conducted bottom longline sampling monthly from March to October as part of the Bottom Longline Survey. Alabama sampled in March, May, June, July, August, and October. Louisiana sampled in March, April, May, June, August, and September. Texas conducted bottom longline sampling from June through September.

Alabama sampled reef fish over artificial and natural reefs during the Vertical Line Survey in May and September. Louisiana sampled reef fish over artificial reefs, oil and gas platforms, and natural habitat in February, March, May, June, July, August, September, and October.

## PLANKTON SURVEYS

Since 1982, SEAMAP resource surveys have been conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service in cooperation with the states of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. Plankton sampling is carried out during these surveys at predetermined SEAMAP stations arranged in a fixed, systematic grid pattern across the entire Gulf of Mexico. Most but not all SEAMAP stations (designated by a unique SEAMAP number) are located at $\sim 56 \mathrm{~km}$ or $1 / 2$-degree intervals along this grid. Some SEAMAP stations are located at $<56 \mathrm{~km}$ intervals especially along the continental shelf edge, while others have been moved to avoid obstructions, navigational hazards, or shallow water. Most SEAMAP plankton samples are taken during either dedicated plankton or shrimp/bottomfish (trawl) surveys, but over the years additional samples were taken using SEAMAP gear and collection methods at locations other than designated SEAMAP stations and/or outside established SEAMAP surveys, e.g. during Louisiana seasonal trawl surveys, SEAMAP Squid/Butterfish survey; and other serendipitous or special projects.

The sampling gear and methodology used to collect SEAMAP plankton samples are similar to those recommended by Kramer et al. (1972), Smith and Richardson (1977) and Posgay and Marak (1980). A 61 cm bongo net fitted with $0.333(0.335)^{1} \mathrm{~mm}$ mesh netting is fished in an oblique tow path from a maximum depth of 200 m or to $2-5 \mathrm{~m}$ off the bottom at depths less than 200 m . A mechanical flowmeter is mounted off-center in the mouth of each bongo net to record the volume of water filtered. Volume filtered ranges from $\sim 20$ to $600 \mathrm{~m}^{3}$, but is typically 30 to $40 \mathrm{~m}^{3}$ at the shallowest stations and 300 to $400 \mathrm{~m}^{3}$ at the deepest stations. A single or double 2 x 1 m pipe frame neuston net fitted with $0.947(0.950)^{1} \mathrm{~mm}$ mesh netting is towed at the surface with the frame half-submerged for 10 minutes. Samples are taken upon arrival on station regardless of time of day. At each station either a bongo and/or neuston tow are made depending on the specific survey. Samples are routinely preserved in 5 to 10\% formalin and later transferred after 48 hours to $95 \%$ ethanol for long-term storage. During some surveys, selected samples are preserved initially in 95\% ethanol and later transferred to fresh ethanol.

Initial processing of one bongo sample and one neuston sample from each SEAMAP station was accomplished at the Sea Fisheries Institute, Plankton Sorting and Identification Center (ZSIOP), in Szczecin, Poland, under a Joint Studies Agreement with NMFS. Wet plankton volumes of bongo net samples were measured by displacement to estimate net-caught zooplankton biomass (Smith and Richardson 1977). Fish eggs and larvae were removed from bongo net samples, and fish larvae only from neuston net samples. Fish eggs were not identified further, but larvae were identified to the lowest possible taxon (to family in most cases). Body length (either notochord or standard length) was measured.

Sorted ichthyoplankton specimens from ZSIOP were sent to the SEAMAP Archiving Center, managed in conjunction with the FWC, for long-term storage under museum conditions. Sorted ichthyoplankton samples from 1982 through 2012 are available for loan to researchers throughout the country. The alternate bongo and neuston samples from each station are retained at USM/GCRL as a

[^0]backup for those samples transshipped to ZSIOP in case of loss or damage during transit. These backup unsorted plankton samples are curated and housed at the SEAMAP Invertebrate Plankton Archiving Center, managed in conjunction with USM/GCRL, and are available for use by researchers.

See the SEAMAP Operations Manual for a more detailed description of sampling methods and protocols. You can also refer to the vessel cruise reports for more specific information on the individual SEAMAP Plankton Surveys conducted during 2013.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

Standardized methodology was used although the actual parameters measured varied among vessels participating in each survey. These parameters were measured based on equipment availability. The following parameters were recorded:

Vessel: Vessel code for each vessel.
Station: Station identifiers varied by state and vessel.
Cruise: Cruise numbers varied by state and vessels.
Date: Month/Day/Year.
Time: Local time and time zone, recorded at the start of sampling.
Latitude/longitude: Recorded to seconds.
Barometric pressure: Recorded in millibars.
Wave height: Estimated visually in meters.
Wind speed and direction: Recorded in knots with direction recorded in compass degrees from which the wind was blowing.
Air temperature: Recorded in degrees Celsius.
Cloud cover: Estimated visually in percent cloud cover.
Secchi depth: Secchi depth in meters, estimated at each daylight station. Standard oceanographic $30-\mathrm{cm}$ white discs were lowered until no longer visible, and then raised until visible. If different depths were recorded, an average was used.
Water Color: Forel-Ule data was recorded.

The following parameters were measured at the surface, mid-depth, and bottom; for bottom depths greater than 200 m , samples were taken at surface, 100 m and 200 m :

Water temperature: Temperatures were measured by a hand-held thermometer or by in situ electronic sensors onboard ship. No attempt was made to intercalibrate the various instruments used on individual vessels although several vessels did sample together to calibrate other sampling gear. Some error can be expected.
Salinity: Salinity samples were collected by Niskin bottles and stored for laboratory analysis with a salinometer. Conductivity probes or refractometers were used on some vessels. Salinity samples were also measured with in situ electronic sensors.
Chlorophyll: Chlorophyll samples were collected and frozen for later laboratory analysis. The general procedure for shipboard collection of chlorophyll was to collect more than 9 liters of water from the surface. This was kept stirred by bubbling air through it while filtration was being done. Three samples, to each of which a $1 \mathrm{ml}, 1 \%(\mathrm{~W} / \mathrm{V})$, suspension of $\mathrm{MgCO}_{3}$ was added, of up to 3 liters of water from the 9 liter sample were filtered through GF/C filters.

The three filters were placed individually in Petri dishes, wrapped in opaque material and frozen until analysis. Each of the three samples was analyzed separately in the laboratory.

Laboratory analyses for chlorophyll a and phaeophytin a (chlorophyll degradation product) were conducted by fluorometry and spectrophotometry. The general extraction procedures prior to measurement were similar. Samples analyzed by spectrophotometer included other chlorophyllous products, but these have not been included as data in this report. The methodology used is described in Strickland and Parsons (1972) and Jeffrey and Humphrey (1975). Some of the values have been deleted from the database because of analytical errors. In addition, chlorophyll samples data were also collected using a CTD. This method only obtains measures of chlorophyll a and is a measure of fluorescence (FL).
Dissolved oxygen: Dissolved oxygen values were measured by electronic probes or by the Winkler titration method. No attempts were made to intercalibrate the methods. When oxygen was measured in samples collected from a Niskin sampler, the oxygen bottles were allowed to overflow a minimum of 10 seconds to eliminate oxygen contamination. The tubing which delivered the water sample was inserted to the bottom of the bottle and withdrawn while the sample was still flowing. The oxygen bottles were sealed with a ground-glass stopper and analyzed onboard the vessels.
Turbidity: Turbidity values were measured by electronic probes when equipment was available.

## TRAWL SURVEYS

## Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey

In the fall of 2008, NMFS changed their method of selecting sampling sites. The states adopted this change beginning in 2010. Diurnal stratifications were dropped in the selection process, and geographic strata (which were mostly 2 to 3 statistical zone groupings) were changed to single statistical zones (Figure 1). Both station selection methods, the old and the new, are probability based designs. With probability sampling, each unit in the survey population has a known, positive probability of selection. This property of probability sampling avoids selection bias and enables one to use statistical theory to make valid inferences from the sample to the survey population. More specifically, the new method employs probability proportional to size sampling. In this type of sampling, a unit's selection probability is proportional to its size measure which in this case is geographical surface area. For example, if Unit A has twice the surface area of Unit B, then Unit A will have twice the probability of having a sample selected from it than $B$. The end result is that Unit A will have about twice the number of samples as B. Even though diurnal strata were dropped in the sampling site selection process, this information is not lost since samples can be post-stratified. Following is an example of how sampling sites are now selected.

Bathymetry data were downloaded from the National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) web site (Divins, D.L., and D. Metzger, NGDC Coastal Relief Model, http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/coastal/coastal.html). Because of the magnitude of data, they were downloaded by single NMFS Shrimp Statistical Zones (Figure 1). The download process allows for the definition of a desired data block through user supplied latitude and longitude boundaries. Since the data definition process is controlled by latitude and longitude only, some undesired depths were included in downloads (i.e., for NMFS, depths less than five or greater than sixty fathoms). These records were deleted later through a Statistical Analysis System (SAS) program. Each bathymetric record represents a 3 arc-second element of data ( $\approx 0.05$-by- 0.05 minutes of latitude and longitude);
therefore, the number of data records was used as a measure of size for each respective statistical zone. The bathymetry data were then used as input to a SAS program which performed three functions; defined the sampling universe, determined the sampling proportions according to sizes of statistical zones, and randomly selected the sample sites according to the defined proportions.

Thirty minutes was selected as a tow time standard that was long enough to obtain a good sample, but short enough to maintain the efficiency of the surveys. Therefore all SEAMAP vessels now use a standard tow time of 30 minutes except the Texas vessels. The Texas vessels tow 10 minutes parallel to the depth stratum.

All Litopenaeus setiferus, Farfantepenaeus aztecus, and Farfantepenaeus duorarum were separated from the trawl catch at each station. Total count and weight by species were recorded for each station. A sample of up to 200 shrimp of each species from every trawl was sexed and measured to obtain length-frequency information. Estimated total numbers were derived from the total weights of those processed. Other species of fishes and invertebrates were identified, enumerated, and weighed. Weights and individual measurements on selected species, other than commercial shrimp, were also recorded.

## Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey

The design of the Fall Survey was similar to the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey. During the Fall Survey trawl stations were made with the standard 40 -ft and 20-ft SEAMAP nets and covered NMFS shrimp statistical zones 2 through 21 (Figure 1). Catch rates on all the vessels sampling were treated in the same manner as the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey, with the exception to shrimp catches, where only 20 shrimp of each species from every trawl were measured, although Louisiana and Texas measure a minimum of 50 shrimp.

## REEF FISH SURVEY

The primary purpose of this survey is to assess relative abundance and compute population estimates of reef fish found on natural reef fish habitat in the Gulf of Mexico. Two types of gear are used to deploy video cameras: 1) a single-funnel fish trap ( 2.13 m long by 0.76 m square) with the camera mounted at a height of 25 cm above the bottom of the trap; or 2) a 4 camera array with 4 cameras mounted orthogonal to each other at a height of 25 cm above the bottom. Both gears are baited with squid before deployment. The resultant video recordings (typically of one-hour duration) are processed back at the laboratory where fish are identified and counted independently by two tape readers. Final counts are entered into the SEAMAP reef fish database along with additional observations on habitat and fish activity.

The hardbottom database from which sampling sites for this survey are chosen was developed in the following manner. Areas of natural reef habitat from Brownsville, Texas to the southern tip of Florida (at $81^{\circ} 00^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ longitude and $24^{\circ} 02^{\prime} \mathrm{N}$ latitude) and between 9 and 110 m water depth were first inscribed on navigation charts, then divided into 10 by 10 nautical mile blocks (primary sample units). Each block was subdivided into $100-\mathrm{m}^{2}$, secondary sample units that were numbered and initially classified as being "reef" or "nonreef" and then entered into a database. Prior to the survey, blocks are selected from this database in the eastern and western Gulf with probability proportional to the number of "reef" sample units within a block. Within each selected block, 100 sample sites are randomly selected. During the survey each selected block is occupied for one 24-h period, where
night hours are devoted to ship's echo sounder surveys of up to 100 sites and daytime hours to trap/video sampling. Each potential sample site surveyed at night is given a final determination as being either a reef site or not based on echo patterns, vertical relief and other characteristics. Up to 8 actual "reef" sites are then randomly selected for sampling during that day (Russell, unpublished report). Trap/video sampling begins one hour after sunrise and ends one hour before sunset. Trap soak time is one hour.

Associated environmental data collected at each site usually includes profiles of salinity, temperature, and surface chlorophyll; and may include profiles of dissolved oxygen, light transmittance, and fluorescence. Additional environmental and meteorological observations taken on stations follow standard SEAMAP methodology. During the NMFS component of the Reef Fish Survey, fish abundance is also measured with a fisheries acoustic device.

## BOTTOM LONGLINE SURVEY

This nearshore survey complements an existing long-term fisheries independent survey currently being conducted by NMFS offshore, by targeting shark and finfish species within the shallow waters of the north central Gulf of Mexico. The objectives of the survey were to collect information on coastal shark and finfish abundances and distribution with a 1-mile longline and to collect environmental data. During the 2013 Bottom Longline Survey, the survey design included several sampling regions off Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

Stations were chosen randomly within each area and were stratified by depth ( $0-5 \mathrm{~m}, 5-10 \mathrm{~m}$, and $10-$ 20 m ). The stations were sampled between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. each month. The sampling protocol follows the procedures established by the NMFS bottom longline survey. All equipment used in this inshore bottom longline survey is identical to the equipment used by NMFS. The longline gear consisted of a 1.6 km ( 426 kg test monofilament) mainline with 100 gangions ( $3.66 \mathrm{~m}, 332 \mathrm{~kg}$ test monofilament) containing \#15/0 circle hooks ( 0 offset) and baited with Atlantic mackerel, Scomber scomber. The mainline was weighted down with a midpoint and endpoint weight. Radar high-flyers with strobe bullet buoys were used to mark the longline locations. A hydraulic longline reel was used for setting and retrieving the mainline. The longline was fished for 1 -hr and then retrieved.

## VERTICAL LINE SURVEY

In 2010, Alabama started a new vertical line survey to sample reef fish over natural and artificial reefs and other areas. The sampling gear used a typical commercial bandit rig that holds approximately 500 feet of clear 300 lb test mainline. A $24-\mathrm{ft}$. backbone (leader) was attached to the terminal end of the mainline. An approximately ten pound weight was attached to the terminal end of the backbone. The backbone was rigged with ten 18-inch long gangions at intervals of two feet. A total of 12 grids were fished per survey. Two structure and two non-structure areas were randomly chosen and equally allocated across three depth strata. Vertical line reels were baited with Atlantic mackerel. Soak time was five minutes. Fish were retained and processed for age and fecundity. All fish were sacrificed for otoliths at stations deeper than 60 m . In water depth less than 60 m , stations were assigned as tag and release or collection sites.

Louisiana started vertical line sampling in 2011. In Louisiana, the sampling frame is subdivided into 3 sampling blocks based on depth between 89 degrees longitude and 91 degrees longitude, with the
water depth ranging from 60 to 360 feet. Each block is sampled quarterly in a rotation. Within these sampling blocks there is a possibility of randomly selecting 40 different corridors within the block. The actual sites are randomly selected within the corridor boundary and sampled at the chief scientist's discretion. The sites roughly consist of artificial reefs, natural bottom, and petroleum production platforms.

## RESULTS

## PLANKTON SURVEYS

Plankton stations for the Winter Plankton Survey are shown in Figure 2. Plankton stations for the Spring Plankton Survey are shown in Figure 3. Plankton stations for the Fall Plankton Survey are shown in Figure 4.

## TRAWL SURVEYS

## Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey

Shrimp and groundfish sampling was conducted in June and July from south Florida to Brownsville, Texas. Figure 5 shows station locations. The Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey consisted primarily of biological trawl data and concomitant environmental and plankton data. A species composition listing from the $40-\mathrm{ft}$ and $20-\mathrm{ft}$ trawls is presented in Table 2, ranked in order of abundance, within the categories of finfish, crustaceans, and other invertebrates.

## Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey

Shrimp and groundfish sampling was conducted from October through December from south Florida to Brownsville, Texas. Figure 6 shows the station locations. The Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey consisted of biological trawl data, concomitant environmental, and plankton data. A species composition listing from the $40-\mathrm{ft}$ and $20-\mathrm{ft}$ trawls is presented in Table 3, ranked in order of abundance, within the categories of finfish, crustaceans, and other invertebrates.

## REAL-TIME DATA MANAGEMENT

The SEAMAP Subcommittee agreed it was imperative to the success of the SEAMAP Program to distribute data on a near real-time basis to the fishing industry and others interested in SEAMAP. Summarized data were distributed weekly to approximately 100 individuals during the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey. The summarized data in the form of computer plots and data listings were sent to management agencies and industry members. These plots showed station locations, catches of brown, pink, and white shrimp in $\mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{hr}$ and count/lb, and total finfish catch in $\mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{hr}$.

## REEF FISH SURVEY

Primary data collection and sampling for reef fish assessment were conducted during February through June by NMFS personnel and from August by Florida personnel. Station locations are plotted in Figure 7. Video tapes from all sources were analyzed using NMFS standardized protocols.

## BOTTOM LONGLINE SURVEY

Station locations for the Bottom Longline Survey are plotted in Figure 8. A species composition list is presented in Table 4. The species list is ranked in order of abundance.

## VERTICAL LINE SURVEY

Station locations for the Vertical Line Survey are plotted in Figure 9. A species composition list, ranked in order of abundance, is presented in Table 5.

## DISCUSSION

The quasisynoptic SEAMAP sampling program and the intended long-term nature of the sampling programs have been designed to provide the baseline data set needed for fishery management and conservation. In 1985, the SEAMAP long-term baseline data was disrupted by the loss of the Spring Plankton Survey and Fall Plankton Survey. In 1986, the SEAMAP Subcommittee renewed its commitment for the collection of baseline plankton data. These ichthyoplankton samples are and will continue to be used by researchers studying taxonomy, age and growth, bioenergetics, and other life history aspects, as well as spawning biomass and recruitment. Information on species' relative distributions within the Gulf of Mexico can be analyzed with respect to environmental data to assess population abundance as a function of environmental change.

Similar analyses and investigations are being undertaken with Summer and Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey data. These data sets are being utilized in resource management decisions, and because of the program's ability to process data quickly, the capability exists to optimize some fisheries on a real-time basis. The long-term data set on all of the species collected, not just those of commercial and recreational importance, offers an opportunity to examine ecological relationships, with the eventual goal of developing management models that take into account the multi-species nature of most Gulf fisheries. The value of the SEAMAP program lies in its use for both immediate and longrange management goals.

Much use has already been made of SEAMAP data. For example, during the past SEAMAP surveys an area of very low dissolved bottom oxygen was found off Louisiana in the summers of 1982, 19852013. The presence of this phenomenon and some of the related conditions and biological effects were reported by Leming and Stuntz (1984) and Hanifen et al. (1995), and during such occurrences, SEAMAP has distributed special environmental bulletins and news releases to management agencies and the shrimp industry. In addition, SEAMAP data were used to assist in the identification of the minimum 1997 reduction in red snapper shrimp trawl bycatch mortality rate that would enable the red snapper fishery to still recover to the 20\% spawning potential ratio (SPR) by the year 2019 (Goodyear 1997). This analysis was requested and supported by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to address the issue of red snapper bycatch. SEAMAP data were also used by some coastal states to determine the status of shrimp stocks and their movements just as the shrimping seasons were to be opened and SEAMAP data were used to develop a guide to the grouper species of the western North Atlantic Ocean (Grace et al. 1994). The primary purpose of the guide is for species identification with projects that deploy underwater video camera systems.

Since SEAMAP's inception in 1982, the goal of plankton activities in the Gulf of Mexico has been to collect data on the early life stages of fishes and invertebrates that will complement and enhance the fishery-independent data gathered on the adult life-stage (Lyczkowski-Shultz and Brasher 1996). An annual larval index for the Atlantic bluefin tuna is generated each year from the Spring Plankton Survey and is used by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Bluefin Tunas to estimate stock size (Scott et al. 1993). Larval indices generated from the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish and Fall Plankton Surveys have now become an integral part of the king mackerel assessment in the Gulf (Gledhill and Lyczkowski-Shultz 2000). Larvae from SEAMAP collections have formed the basis for formal descriptions of larval development for fishes such as the snappers, cobia, tripletail, and dolphin (Drass et al. 2000; Ditty and Shaw 1992; Ditty and Shaw 1993; Ditty et al. 1994). Data on distribution and relative abundance of larvae of all Gulf fishes captured during SEAMAP surveys have been summarized by Richards et al. 1984, Kelley et al. 1985, Kelley et al. 1990, and Kelley et al. 1993.

The SEAMAP data collected during the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey continues to be used extensively for fishery management purposes. In 1981, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's plan for shrimp was implemented (Center for Wetland Resources 1980), with one management measure calling for the temporary closure to shrimping in the EEZ off Texas. This closure complements the traditional closure of the Texas territorial sea, normally May 15 through early July of each year. The GMFMC determined that this type of closure would allow small brown shrimp to be protected from harvest, but would still allow the taking of larger brown shrimp by fishermen in deeper waters.

The National Marine Fisheries Service was charged with evaluating the effects of the Texas Closure and submitted a report to the GMFMC in January 2013. This report contained the results and an overview of the effect of the 2011 Texas Closure. After review of these data and other information, the GMFMC voted to continue the Texas Closure for 2013.

Data from all SEAMAP surveys have been used in the SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) process. SEDAR is a cooperative Fishery Management Council process initiated in 2002 to improve the quality and reliability of fishery stock assessments. SEDAR seeks improvements in the scientific quality of stock assessments and greater relevance of quantities information available to address existing and emerging fishery management issues. SEAMAP data have been used in stock assessments for king mackerel, red snapper, gray triggerfish, gag grouper, red grouper, mutton snapper, blacknose sharks, and blacktip sharks.

## DATA REQUESTS

It is the policy of the SEAMAP Subcommittee that all verified non-confidential SEAMAP data, collected specimens, and samples shall be available to all SEAMAP participants, other fishery researchers, and management organizations. This atlas presents, to those individuals interested in the data or specimens, a chance to review the data in a summary form.

Data and specimen requests from SEAMAP participants, cooperators and others will normally be handled on a first-come, first-served, and time-available basis. Because of personnel and funding limitations, however, certain priorities must be assigned to the data and specimen requests. These priorities are reviewed by the SEAMAP Subcommittee. For further information on SEAMAP data
management, see the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) Management Plan: 2011-2015 (ASMFC 2011).

Data requests and inquiries, as well as requests for plankton samples, can be made by contacting Jeff Rester, the SEAMAP Coordinator, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, 2404 Government Street, Ocean Springs, MS 39564; (228) 875-5912 or via e-mail at jrester@gsmfc.org.

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| SEAMAP SURVEY ACTIVITIES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | WINTER | SPRING | SPRING | SUMMER |  | FALL |
| YEAR | SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | PLANKTON | SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | BUTTERFISH | PLANKTON |
| 1982 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | -- |
| 1983 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | -- |
| 1984 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST |
| 1985 | -- | -- | -- | JUNE-JULY | JULY-AUGUST | SEPTEMBER |
| 1986 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | MAY-JUNE | SEPTEMBER |
| 1987 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER |
| 1988 | -- | MARCH-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1989 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1990 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1991 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 1992 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-OCTOBER |
| 1993 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1994 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1995 | -- | APRIL-JUNE | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER |
| 1996 | -- | APRIL-JUNE | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1997 | -- | APRIL-JUNE | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1998 | -- | APRIL-JUNE | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 1999 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 2000 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER |
| 2001 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-OCTOBER |
| 2002 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-OCTOBER |
| 2003 | -- | MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-OCTOBER |
| 2004 | -- | APRIL-JUNE | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER |
| 2005 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-AUGUST | -- | -- |
| 2006 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2007 | -- | MARCH-JUNE | -- | JUNE-AUGUST | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2008 | -- | APRIL-JUNE | APRIL | JUNE-AUGUST | -- | SEPTEMBER |
| 2009 | JANUARY-FEBRUARY | APRIL-JUNE | MARCH | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2010 | FEBRUARY | APRIL-MAY | APRIL | JUNE-AUGUST | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2011 | FEBRUARY | MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2012 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | MAY-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2013 | -- | MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |


| SEAMAP SURVEY ACTIVITIES |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FALL | WINTER | BOTTOM | VERTICAL | REEF |
| YEAR | SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | PLANKTON | LONGLINE | LINE | FISH |
| 1982 | -- | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1983 | -- | DECEMBER | -- |  | -- |
| 1984 | -- | DECEMBER | -- |  | -- |
| 1985 | SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1986 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1987 | SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1988 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1989 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1990 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1991 | SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | -- |
| 1992 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | MAY-JUNE |
| 1993 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | JAN.-FEB. | -- |  | MAY-JULY, SEPT., NOV. |
| 1994 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | -- |  | MAY-JULY, AUG.-OCT., DEC. |
| 1995 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | JAN., JUNE-AUG., DEC. |
| 1996 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | DECEMBER | -- |  | JULY, AUGUST, NOVEMBER |
| 1997 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | JUNE, JULY, AUG., NOV. |
| 1998 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | -- |  | MAY, JULY, AUGUST |
| 1999 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | -- |  | JAN., AUG., OCT., DEC. |
| 2000 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | OCTOBER, NOVEMBER |
| 2001 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | MAY, JUNE, OCTOBER |
| 2002 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | FEBRUARY-MAY, OCTOBER |
| 2003 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER |
| 2004 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | JANUARY | -- |  | FEBRUARY-MARCH |
| 2005 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | -- |  | FEBRUARY-JULY, OCTOBER |
| 2006 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | FEBRUARY-AUGUST |
| 2007 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | -- | -- |  | FEBRUARY-MAY |
| 2008 | SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER | FEB.-MAR. | MARCH-OCTOBER |  | FEBRUARY-AUGUST |
| 2009 | SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER | FEB.-MAR. | MARCH-OCTOBER |  | APRIL-AUGUST |
| 2010 | SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER | FEB.-MAR. | MARCH-OCTOBER | APRIL-DECEMBER | MARCH-SEPTEMBER |
| 2011 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER |  | MARCH-OCTOBER | MAY-DECEMBER | APRIL-JULY |
| 2012 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | JANUARY-FEBRURY | MARCH-OCTOBER | MARCH-OCTOBER | JANUARY-AUGUST |
| 2013 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | FEBRUARY | MARCH-OCTOBER | FEBRUARY-OCTOBER | FEBRUARY-OCTOBER |


| Table 2. 2013 Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey species composition list, 391 trawl stations, for those vessels that used either a $40-\mathrm{ft}$ or $20-\mathrm{ft}$ trawl. Species with a total weight of less than $0.0227 \mathrm{~kg}(0.05 \mathrm{lb})$ are indicated on the table as 0.0 kg . |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | TOTAL NUMBER CAUGHT | TOTAL WEIGHT CAUGHT (KG) | NUMBER OF TOWS WHERE CAUGHT | \% FREQUENCY OCCURRENCE |
| Finfishes |  |  |  |  |  |
| Micropogonias undulatus | Atlantic croaker | 54498 | 1178.6 | 131 | 33.5 |
| Chloroscombrus chrysurus | Atlantic bumper | 18613 | 670.9 | 99 | 25.3 |
| Stenotomus caprinus | longspine porgy | 17786 | 431.5 | 133 | 34 |
| Peprilus burti | gulf butterfish | 17478 | 310.9 | 143 | 36.6 |
| Lagodon rhomboides | pinfish | 11437 | 641.2 | 139 | 35.5 |
| Syacium papillosum | dusky flounder | 6816 | 314 | 139 | 35.5 |
| Trachurus lathami | rough scad | 6792 | 136.9 | 100 | 25.6 |
| Saurida brasiliensis | largescale lizardfish | 6307 | 30.7 | 140 | 35.8 |
| Anchoa hepsetus | striped anchovy | 4801 | 61.9 | 48 | 12.3 |
| Prionotus longispinosus | bigeye searobin | 4606 | 60.4 | 117 | 29.9 |
| Serranus atrobranchus | blackear bass | 4376 | 47.2 | 76 | 19.4 |
| Trichiurus lepturus | Atlantic cutlassfish | 4057 | 117.3 | 96 | 24.6 |
| Upeneus parvus | dwarf goatfish | 3751 | 95 | 112 | 28.6 |
| Cynoscion arenarius | sand seatrout | 3117 | 83.2 | 104 | 26.6 |
| Synodus foetens | inshore lizardfish | 2852 | 301.1 | 227 | 58.1 |
| Lutjanus synagris | lane snapper | 2578 | 299.2 | 75 | 19.2 |
| Pristipomoides aquilonaris | wenchman | 2479 | 109 | 76 | 19.4 |
| Scorpaena calcarata | smoothhead scorpionfish | 2443 | 47.5 | 62 | 15.9 |
| Eucinostomus gula | silver jenny | 2327 | 75.1 | 29 | 7.4 |
| Haemulon aurolineatum | tomtate | 2175 | 209.5 | 71 | 18.2 |
| Leiostomus xanthurus | spot | 2167 | 144.3 | 81 | 20.7 |
| Peprilus paru | harvestfish | 2105 | 19.8 | 41 | 10.5 |
| Anchoa lyolepis | dusky anchovy | 2030 | 5.1 | 17 | 4.3 |
| Centropristis philadelphica | rock sea bass | 1858 | 49.7 | 98 | 25.1 |
| Synodus poeyi | offshore lizardfish | 1724 | 17.3 | 122 | 31.2 |
| Peprilus paru | harvestfish | 1643 | 8 | 17 | 4.3 |
| Prionotus stearnsi | shortwing searobin | 1606 | 15.6 | 82 | 21 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Centropristis ocyurus | bank sea bass | 417 | 20.1 | 48 | 12.3 |
| Stellifer lanceolatus | star drum | 400 | 2.8 | 28 | 7.2 |
| Bollmannia communis | ragged goby | 400 | 1.2 | 19 | 4.9 |
| Pterois volitans | lion fish | 391 | 55 | 61 | 15.6 |
| Serranus notospilus | saddle bass | 385 | 2.1 | 39 | 10 |
| Mullus auratus | red goatfish | 378 | 17.9 | 36 | 9.2 |
| Scorpaena brasiliensis | barbfish | 366 | 32.6 | 60 | 15.3 |
| Sphoeroides parvus | least puffer | 361 | 3.1 | 42 | 10.7 |
| Haemulon striatum | striped grunt | 358 | 7.3 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Ariopsis felis | hardhead catish | 354 | 52.4 | 32 | 8.2 |
| Bothus robinsi | twospot flounder | 352 | 11.5 | 51 | 13 |
| Sardinella aurita | Spanish sardine | 334 | 8.7 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Etropus crossotus | fringed flounder | 309 | 3.6 | 43 | 11 |
| Serranus phoebe | tattler | 307 | 11.7 | 41 | 10.5 |
| Scomberomorus maculatus | Spanish mackerel | 298 | 10.9 | 31 | 7.9 |
| Decapterus punctatus | round scad | 292 | 4.5 | 27 | 6.9 |
| Elops saurus | ladyfish | 279 | 1.6 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Monacanthus ciliatus | fringed filefish | 278 | 5.8 | 59 | 15.1 |
| Prionotus roseus | bluespotted searobin | 271 | 7.9 | 58 | 14.8 |
| Synodus intermedius | sand diver | 241 | 21.8 | 37 | 9.5 |
| Pagrus pagrus | red porgy | 232 | 13.6 | 25 | 6.4 |
| Opisthonema oglinum | Atlantic thread herring | 229 | 19.2 | 28 | 7.2 |
| Antennarius radiosus | singlespot frogfish | 223 | 2.1 | 37 | 9.5 |
| Lagocephalus laevigatus | smooth puffer | 200 | 3.9 | 52 | 13.3 |
| Ophidion holbrookii | bank cusk-eel | 188 | 18 | 26 | 6.6 |
| Oligoplites saurus | leatherjack | 185 | 4.6 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Etropus |  | 172 | 1.3 | 4 | 1 |
| Citharichthys spilopterus | bay whiff | 168 | 1.4 | 44 | 11.3 |
| Steindachneria argentea | luminous hake | 163 | 0.3 | 4 | 1 |
| Polydactylus octonemus | Atlantic threadfin | 158 | 4.8 | 30 | 7.7 |
| Prionotus rubio | blackwing searobin | 156 | 10.3 | 33 | 8.4 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | NUMBER OF |  |  |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Prionotus martis | barred searobin | 66 | 2.2 | 17 | 4.3 |
| Ancylopsetta ommata | ocellated flounder | 66 | 5.6 | 33 | 8.4 |
| Epinephelus morio | red grouper | 65 | 62.1 | 32 | 8.2 |
| Nicholsina usta | emerald parrotfish | 63 | 5.8 | 22 | 5.6 |
| Rhynchoconger flavus | yellow conger | 62 | 4.1 | 16 | 4.1 |
| Scomber japonicus | chub mackerel | 61 | 3.7 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ogcocephalus cubifrons | polka-dot battish | 60 | 2.9 | 20 | 5.1 |
| Brotula barbata | bearded brotula | 60 | 3.1 | 21 | 5.4 |
| Chaetodon sedentarius | reef butterflyfish | 58 | 3 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Citharichthys macrops | spotted whiff | 53 | 2.2 | 24 | 6.1 |
| Balistes capriscus | gray triggerfish | 53 | 9.2 | 26 | 6.6 |
| Centropristis striatus | black sea bass | 53 | 4.4 | 4 | 1 |
| Cyclopsetta fimbriata | spotfin flounder | 51 | 7.3 | 33 | 8.4 |
| Hoplunnis macrura | freckled pike-conger | 51 | 0.6 | 10 | 2.6 |
| Sphoeroides | common puffers | 50 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hippocampus erectus | lined seahorse | 50 | 0.3 | 31 | 7.9 |
| Ancylopsetta dilecta | three-eye flounder | 49 | 2.7 | 19 | 4.9 |
| Raja texana | roundel skate | 49 | 15.3 | 34 | 8.7 |
| Gastropsetta frontalis | shrimp flounder | 46 | 2.6 | 23 | 5.9 |
| Citharichthys gymnorhinus | anglefin whiff | 45 | 0.1 | 22 | 5.6 |
| Chilomycterus schoepfii | striped burrfish | 45 | 8.7 | 28 | 7.2 |
| Serranus tortugarum | chalk bass | 43 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Sphyraena guachancho | guaguanche | 43 | 4.8 | 14 | 3.6 |
| Calamus nodosus | knobbed porgy | 43 | 11.2 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Hemipteronotus novacula | pearly razorfish | 42 | 2.4 | 19 | 4.9 |
| Bothus ocellatus | eyed flounder | 41 | 1 | 15 | 3.8 |
| Holacanthus bermudensis | blue angelfish | 40 | 17.6 | 13 | 3.3 |
| Eucinostomus harengulus | tidewater mojarra | 39 | 2.7 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Prionotus scitulus | leopard searobin | 37 | 1.3 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Paralichthys albigutta | gulf flounder | 37 | 12.4 | 17 | 4.3 |
| Hemicaranx amblyrhynchus | bluntnose jack | 36 | 0.7 | 9 | 2.3 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Selene vomer | lookdown | 36 | 0.5 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Lachnolaimus maximus | hogfish | 35 | 13.1 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Calamus leucosteus | whitebone porgy | 32 | 9.8 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Ogcocephalus cubifrons |  | 32 | 11.5 | 25 | 6.4 |
| Ariomma bondi | silver-rag | 30 | 0.6 | 4 | 1 |
| Schultzea beta | school bass | 29 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Raja eglanteria | clearnose skate | 29 | 17.5 | 20 | 5.1 |
| Hoplunnis diomedianus | blacktail pike-conger | 28 | 0.2 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Astrapogon alutus | bronze cardinalfish | 28 | 0.1 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Menticirrhus americanus | southern kingfish | 28 | 3.8 | 11 | 2.8 |
| Caranx crysos | blue runner | 28 | 4.2 | 11 | 2.8 |
| Ogcocephalus corniger | longnose batfish | 27 | 0.7 | 17 | 4.3 |
| Symphurus plagiusa | blackcheek tonguefish | 26 | 0.6 | 8 | 2 |
| Ophidion selenops | mooneye cusk-eel | 26 | 0.1 | 11 | 2.8 |
| Priacanthus arenatus | bigeye | 26 | 3.2 | 19 | 4.9 |
| Etrumeus teres | round herring | 26 | 0.2 | 4 | 1 |
| Otophidium omostigmum | polka-dot cusk-eel | 26 | 0.3 | 8 | 2 |
| Neomerinthe hemingwayi | spinycheek scorpionfish | 25 | 0.9 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Chromis enchrysura | yellowtail reeffish | 24 | 0.3 | 14 | 3.6 |
| Pareques iwamotoi | blackbar drum | 24 | 1.7 | 8 | 2 |
| Caulolatilus intermedius | anchor tilefish | 24 | 1.6 | 13 | 3.3 |
| Prionotus tribulus | bighead searobin | 23 | 2.6 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Symphurus urospilus | spottail tonguefish | 23 | 0.8 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Apogon quadrisquamatus | sawcheek cardinalfish | 22 | 0.1 | 13 | 3.3 |
| Cryptotomus roseus | bluelip parrotfish | 21 | 0.2 | 13 | 3.3 |
| Decodon puellaris | red hogfish | 21 | 0.6 | 10 | 2.6 |
| Symphurus civitatium | offshore tonguefish | 20 | 0.4 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Lonchopisthus micrognathus | swordtail jawfish | 20 | 0.1 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Apogon pseudomaculatus | twospot cardinalfish | 19 | 0.1 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Gymnachirus texae | fringed sole | 19 | 0.3 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Bathyanthias cubensis |  | 19 | 0.2 | 5 | 1.3 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Pomacanthus arcuatus | gray angelfish | 19 | 5.5 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Canthigaster rostratus |  | 19 | 0.1 | 8 | 2 |
| Rypticus bistrispinus | freckled soapfish | 17 | 0.2 | 14 | 3.6 |
| Antennarius ocellatus | ocellated frogfish | 17 | 1.3 | 13 | 3.3 |
| Peristedion gracile | slender searobin | 17 | 0.1 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Caulolatilus cyanops | blackline tilefish | 17 | 0.1 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Paralichthys squamilentus | broad flounder | 16 | 5.1 | 10 | 2.6 |
| Holocentrus bullisi | deepwater squirrelfish | 16 | 0.4 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Gymnachirus melas | naked sole | 16 | 0.5 | 14 | 3.6 |
| Ophidion grayi | blotched cusk-eel | 15 | 0.9 | 3 | 0.8 |
| Ophidion marginatum | striped cusk-eel | 15 | 0.6 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Aluterus heudelotii | dotterel filefish | 15 | 4.8 | 8 | 2 |
| Paralichthys lethostigma | southern flounder | 14 | 5.7 | 10 | 2.6 |
| Conodon nobilis | barred grunt | 14 | 1.7 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Echeneis neucratoides | whitefin sharksucker | 14 | 3.4 | 8 | 2 |
| Pontinus longispinis | longspine scorpionfish | 13 | 0.5 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Seriola zonata | banded rudderfish | 13 | 0.8 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Ophidion josephi | crested cusk-eel | 13 | 0.6 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Ocyurus chrysurus | yellowtail snapper | 13 | 2.6 | 4 | 1 |
| Calamus penna | sheepshead porgy | 12 | 6.7 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Antennarius striatus | striated frogfish | 12 | 0.1 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Mustelus canis | smooth dogfish | 12 | 11.3 | 8 | 2 |
| Bellator egretta | streamer searobin | 12 | 0.2 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Sphyrna tiburo | bonnethead | 12 | 32 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Bellator brachychir | shortin searobin | 11 | 0 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Citharichthys cornutus | horned whiff | 11 | 0 | 3 | 0.8 |
| Acanthostracion polygonius | honeycomb cowfish | 11 | 6.7 | 9 | 2.3 |
| Seriola dumerili | greater amberjack | 11 | 4.5 | 4 | 1 |
| Apogon aurolineatus | bridle cardinalfish | 11 | 0 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Calamus bajonado | jolthead porgy | 11 | 24.5 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Neobythites gilli | cusk-eel | 10 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.8 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Umbrina coroides | sand drum | 10 | 1.6 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Opsanus pardus | leopard toadfish | 10 | 0.2 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Mycteroperca phenax | scamp | 10 | 3.2 | 8 | 2 |
| Lepophidium spp. | cusk-eels | 10 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Squatina dumeril | Atlantic angel shark | 9 | 15.9 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Parablennius marmoreus | seaweed blenny | 9 | 0 | 8 | 2 |
| Pomacanthus paru | French angelfish | 9 | 3.9 | 4 | 1 |
| Paraconger caudilimbatus | margintail conger | 9 | 0.9 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Urophycis earlli | Carolina hake | 9 | 0.3 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Echiophis intertinctus | spotted spoon-nose eel | 9 | 2.3 | 8 | 2 |
| Rypticus maculatus | whitespotted soapfish | 8 | 0.2 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Echeneis naucrates | sharksucker | 7 | 3.2 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Serranus annularis | orangeback bass | 7 | 0.1 | 4 | 1 |
| Physiculus fulvus | metallic codling | 7 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.8 |
| Carcharhinus acronotus | blacknose shark | 7 | 20 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Ariosoma balearicum | bandtooth conger | 7 | 0.2 | 4 | 1 |
| Epinephelus flavolimbatus | yellowedge grouper | 7 | 0.2 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Sphoeroides nephelus | southern puffer | 7 | 0.8 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Rhinoptera bonasus | cownose ray | 7 | 49.7 | 4 | 1 |
| Rhinobatos lentiginosus | Atlantic guitarfish | 7 | 3.8 | 4 | 1 |
| Halichoeres bathyphilus | greenband wrasse | 6 | 0.1 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Pomatomus saltatrix | bluefish | 6 | 1 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Rachycentron canadum | cobia | 6 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Pristigenys alta | short bigeye | 6 | 0.4 | 5 | 1.3 |
| Mustelus sinusmexicanus | Gulf smoothhound | 6 | 4.4 | 6 | 1.5 |
| Anchoviella perfasciata | Poey's anchovy | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cynoscion nebulosus | spotted seatrout | 6 | 1.7 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hirundichthys rondeletii | blackwing flyingfish | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0.8 |
| Ostichthys trachypomus |  | 5 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Gymnothorax nigromarginatus | blackedge moray | 5 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Scorpaena plumieri | spotted scorpionfish | 5 | 1.3 | 2 | 0.5 |


| Table 2 . Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Cephalopholis cruentata | graysby | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Prognathodes aya | bank butterflyfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Lophius americanus | goosefish | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Rhynchoconger gracilior |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Citharichthys | lefteye flounders | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ophidiidae | cusk-eels | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Scorpaena dispar | hunchback scorpionfish | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Diodon holocanthus | balloonfish | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gymnothorax moringa | spotted moray | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Seriola | amberjacks | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Echiodon dawsoni | chain pearlfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Apterichtus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Antennarius | anglerfishes | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Archosargus probatocephalus | sheepshead | 1 | 1.6 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Syngnathus springeri | bull pipefish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Carcharhinus falciformis | silky shark | 1 | 1.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Emblemaria piratula | pirate blenny | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Fistularia petimba | red cornetfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Saurenchelys cognita |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gobiidae | gobies | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Emblemaria atlantica | banner blenny | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Astrapogon puncticulatus | blackfin cardinalfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hypoplectrus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Serraniculus pumilio | pygmy sea bass | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Parexocoetus brachypterus | sailfin flyingfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Foetorepus goodenbeani | palefin dragonet | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Caranx bartholomaei | yellow jack | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Syngnathus scovelli | Gulf pipefish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Sardinella janeiro | orangespot sardine | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Elopidae | bigeyed herrings | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Mycteroperca microlepis | gag | 1 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.3 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Hypleurochilus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Lutjanus vivanus | silk snapper | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Heteropriacanthus cruentatus | glasseye snapper | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pomacentrus partitus | bicolor damselfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Symphurus spp. | tonguefishes | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gordiichthys |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Holacanthus ciliaris | queen angelfish | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ginglymostoma cirratum | nurse shark | 1 | 100 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Aluterus monoceros | unicorn filefish | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Bollmannia boqueronensis | white-eye goby | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Crustaceans |  |  |  |  |  |
| Farfantepenaeus aztecus | brown shrimp | 24801 | 334.6 | 210 | 53.7 |
| Rimapenaeus constrictus | roughneck shrimp | 14489 | 52.4 | 39 | 10 |
| Portunus spinicarpus | longspine swimming crab | 10929 | 40.1 | 149 | 38.1 |
| Sicyonia brevirostris | brown rock shrimp | 8523 | 92.8 | 110 | 28.1 |
| Squilla empusa | mantis shrimp | 6607 | 41.2 | 91 | 23.3 |
| Rimapenaeus similis | roughback shrimp | 6147 | 30.8 | 67 | 17.1 |
| Callinectes similis | lesser blue crab | 4901 | 47.3 | 131 | 33.5 |
| Squilla chydaea | mantis shrimp | 3285 | 14.3 | 68 | 17.4 |
| Solenocera vioscai | humpback shrimp | 2756 | 12.5 | 39 | 10 |
| Sicyonia dorsalis | lesser rock shrimp | 1701 | 3.4 | 47 | 12 |
| Portunus gibbesii | irridescent swimming crab | 1560 | 6.6 | 83 | 21.2 |
| Litopenaeus setiferus | white shrimp | 1392 | 48.9 | 82 | 21 |
| Farfantepenaeus duorarum | pink shrimp | 1360 | 37.7 | 66 | 16.9 |
| Parapenaeus politus | deepwater rose shrimp | 1236 | 2 | 23 | 5.9 |
| Solenocera atlantidis | dwarf humpback shrimp | 785 | 1.2 | 35 | 9 |
| Metapenaeopsis goodei | Caribbean velvet shrimp | 681 | 1.3 | 35 | 9 |
| Xiphopenaeus kroyeri | seabob | 585 | 2.8 | 17 | 4.3 |
| Anasimus latus | stilt spider crab | 574 | 2.6 | 64 | 16.4 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Scyllarus chacei | chace slipper lobster | 371 | 1.2 | 54 | 13.8 |
| Munida pusilla |  | 314 | 0.1 | 11 | 2.8 |
| Mesopenaeus tropicalis | salmon shrimp | 303 | 0.5 | 12 | 3.1 |
| Stenorhynchus seticornis | yellowline arrow crab | 270 | 0.6 | 76 | 19.4 |
| Portunus spinimanus | blotched swimming crab | 206 | 9.5 | 55 | 14.1 |
| Leiolambrus nitidus | white elbow crab | 159 | 0.3 | 32 | 8.2 |
| Calappa sulcata | yellow box crab | 150 | 27.7 | 43 | 11 |
| Raninoides louisianensis | gulf frog crab | 149 | 1.2 | 27 | 6.9 |
| Platylambrus granulata | bladetooth elbow crab | 146 | 0.4 | 46 | 11.8 |
| Portunus ordwayii |  | 144 | 1.6 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Callinectes sapidus | blue crab | 135 | 12.5 | 38 | 9.7 |
| Palaemonetes |  | 131 | 0 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Stenocionops furcatus furcatus | furcate crab | 94 | 2 | 50 | 12.8 |
| Cryptodromiopsis antillensis | hairy sponge crab | 86 | 0.4 | 46 | 11.8 |
| Podochela sidneyi | shortfinger neck crab | 83 | 0.1 | 35 | 9 |
| Scyllarides nodifer | ridged slipper lobster | 79 | 21.2 | 32 | 8.2 |
| Sicyonia burkenroadi | spiny rock shrimp | 74 | 0.1 | 15 | 3.8 |
| Pseudorhombila quadridentata | flecked squareback crab | 68 | 0.6 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Stenorhynchus |  | 51 | 0.1 | 21 | 5.4 |
| Libinia dubia | longnose spider crab | 47 | 0.2 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Calappa flammea | flame box crab | 47 | 11 | 23 | 5.9 |
| Squilla rugosa |  | 46 | 0.4 | 13 | 3.3 |
| Mithrax pleuracanthus | shaggy clinging crab | 45 | 0.1 | 19 | 4.9 |
| Penaeopsis serrata | megalops shrimp | 43 | 0 | 3 | 0.8 |
| lliacantha liodactylus | purse crab | 41 | 0.2 | 4 | 1 |
| Mithrax hispidus | coral clinging crab | 36 | 0.1 | 18 | 4.6 |
| Persephona crinita | pink purse crab | 33 | 0.1 | 23 | 5.9 |
| Parthenope agonus |  | 25 | 0 | 16 | 4.1 |
| Sicyonia typica | kinglet rock shrimp | 25 | 0.1 | 7 | 1.8 |
| Squilla deceptrix |  | 25 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.5 |
| Petrochirus diogenes | giant hermit crab | 24 | 1.6 | 18 | 4.6 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |


| Table 2 . Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2 . Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |



| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Crustaceans |  |  |  |  |  |
| Farfantepenaeus aztecus | brown shrimp | 6379 | 160.4 | 106 | 38.8 |
| Sicyonia brevirostris | brown rock shrimp | 4837 | 93.8 | 46 | 16.8 |
| Portunus spinicarpus | longspine swimming crab | 2504 | 18.7 | 77 | 28.2 |
| Litopenaeus setiferus | white shrimp | 2332 | 51.1 | 86 | 31.5 |
| Callinectes similis | lesser blue crab | 1498 | 20 | 74 | 27.1 |
| Portunus gibbesii | irridescent swimming crab | 904 | 5 | 61 | 22.3 |
| Squilla empusa | mantis shrimp | 793 | 8.6 | 59 | 21.6 |
| Rimapenaeus constrictus | roughneck shrimp | 585 | 2.5 | 24 | 8.8 |
| Farfantepenaeus duorarum | pink shrimp | 552 | 10.5 | 38 | 13.9 |
| Xiphopenaeus kroyeri | seabob | 520 | 1.6 | 22 | 8.1 |
| Solenocera vioscai | humpback shrimp | 452 | 2.2 | 30 | 11 |
| Rimapenaeus similis | roughback shrimp | 387 | 1.2 | 38 | 13.9 |
| Squilla chydaea | mantis shrimp | 335 | 2.2 | 28 | 10.3 |
| Anasimus latus | stilt spider crab | 322 | 2.7 | 36 | 13.2 |
| Portunus spinimanus | blotched swimming crab | 313 | 6.7 | 29 | 10.6 |
| Solenocera atlantidis | dwarf humpback shrimp | 208 | 0.2 | 15 | 5.5 |
| Sicyonia dorsalis | lesser rock shrimp | 199 | 0.6 | 10 | 3.7 |
| Scyllarus chacei | chace slipper lobster | 138 | 0.5 | 24 | 8.8 |
| Stenorhynchus seticornis | yellowline arrow crab | 127 | 0.3 | 37 | 13.6 |
| Mesopenaeus tropicalis | salmon shrimp | 120 | 0.4 | 4 | 1.5 |
| Metapenaeopsis goodei | Caribbean velvet shrimp | 97 | 0.1 | 15 | 5.5 |
| Calappa sulcata | yellow box crab | 69 | 15.3 | 24 | 8.8 |
| Raninoides louisianensis | gulf frog crab | 57 | 0.6 | 16 | 5.9 |
| Scyllarides nodifer | ridged slipper lobster | 36 | 9.9 | 15 | 5.5 |
| Pagurus pollicaris | flatclaw hermit crab | 31 | 0.4 | 18 | 6.6 |
| Callinectes sapidus | blue crab | 21 | 2.2 | 6 | 2.2 |
| Mithrax hispidus | coral clinging crab | 20 | 0.1 | 6 | 2.2 |
| Portunus ordwayii |  | 20 | 0.2 | 10 | 3.7 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | TOTAL <br> NUMBER <br> CAUGHT | TOTAL <br> NUMBER <br> WEIGHED | tOTAL <br> WEIGHT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Finfishes |  |  |  |  |
| Rhizoprionodon terraenovae | Atlantic sharpnose shark | 1732 | 1539 | 5226.3 |
| Carcharhinus limbatus | blacktip shark | 450 | 307 | 3696.9 |
| Bagre marinus | gaftopsail catish | 308 | 259 | 426.6 |
| Sciaenops ocellatus | red drum | 153 | 141 | 1231.9 |
| Lutjanus campechanus | red snapper | 143 | 135 | 645.4 |
| Carcharhinus acronotus | blacknose shark | 110 | 107 | 877.7 |
| Ophichthus rex | king snake eel | 90 | 43 | 241.3 |
| Carcharhinus leucas | bull shark | 82 | 24 | 360.6 |
| Mustelus canis | dusky smooth-hound | 66 | 63 | 276.9 |
| Carcharhinus brevipinna | spinner shark | 49 | 41 | 601.1 |
| Carcharhinus isodon | finetooth shark | 28 | 24 | 94.5 |
| Dasyatis americana | southern stingray | 25 | 8 | 272.0 |
| Sphyrna lewini | scalloped hammerhead | 22 | 11 | 217.4 |
| Mustelus | smooth hound sharks | 19 | 18 | 135.0 |
| Arius felis | hardhead catfish | 19 | 15 | 20.2 |
| Carcharhinus plumbeus | sandbar shark | 16 | 12 | 295.8 |
| Unid.fish |  | 15 | 0 |  |
| Galeocerdo cuvier | tiger shark | 14 | 6 | 39.4 |
| Sphyrna mokarran | great hammerhead | 12 | 4 | 139.6 |
| Caranx hippos | crevalle jack | 5 | 5 | 53.3 |
| Pogonias cromis | black drum | 4 | 4 | 37.3 |
| Carcharhinus falciformis | silky shark | 4 | 4 | 34.3 |
| Dasyatis sabina | Atlantic stingray | 4 | 4 | 13.8 |
| Brotula barbatum | bearded brotula | 3 | 3 | 4.8 |
| Rhinoptera bonasus | cownose ray | 3 | 1 | 6.0 |
| Rachycentron canadum | cobia | 2 | 0 |  |
| Negaprion brevirostris | lemon shark | 2 | 1 | 11.5 |



| Table 5. 2013 Vertical Line Survey species composition list. Species with no weight recorded were too large to measure. |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |



Figure 1. Statistical zones for shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico.


Figure 2. Locations of plankton and environmental stations during the 2013 Winter Plankton Survey.


Figure 3. Locations of plankton and environmental stations during the 2013 Spring Plankton Survey.


Figure 4. Locations of stations during the 2013 Fall Plankton Survey.


Figure 5. Locations of stations during the 2013 Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey.


Figure 6. Locations of stations during the 2013 Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey.


Figure 7. Locations of stations during the 2013 Reef Fish Survey.


Figure 8. Locations of stations during the 2013 Inshore Bottom Longline Survey.


Figure 9. Locations of stations during the 2013 Vertical Line Survey.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Mesh size change in database does not represent an actual change in gear but only a change in the accuracy at which plankton mesh aperture size can be measured by the manufacturer.

