## environmental and biological atlas of the gulf of mexico 2017


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# SEAMAP ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL ATLAS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO, 2017 

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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 2017 (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. 2009a); 2004 (Rester 2009b); 2005 (Rester 2010a); 2006 (Rester 2010b); 2007 (Rester 2010c); 2008 (Rester 2011a); 2009 (Rester 2011b); 2010 (Rester 2012); 2011 (Rester 2014); 2012 (Rester 2014), 2013 (Rester 2015), 2014 (Rester 2017a), 2015 (Rester 2017b) and 2016 (Rester 2017c). 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 2017, 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 2016. Overall survey objectives in 1982 to 2017 were to assess the distribution and abundance of recreational and commercial organisms collected by plankton, 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 was designed to determine the relative abundance of reef fish populations and habitat using a 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-sixth in a series of SEAMAP environmental and biological atlases presents such data, in a summarized form, collected during the 2017 SEAMAP surveys.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Methodology for the 2017 SEAMAP surveys is similar to that of the 1982 through 2016 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 Spring Plankton Survey from April 29 - May 29. Vessels that participated in collecting plankton and environmental data during the Fall Plankton Survey included the NOAA Ship GORDON GUNTER (September 5-30) and the Louisiana vessel R/V DEFENDER (September 16-17).

Vessels that participated in the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey included the USM/GCRL vessel R/V TOMMY MUNRO (May 30 - June 1), Florida using the R/V TOMMY MUNRO (June 7-24), Louisiana using the R/V POINT SUR (June 26-28), the NOAA Ship OREGON II (June 9 - July 19) and the Alabama vessel R/V ALABAMA DISCOVERY (June 26-27 and June 30).

The NOAA ship PISCES participated in the Reef Fish Survey from April 11 - June 15. Florida conducted several reef fish cruises aboard the R/V GULF MARINER (May 18 - August 4), R/V TOMMY MUNRO (June 24-29), and the R/V WEATHERBIRD II (June 27 - July 4).

Vessels that participated in the Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey included the NOAA Ships OREGON II (October 12 - November 20), the USM/GCRL vessel R/V TOMMY MUNRO (November 6-8), Florida using the R/V TOMMY MUNRO (October 14-22), the Louisiana vessel R/V POINT SUR (November 15-16), and the Alabama vessel R/V ALABAMA DISCOVERY (October 26).

Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas conducted bottom longline sampling monthly from April to October as part of the Bottom Longline Survey.

Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas sampled reef fish over artificial reefs, oil and gas platforms, and natural habitat from April through November during the Vertical Line Survey.

## 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 dedicated plankton 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 halfsubmerged 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 2017 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 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 2017.

## 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:

[^0]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: Gross water color data were 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 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.
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 poststratified. 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.

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 fish 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 42-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.

## REEF FISH SURVEY

The primary purpose of this survey is to assess relative abundance and compute population estimates of reef fish in the Gulf of Mexico. For the NMFS portion of the Reef Fish Survey, a two-stage procedure was used to select sample sites on natural reef fish habitat. Sample blocks were first selected using stratified random sampling, with strata defined by region of the Gulf of Mexico and size. Reef sites within each block were then selected randomly from previously collected bathymetric data. Video gear was used to assess relative abundance and length frequencies and consisted of an orthogonal stereo camera array with four cylindrical pressure housings positioned orthogonally and center mounted 51 cm above the bottom of the array. Each of the four housings contained paired black-and-white Videre stereo cameras along with a color mpeg camera. The reef investigation and observation tower contained one $360^{\circ}$ FOV SphereCam housing consisting of five horizontally mounted 2.3MP machine vision cameras and one vertically mounted 5MP machine vision camera as well as one of the previously mentioned stereo camera housings. The SphereCam and stereo camera housing were center mounted vertically at 96.5 cm and 53 cm above the bottom of the array, respectively. The camera arrays were baited with squid and were retrieved 30 minutes after the systems were switched on for deployment.

For the Florida portion of the survey, a survey of bottom habitat was conducted using side-scan sonar that covered a distance of 1 nm east and west of each randomly selected sampling site. Sidescan sonar data were analyzed to determine the quantity of reef habitat and number of targets where gear could be set within each $0.1 \mathrm{~nm} \times 0.3 \mathrm{~nm}$ sampling unit. A target was defined as identified reef fish habitat with a minimum of 100 m spacing between targets. Within each survey, a random selection procedure was followed to select transects from all transects containing at least two targets. Sampling occurred at a minimum for the first selected transect followed by other transects (alternates) if time allowed. All cameras were separated from any other deployed gear by approximately 100 m . All camera arrays were freshly baited with Atlantic mackerel prior to deployment. The stationary video camera array was equipped with a pair of underwater camera units positioned at an angle of $180^{\circ}$ from one another to maximize the total field of view. Each camera unit consisted of an underwater housing that contained computer hardware and connections to two video cameras each within underwater housings separated by 30 cm . The stationary video camera array was allowed to soak at the bottom for a minimum of thirty-five minutes to assure that twenty minutes of continuous video and stereo images were recorded.

Environmental data collected at each site includes salinity, dissolved oxygen, and temperature profiles and surface chlorophyll and may include light transmittance and fluorescence. Additional environmental observations taken on stations follow standard SEAMAP methodology.

## BOTTOM LONGLINE SURVEY

Until 2014 each partner randomly selected stations off their coast independent of other states. There were discrepancies among the partners regarding number of stations sampled, the frequency
of sampling, the size of the sampling universe, and the depth strata targeted. In an effort to make the bottom longline data as useful as possible in federal and state stock assessments, the SEAMAP Subcommittee began an effort in 2014 to develop a standardized protocol for station selection procedures. This effort sought to better standardize the sampling effort among the partners and develop a more uniform design and resultant data set. At the March 2015 SEAMAP Subcommittee meeting, firm station selection protocols were established.

Sampling now occurs during three seasons Spring (April-May), Summer (June-July), and Fall (August-September). Sampling is conducted in waters defined by the 3-10m depth contour. NMFS Statistical Zones (Figure 1) are used as guides to ensure effective distribution of sampling effort. Stations are proportionally allocated and randomly distributed within the $3-10 \mathrm{~m}$ depth contour in each statistical zone based on the proportion of those depths present. Since the 3-10m depth strata is smaller in some statistical zones relative to other statistical zones, each statistical zone is allocated at least two stations during each season in order to ensure adequate sampling coverage. Partners usually survey the stations that occur off their state boundaries for each season. When seasonal effort cannot be accomplished due to weather or mechanical problems the partners should decrease effort proportionally across their area. The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission selects all stations for all seasons and annually distributes them to the partners.

Given the limited number of samples that can be conducted during the Bottom Longline Survey, the large area of the statistical zones, and spatial autocorrelation of most fish species, station locations are buffered 4 nautical miles. Sampling effort by each partner must have a two week buffer between consecutive seasons. For example, if the last day of spring sampling was conducted on May 30th, summer sampling should not begin until June 15th.

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 scombrus. The mainline was weighted down with a beginning, 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 hour and then retrieved.

## VERTICAL LINE SURVEY

The Vertical Line Survey design was standardized in 2016. The SEAMAP Subcommittee decided to divide the Gulf offshore waters between 10 and 150 m into 150 x 150 m grid blocks. Unknown habitat, known natural reef (hard bottom), presumed reef either natural or artificial, oil/gas platforms, and artificial reefs were the five habitat classifications developed by the SEAMAP Subcommittee. Each 150x150m grid block is assigned a habitat classification based upon several different datasets used to develop the sampling universe. A grid block can be classified as more than one habitat type if it has more than one habitat located within it.

For the station selection process, the total amount of habitat within the three depth zones (10-20m, $20-40 \mathrm{~m}$, and $40-150 \mathrm{~m}$ ) is computed. The percentage of area covered by each depth zone determines the percentage of the total stations that will be sampled within each depth zone (i.e. if a depth zone contains $40 \%$ of the total area, $40 \%$ of the total stations will be assigned to that depth zone). The total area of each habitat classification is calculated within each depth stratum. The total of each habitat classification, excluding unknown habitat, is then used to calculate the percentage of habitats within the depth zone. This percentage is used to determine how many
stations are assigned to each habitat type within the depth zone. Stations are randomly selected based upon the habitat classification percentages within each depth zone.

All partners use three 22-foot backbones containing ten 18-inch gangions outfitted with either an $8 / 0,11 / 0$ or $15 / 0$ circle hook (each backbone has only one hook size), and terminating in a 10 pound lead weight. Three bandit reels deploy the gear simultaneously on or near a reef structure and, once locked in at depth, are allowed to fish for 5 minutes. All bandit reels then retrieve the lines simultaneously. Catch data are collected once the lines are onboard. Environmental data is collected upon completion of fishing at each station.

## RESULTS

## PLANKTON SURVEYS

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

## TRAWL SURVEYS

## Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey

Shrimp and groundfish sampling was conducted from May through July from south Florida to Brownsville, Texas. Figure 4 shows station locations. The Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey consisted primarily of biological trawl data and concomitant environmental data. A species composition listing from the $42-\mathrm{ft}$ 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 November from south Florida to Brownsville, Texas. Figure 5 shows the station locations. The Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey consisted of biological trawl data and concomitant environmental data. A species composition listing from the $42-\mathrm{ft}$ 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 125 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 lb/hr and count/lb, and total finfish catch in lb/hr.

## REEF FISH SURVEY

Station locations are plotted in Figure 6. 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 7. 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 8. 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. 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 long-range 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, 1985-2017. 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 Atlantic Bluefin Tuna and Skipjack 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 2017. This report contained the results and an overview of the effect of the 2016 Texas Closure. After review of these data and other information, the GMFMC voted to continue the Texas Closure for 2017.

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 Greater Amberjack, Almaco Jack, Lesser Amberjack, Snowy Grouper, Speckled Hind, King Mackerel, Red Snapper, Vermillion Snapper, Gray Triggerfish, Gag Grouper, Red Grouper, Mutton Snapper, Lane Snapper, Wenchman, Blacknose Shark, Atlantic Sharpnose Shark, Bonnethead Shark, Smoothhound Sharks, small coastal sharks, and Blacktip Shark.

## 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: 2016-2020 (ASMFC 2017).

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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Table 1. List of SEAMAP survey activities from 1982 to 2017.
SEAMAP SURVEY ACTIVITIES

| YEAR | WINTER <br> SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | $\begin{gathered} \text { SPRING } \\ \text { PLANKTON } \end{gathered}$ | SPRING <br> SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | SUMMER <br> SHRIMP/GROUNDFISH | BUTTERFISH | $\begin{gathered} \text { FALL } \\ \text { PLANKTON } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 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 |
| 2014 | -- | MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2015 | -- | MAY | -- | MAY-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2016 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | MAY-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER |
| 2017 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | MAY-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER |


| Table 1. List of SEAMAP survey activities from 1982 to 2017 (continued). |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 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 | JANUARY-FEBRUARY | -- |  | 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 | FEBRUARY-MARCH | MARCH-OCTOBER |  | FEBRUARY-AUGUST |
| 2009 | SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER | FEBRUARY-MARCH | MARCH-OCTOBER |  | APRIL-AUGUST |
| 2010 | SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER | FEBRUARY-MARCH | MARCH-OCTOBER | APRIL-DECEMBER | MARCH-SEPTEMBER |
| 2011 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | MARCH-OCTOBER | MAY-DECEMBER | APRIL-JULY |
| 2012 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | JANUARY-FEBRUARY | MARCH-OCTOBER | MARCH-OCTOBER | JANUARY-AUGUST |
| 2013 | OCTOBER-DECEMBER | FEBRUARY | MARCH-OCTOBER | FEBRUARY-OCTOBER | FEBRUARY-OCTOBER |
| 2014 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | MARCH-OCTOBER | MAY-OCTOBER | MAY-SEPTEMBER |
| 2015 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | MARCH-APRIL | APRIL-OCTOBER | MAY-OCTOBER | MAY-OCTOBER |
| 2016 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | APRIL-SEPTEMBER | APRIL-OCTOBER | APRIL-SEPTEMBER |
| 2017 | OCTOBER-NOVEMBER | -- | APRIL-SEPTEMBER | APRIL-NOVEMBER | APRIL-AUGUST |


| Table 2. 2017 Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey species composition list, 342 trawl stations, for those vessels that used a $40-\mathrm{ft}$ 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 . |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  |  |  | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Finfishes |  |  |  |  |  |
| Micropogonias undulatus | Atlantic Croaker | 71430 | 2458.2 | 128 | 37.4 |
| Stenotomus caprinus | Longspine Porgy | 11005 | 400.8 | 130 | 38 |
| Chloroscombrus chrysurus | Atlantic Bumper | 8505 | 275.4 | 96 | 28.1 |
| Prionotus longispinosus | Bigeye Searobin | 6081 | 78.7 | 140 | 40.9 |
| Syacium papillosum | Dusky Flounder | 5713 | 291.8 | 143 | 41.8 |
| Leiostomus xanthurus | Spot | 5638 | 446.1 | 73 | 21.3 |
| Lagodon rhomboides | Pinfish | 4253 | 289 | 150 | 43.9 |
| Lutjanus synagris | Lane Snapper | 3636 | 476.6 | 98 | 28.7 |
| Stephanolepis hispida | Planehead Filefish | 3586 | 56.2 | 112 | 32.7 |
| Peprilus burti | Gulf Butterfish | 3499 | 255.1 | 91 | 26.6 |
| Trichiurus lepturus | Atlantic Cutlassfish | 3232 | 70.9 | 88 | 25.7 |
| Saurida brasiliensis | Largescale Lizardfish | 3190 | 13.6 | 88 | 25.7 |
| Cynoscion nothus | Silver Seatrout | 3133 | 87.4 | 80 | 23.4 |
| Upeneus parvus | Dwarf Goatfish | 2756 | 58.1 | 88 | 25.7 |
| Haemulon aurolineatum | Tomtate | 2697 | 236.5 | 87 | 25.4 |
| Cynoscion arenarius | Sand Seatrout | 2467 | 113.3 | 97 | 28.4 |
| Synodus foetens | Inshore Lizardfish | 2425 | 257.4 | 240 | 70.2 |
| Trachurus lathami | Rough Scad | 2360 | 53.8 | 80 | 23.4 |
| Syacium gunteri | Shoal Flounder | 2049 | 35.5 | 95 | 27.8 |
| Pristipomoides aquilonaris | Wenchman | 1935 | 87.6 | 88 | 25.7 |
| Eucinostomus gula | Silver Jenny | 1675 | 70 | 47 | 13.7 |
| Diplectrum formosum | Sand Perch | 1625 | 172.9 | 135 | 39.5 |
| Scorpaena calcarata | Smoothhead Scorpionfish | 1523 | 38.2 | 57 | 16.7 |
| Serranus atrobranchus | Blackear Bass | 1490 | 17.5 | 77 | 22.5 |
| Larimus fasciatus | Banded Drum | 1159 | 44.9 | 55 | 16.1 |
| Prionotus stearnsi | Shortwing Searobin | 1121 | 14 | 62 | 18.1 |
| Trachinocephalus myops | Bluntnose Lizardfish | 1102 | 80 | 90 | 26.3 |


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


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


| 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 alatus | Spiny Searobin | 43 | 1.1 | 12 | 3.5 |
| Etropus cyclosquamus | Shelf Flounder | 42 | 0.4 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Canthigaster rostrata | Sharpnose Puffer | 41 | 0.4 | 10 | 2.9 |
| Synodus | Lizard Fishes | 41 | 1.7 | 6 | 1.8 |
| Calamus |  | 41 | 10.9 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Apogon aurolineatus | Bridle Cardinalish | 41 | 0.4 | 7 | 2 |
| Paralichthys lethostigma | Southern Flounder | 40 | 13.5 | 20 | 5.8 |
| Steindachneria argentea | Luminous Hake | 39 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Chaetodipterus faber | Atlantic Spadefish | 39 | 7.6 | 16 | 4.7 |
| Ogcocephalus declivirostris | Slantbrow Batish | 38 | 0.6 | 12 | 3.5 |
| Ancylopsetta ommata | Ocellated Flounder | 36 | 6.5 | 25 | 7.3 |
| Caranx crysos | Blue Runner | 36 | 7 | 15 | 4.4 |
| Ogcocephalus parvus | Roughback Batfish | 36 | 0.6 | 18 | 5.3 |
| Ophidion antipholus | Longnose Cusk-eel | 34 | 2.2 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Sphyraena borealis | Northern Sennet | 34 | 5.4 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Diplectrum | Perch | 34 | 0.2 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Brotula barbata | Bearded Brotula | 34 | 3.3 | 18 | 5.3 |
| Bothus ocellatus | Eyed Flounder | 32 | 0.6 | 13 | 3.8 |
| Chilomycterus schoepfii | Burrish | 32 | 9.1 | 21 | 6.1 |
| Decodon puellaris | Red Hogfish | 32 | 1.2 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Ophidion josephi | Crested Cusk-eel | 31 | 1.2 | 10 | 2.9 |
| Urophycis floridana | Southern Codling | 31 | 2.3 | 12 | 3.5 |
| Hoplunnis macrura | Freckled Pike-conger | 30 | 0.2 | 7 | 2 |
| Symphurus urospilus | Spottail Tonguefish | 30 | 1 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Calamus nodosus | Knobbed Porgy | 29 | 6.4 | 11 | 3.2 |
| Peprilus paru | Harvestish | 29 | 0.8 | 7 | 2 |
| Mulloidichthys martinicus | Yellow Goattish | 28 | 1.7 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Holacanthus bermudensis | Blue Angelfish | 27 | 13 | 14 | 4.1 |
| Caulolatilus intermedius | Anchor Tilefish | 27 | 2.3 | 10 | 2.9 |
| Bairdiella chrysoura | Silver Perch | 27 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ancylopsetta dilecta | Three-eye Flounder | 27 | 1.8 | 13 | 3.8 |


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


| 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 |
| Sphyraena guachancho | Guaguanche | 7 | 1.4 | 6 | 1.8 |
| Echeneis naucrates | Sharksucker | 7 | 2.4 | 6 | 1.8 |
| Pristigenys alta | Short Bigeye | 7 | 0.9 | 6 | 1.8 |
| Scomberomorus maculatus | Atlantic Spanish Mackerel | 7 | 1.7 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Rhinobatos lentiginosus | Atlantic Guitarfish | 7 | 4.1 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Citharichthys cornutus | Horned Whiff | 6 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Perciformes | Perch-like Fishes | 6 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Lepophidium |  | 6 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Physiculus fulvus | Hakeling | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Raja eglanteria | Clearnose Skate | 6 | 4.6 | 6 | 1.8 |
| Centropristis striata | Black Sea Bass | 6 | 2.1 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Halichoeres bathyphilus | Greenband Wrasse | 5 | 0.2 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Carangoides bartholomaei | Yellow Jack | 5 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Syngnathus louisianae | Chain Pipefish | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Pomacanthidae | Angelfishes | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Hippocampus erectus | Lined Seahorse | 5 | 0.1 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Calamus calamus | Saucereye Porgy | 5 | 1.7 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Astrapogon alutus | Bronze Cardinalfish | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Eucinostomus | Mojarras | 4 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Mycteroperca phenax | Scamp | 4 | 1.6 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Cheilopogon cyanopterus | Margined Flyingfish | 4 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Mustelus sinusmexicanus | Gulf Smoothhound | 4 | 2.7 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Paraconger caudilimbatus | Margintail Conger | 4 | 0.1 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Pomatomus saltatrix | Bluefish | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Rajidae | Rays | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Citharichthys gymnorhinus | Anglefin Whiff | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Gymnothorax nigromarginatus | Blackedge Moray | 4 | 0.6 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Etropus microstomus | Smallmouth Flounder | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Dasyatis sabina | Atlantic Stingray | 4 | 4.4 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Selene vomer | Lookdown | 4 | 0.5 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Urophycis | Codlings | 4 | 0.3 | 3 | 0.9 |


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


| 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 |
| Carcharhinus falciformis | Silky Shark | 1 | 1.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Blenniidae | Blennies | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Scomber colias | Atlantic chub mackerel | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Opsanus tau | Oyster Toadfish | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ophidiidae | Brotulas | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Paraclinus nigripinnis | Blackfin Blenny | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Risor ruber | Tusked Goby | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Holacanthus ciliaris | Queen Angelfish | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hypleurochilus bermudensis | Barred Blenny | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Stegastes partitus | Bicolor Damselfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Muraena retifera | Reticulate Moray | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Elops saurus | Ladyfish | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hoplunnis |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Paralichthyidae |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Diplodus holbrookii | Spottail Pinfish | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Eucinostomus melanopterus | Flagfin Mojarra | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Phaeoptyx pigmentaria | Dusky Cardinalish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pronotogrammus martinicensis | Roughtongue bass | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Prionotus | North American Searobins | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hemicaranx amblyrhynchus | Bluntnose Jack | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Epinephelus niveatus | Snowy Grouper | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Scorpaena brachyptera | Shortin Scorpionfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Serranidae | Groupers | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Lutjanus analis | Mutton Snapper | 1 | 3.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Epinephelus itajara | Goliath Grouper | 1 | 100 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hoplunnis tenuis | Spotted Pike-conger | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Synodus synodus | Red Lizardfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Scorpaena plumieri | Spotted Scorpionfish | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ariomma bondi | Silver-rag | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Dactylopterus volitans | Flying Gurnard | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Scomberomorus cavalla | King Mackerel | 1 | 1.2 | 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 |
| Dipturus olseni | Spreadfin Skate | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Archosargus probatocephalus | Sheepshead | 1 | 0.9 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Haemulon sciurus | Bluestriped Grunt | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Urobatis | Shortail Round Stingrays | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Carcharhinus plumbeus | Sandbar Shark | 1 | 3.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Halichoeres caudalis | Painted Wrasse | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ophichthus puncticeps | Palespotted Eel | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Crustaceans |  |  |  |  |  |
| Farfantepenaeus aztecus | Brown Shrimp | 27522 | 378.6 | 186 | 54.4 |
| Callinectes similis | Lesser Blue Crab | 16797 | 157.2 | 111 | 32.5 |
| Rimapenaeus similis | Roughback Shrimp | 6771 | 26 | 80 | 23.4 |
| Squilla empusa | Mantis Shrimp | 4099 | 35.2 | 95 | 27.8 |
| Farfantepenaeus duorarum | Northern Pink Shrimp | 2866 | 57.2 | 81 | 23.7 |
| Litopenaeus setiferus | Northern White Shrimp | 2846 | 110.9 | 57 | 16.7 |
| Sicyonia brevirostris | Brown Rock Shrimp | 1822 | 22.3 | 93 | 27.2 |
| Portunus spinicarpus | Longspine Swimming Crab | 1723 | 8.6 | 94 | 27.5 |
| Sicyonia dorsalis | Lesser Rock Shrimp | 1273 | 2.5 | 28 | 8.2 |
| Rimapenaeus constrictus | Roughneck Shrimp | 984 | 4.2 | 31 | 9.1 |
| Portunus gibbesii | Iridescent Swimming Crab | 951 | 9 | 77 | 22.5 |
| Squilla chydaea |  | 700 | 4.1 | 57 | 16.7 |
| Xiphopenaeus kroyeri | Atlantic Seabob | 571 | 4 | 11 | 3.2 |
| Portunus spinimanus | Blotched Swimming Crab | 510 | 14.8 | 75 | 21.9 |
| Solenocera vioscai | Humpback Shrimp | 503 | 2.1 | 33 | 9.6 |
| Anasimus latus | Stilt Spider Crab | 440 | 1.4 | 63 | 18.4 |
| Solenocera atlantidis | Dwarf Humpback Shrimp | 349 | 0.6 | 37 | 10.8 |
| Callinectes sapidus | Blue Crab | 338 | 55.7 | 66 | 19.3 |
| Stenorhynchus seticornis | Yellowline Arrow Crab | 269 | 1.1 | 61 | 17.8 |
| Raninoides louisianensis | Gulf Frog Crab | 233 | 1.6 | 44 | 12.9 |
| Metapenaeopsis goodei | Caribbean Velvet Shrimp | 230 | 0.4 | 29 | 8.5 |


| 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 |
| Paguristes triangulatus |  | 16 | 0.2 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Pyromaia cuspidata | Dartnose Pear Crab | 15 | 0.1 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Porcellana sayana | Spotted Porcelain Crab | 15 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Petrochirus diogenes | Giant Hermit | 14 | 0.3 | 10 | 2.9 |
| Mithrax hispidus | Coral Clinging Crab | 13 | 0 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Munida forceps |  | 13 | 0 | 7 | 2 |
| Metoporhaphis calcarata | False Arrow Crab | 11 | 0 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Solenocera |  | 11 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Plesionika longicauda |  | 10 | 0 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Solenoceridae | Solenocerid Shrimps | 10 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gibbesia neglecta |  | 10 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Pilumnus sayi | Spineback Hairy Crab | 10 | 0 | 7 | 2 |
| Squilla deceptrix |  | 9 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Mithrax |  | 9 | 0 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Munida pusilla |  | 9 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Munida |  | 8 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Sicyonia | Rock Shrimps | 8 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Nemausa acuticornis | Sharphorn Clinging Crab | 8 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Squilla rugosa |  | 8 | 0.1 | 6 | 1.8 |
| Iliacantha subglobosa | Longfinger Purse Crab | 7 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Collodes robustus |  | 6 | 0 | 5 | 1.5 |
| Decapoda | Crabs | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Penaeidae | Penaeid Shrimps | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Mithrax pleuracanthus | Shaggy Clinging Crab | 6 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Dyspanopeus texanus | Gulf Grassflat Crab | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gonodactylus torus |  | 5 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Majidae | Spider Crabs | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Myropsis quinquespinosa | Fivespine Purse Crab | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |
| Macrocoeloma |  | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Persephona mediterranea | Mottled Purse Crab | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Lobopilumnus agassizii | Areolated Hairy Crab | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1.2 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Ethusa microphthalma | Broadback Sumo Crab | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Hexapanopeus angustifrons | Smooth Mud Crab | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Periclimenes |  | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Stomatopoda | Mantis Shrimp | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Stenocionops furcatus coelatus |  | 4 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Leiolambrus granulosus |  | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Squilla |  | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Munida irrasa |  | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Xanthidae | Mud Crabs | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Raninoides loevis | Furrowed Frog Crab | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Nephropsis aculeata | Florida Lobsterette | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Menippe adina | Gulf Stone Crab | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Panulirus argus | Caribbean Spiny Lobster | 3 | 4.1 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Pagurus bullisi |  | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Alpheus floridanus | Sand Snapping Shrimp | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Stenopus |  | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Macrocoeloma trispinosum | Spongy Decorator Crab | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Glyptoxanthus erosus | Eroded Mud Crab | 3 | 0.2 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Mithraculus forceps | Red-ridged Clinging Crab | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Dardanus fucosus | Bareye Hermit | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gonodactylus |  | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Porcellanidae | Porcelain Crabs | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Porcellana |  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Speocarcinus carolinensis | Carolinian Squareback Crab | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Callinectes ornatus | Shelligs | 2 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Palicus alternata |  | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Libinia dubia | Longnose Spider Crab | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Tozeuma serratum | Serrate Arrow Shrimp | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Nibilia antilocapra | Shorthorn Spiny Crab | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Synalpheus townsendi | Townsend Snapping Shrimp | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Galathea rostrata |  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |


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


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


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


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | TOTAL NUMBER CAUGHT | NUMBER OF |  |  |
|  |  |  | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
|  |  |  | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Strombus costatus | Milk Conch | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Murex hildalgoi |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ostrea stentina | Crested Oyster | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Umbraculum plicatulum |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Macrocallista maculata | Calico Clam | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Semirossia tenera |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Busycon perversum |  | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Muricopsis hexagona |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Busycon lyonsi |  | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Elysia |  | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Semirossia equalis |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cypraea cervus | Atlantic Deer Cowrie | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Chicoreus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Narcissia |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |



| 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 |
| Saurida normani | Shortjaw Lizardfish | 101 | 9.2 | 12 | 4.1 |
| Pareques umbrosus | Cubbyu | 101 | 7.2 | 30 | 10.3 |
| Prionotus rubio | Blackfin Searobin | 97 | 8.2 | 23 | 7.9 |
| Sardinella aurita | Round Sardinella | 96 | 3.5 | 16 | 5.5 |
| Calamus nodosus | Knobbed Porgy | 89 | 24.1 | 9 | 3.1 |
| Centropristis ocyurus | Bank Sea Bass | 86 | 5.3 | 19 | 6.6 |
| Lachnolaimus maximus | Hogfish | 78 | 25.3 | 13 | 4.5 |
| Serranus notospilus | Saddle Bass | 78 | 0.6 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Lagocephalus laevigatus | Smooth Puffer | 74 | 3.6 | 23 | 7.9 |
| Prionotus ophryas | Bandtail Searobin | 74 | 4.2 | 30 | 10.3 |
| Citharichthys macrops | Spotted Whiff | 71 | 2.5 | 17 | 5.9 |
| Chaetodon sedentarius | Reef Butterflyfish | 65 | 2.6 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Pterois volitans | Lion Fish | 63 | 12.8 | 12 | 4.1 |
| Ogcocephalus parvus | Roughback Batfish | 63 | 1.8 | 22 | 7.6 |
| Sphoeroides nephelus | Southern Puffer | 59 | 7.3 | 13 | 4.5 |
| Nicholsina usta | Emerald Parrotfish | 57 | 5.8 | 23 | 7.9 |
| Kathetostoma albigutta | Lancer Stargazer | 56 | 2.1 | 23 | 7.9 |
| Gastropsetta frontalis | Shrimp Flounder | 53 | 5.1 | 23 | 7.9 |
| Ophidion holbrookii | Longnose Cusk-eel | 52 | 3.6 | 12 | 4.1 |
| Bagre marinus | Gafttopsail Catfish | 50 | 9.4 | 17 | 5.9 |
| Ophidion josephi | Crested Cusk-eel | 49 | 2.4 | 11 | 3.8 |
| Sphyrna tiburo | Bonnethead | 48 | 28.2 | 21 | 7.2 |
| Anchoa mitchilli | Bay Anchovy | 47 | 0.1 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Epinephelus morio | Red Grouper | 45 | 21.2 | 24 | 8.3 |
| Aluterus heudelotii | Dotterel Filefish | 44 | 8.2 | 23 | 7.9 |
| Cynoscion | Sea Trout | 44 | 0.4 | 11 | 3.8 |
| Apogon affinis | Bigtooth Cardinalfish | 43 | 0.7 | 11 | 3.8 |
| Calamus bajonado | Jolthead Porgy | 41 | 31.2 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Priacanthus arenatus | Bigeye | 39 | 4.4 | 14 | 4.8 |
| Brotula barbata | Bearded Brotula | 38 | 4 | 20 | 6.9 |
| Otophidium dormitator | Sleeper Cusk-eel | 36 | 2.3 | 6 | 2.1 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Rhynchoconger flavus | Yellow Conger | 33 | 2.2 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Etropus rimosus | Gray Flounder | 33 | 0.6 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Prionotus alatus | Spiny Searobin | 33 | 1.7 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Xyrichtys novacula | Pearly Razorfish | 32 | 2.1 | 9 | 3.1 |
| Bathyanthias mexicanus | Yellowtail Bass | 32 | 0.8 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Bollmannia communis | Ragged Goby | 31 | 0.1 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Prionotus tribulus | Bighead Searobin | 31 | 3.7 | 15 | 5.2 |
| Ophidion | Cusk-eels | 29 | 1.8 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Holacanthus bermudensis | Blue Angelfish | 28 | 13.7 | 16 | 5.5 |
| Menticirrhus americanus | Jewsharp Drummer | 27 | 4.2 | 12 | 4.1 |
| Sciaenops ocellatus | Red Drum | 26 | 128.4 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Synodontidae | Bombay Ducks | 26 | 2.9 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Symphurus civitatium | Offshore Tonguefish | 26 | 0.5 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Pristigenys alta | Short Bigeye | 26 | 2.5 | 18 | 6.2 |
| Pomacanthus arcuatus | Gray Angelfish | 25 | 13.8 | 13 | 4.5 |
| Raja texana | Roundel Skate | 25 | 9.5 | 22 | 7.6 |
| Selar crumenophthalmus | Bigeye Scad | 24 | 1.4 | 13 | 4.5 |
| Chilomycterus schoepfii | Burfish | 23 | 7.6 | 14 | 4.8 |
| Antennarius radiosus | Big-eyed Frogfish | 22 | 0.1 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Apogon pseudomaculatus | Twospot Cardinalfish | 22 | 0.3 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Diplodus holbrookii | Spottail Pinfish | 22 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Ariomma regulus | Spotted Driftfish | 22 | 1.4 | 11 | 3.8 |
| Ancylopsetta ommata | Ocellated Flounder | 21 | 3.7 | 15 | 5.2 |
| Etrumeus teres | Atlantic Red Herring | 21 | 0.6 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Scomberomorus maculatus | Atlantic Spanish Mackerel | 21 | 5.7 | 13 | 4.5 |
| Ogcocephalus pantostictus | Spotted Batish | 17 | 0.6 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Symphurus plagiusa | Blackcheek Tonguefish | 17 | 0.4 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Hoplunnis macrura | Freckled Pike-conger | 16 | 0.2 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Centropristis striata | Black Sea Bass | 16 | 3.3 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Ogcocephalus corniger | Longnose Batfish | 15 | 0.4 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Rypticus maculatus | Whitespotted Soapfish | 15 | 0.6 | 9 | 3.1 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Bathyanthias cubensis |  | 15 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pagrus pagrus | Red Porgy | 15 | 3.4 | 4 | 1.4 |
| Engyophrys senta | Spiny Flounder | 15 | 0.1 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Scorpaena | Scorpionfishes | 15 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Apogon quadrisquamatus | Sawcheek Cardinalfish | 15 | 0.1 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Paralichthyidae |  | 14 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Rypticus bistrispinus | Freckled Soapfish | 14 | 0.2 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Neomerinthe hemingwayi | Spinycheek Scorpionfish | 14 | 2.8 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Caulolatilus intermedius | Anchor Tilefish | 13 | 1.3 | 3 | 1 |
| Acanthostracion polygonius | Honeycomb Cowfish | 13 | 5.2 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Sphyraena guachancho | Guaguanche | 13 | 2.1 | 9 | 3.1 |
| Echeneis neucratoides | Whitefin Sharksucker | 13 | 7.2 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Paralichthys albigutta | Gulf Flounder | 13 | 3.7 | 9 | 3.1 |
| Bothus ocellatus | Eyed Flounder | 12 | 0.3 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Ocyurus chrysurus | Yellowtail Snapper | 12 | 1.8 | 4 | 1.4 |
| Pareques iwamotoi | Blackbar Drum | 12 | 1.5 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Hippocampus erectus | Lined Seahorse | 12 | 0.2 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Symphurus urospilus | Spottail Tonguefish | 12 | 0.4 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Ophidion selenops | Mooneye Cusk-eel | 11 | 0.7 | 4 | 1.4 |
| Trinectes maculatus | Hogchoker | 11 | 0.1 | 3 | 1 |
| Calamus penna | Sheepshead Porgy | 11 | 2.6 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Sargocentron bullisi | Deepwater Squirrelfish | 11 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Gymnachirus melas | Naked Sole | 10 | 0.4 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Raja eglanteria | Clearnose Skate | 10 | 2.4 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Trachinotus carolinus | Florida Pompano | 10 | 2 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Syacium micrurum | Channel Flounder | 10 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Selene vomer | Lookdown | 10 | 0.4 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Ogcocephalus cubifrons | Polka-dot Battish | 10 | 3.9 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Decodon puellaris | Red Hogfish | 10 | 0.5 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Antennarius striatus | Striated Frogfish | 10 | 0.3 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Paralichthys lethostigma | Southern Flounder | 9 | 3.7 | 7 | 2.4 |


| 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 |
| Emblemaria atlantica | Banner Blenny | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Hemiramphus brasiliensis | Ballyhoo | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ptereleotris calliura | Blue Goby | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Anguilliformes | Eels | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Zalieutes mcgintyi | Tricorn Batish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Elacatinus horsti | Yellowline Goby | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cosmocampus albirostris | Whitenose Pipefish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Menticirrhus saxatilis | Gulf Minkfish | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Sphoeroides pachygaster | Blunthead Puffer | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Paralichthys squamilentus | Broad Flounder | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Rypticus subbifrenatus | Spotted Soapfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Liopropoma eukrines | Wrasse Bass | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Citharichthys cornutus | Horned Whiff | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Holacanthus ciliaris | Queen Angelfish | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Bregmaceros cantori | Striped Codlet | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gymnura micrura | Smooth Butterfly Ray | 1 | 3.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Astrapogon alutus | Bronze Cardinalfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Engyophrys |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Eucinostomus | Mojarras | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Diapterus | Longspine Mojarras | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pontinus rathbuni | Highfin Scorpionfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gymnothorax kolpos | Blacktail Moray | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Torpedo nobiliana | Atlantic Torpedo | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Dasyatis say | Bluntnose Stingray | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Scomber colias | Chub Mackerel | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Etropus cyclosquamus | Shelf Flounder | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Elops saurus | Ladyfish | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gymnothorax nigromarginatus | Blackedge Moray | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Bregmaceros atlanticus | Antenna Codlet | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Lophiodes reticulatus | Reticulate Goosefish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Phaeoptyx pigmentaria | Dusky Cardinalfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |


| 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 |
| Iliacantha liodactylus |  | 72 | 0.4 | 13 | 4.5 |
| Sicyonia dorsalis | Lesser Rock Shrimp | 71 | 0.2 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Rimapenaeus similis | Roughback Shrimp | 62 | 0.2 | 18 | 6.2 |
| Libinia emarginata | Portly Spider Crab | 43 | 0.5 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Portunus |  | 40 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Leiolambrus nitidus | White Elbow Crab | 37 | 0.1 | 18 | 6.2 |
| Squilla rugosa |  | 36 | 0.3 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Pseudorhombila quadridentata | Flecked Squareback Crab | 33 | 0.2 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Stenocionops furcatus | Furcate Spider Crab | 26 | 0.3 | 15 | 5.2 |
| Callinectes sapidus | Blue Crab | 22 | 3.6 | 14 | 4.8 |
| Paguristes sericeus | Blue-eye Hermit | 21 | 0 | 12 | 4.1 |
| Petrochirus diogenes | Giant Hermit | 20 | 0.2 | 14 | 4.8 |
| Macrocoeloma trispinosum | Spongy Decorator Crab | 18 | 0.2 | 9 | 3.1 |
| Cryptodromiopsis antillensis | Decorator Crab | 18 | 0.1 | 11 | 3.8 |
| Calappa flammea | Flame Box Crab | 17 | 2.7 | 9 | 3.1 |
| Hepatus epheliticus | Calico Box Crab | 17 | 0.6 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Solenoceridae | Solenocerid Shrimps | 14 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Mesopenaeus tropicalis | Salmon Shrimp | 13 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Euphrosynoplax clausa | Craggy Bathyal Crab | 13 | 0.1 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Myropsis quinquespinosa | Fivespine Purse Crab | 13 | 0.1 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Squilla deceptrix |  | 13 | 0 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Stenocionops spinimanus | Prickly Spider Crab | 12 | 0.1 | 3 | 1 |
| Sicyonia parri |  | 12 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Mithrax |  | 12 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Sicyonia typica | Kinglet Rock Shrimp | 12 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Dardanus fucosus | Bareye Hermit | 12 | 0 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Scyllaridae | Slipper Lobsters | 11 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Plesionika longicauda |  | 11 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Pilumnus sayi | Spineback Hairy Crab | 11 | 0 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Persephona crinita | Pink Purse Crab | 10 | 0 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Pseudomedaeus agassizii | Rough Rubble Crab | 10 | 0 | 5 | 1.7 |


| Table 3. |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 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 |
| Panopeus occidentalis | Furrowed Mud Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gonodactylus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Gonodactylus torus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Trachypenaeopsis mobilispinis |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Dardanus venosus | Stareye Hermit | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Portunus depressifrons | Flatface Swimming Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Squilla edentata |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Podochela sidneyi | Shortfinger Neck Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Coelocerus spinosus | Channelnose Spider Crab | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pilumnus dasypodus | Shortspine Hairy Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Palicus obesus | Inflated Stilt Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Others |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amusium papyraceum | Paper Scallop | 5533 | 66.3 | 58 | 20 |
| Loligo |  | 1277 | 25.3 | 92 | 31.7 |
| Loligo pealeii | Longfin Inshore Squid | 968 | 32.2 | 101 | 34.8 |
| Oliva sayana | Lettered Olive | 492 | 4.5 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Pitar cordatus | Corded Pitar | 416 | 8.2 | 33 | 11.4 |
| Lolliguncula brevis | Atlantic Brief Squid | 140 | 1.2 | 29 | 10 |
| Anadara baughmani | Skewed Ark | 139 | 2.4 | 16 | 5.5 |
| Polystira albida | White Giant-turris | 138 | 1.2 | 15 | 5.2 |
| Aplysia |  | 65 | 28.8 | 3 | 1 |
| Polystira tellea | Delicate Giant-turris | 54 | 0.6 | 4 | 1.4 |
| Anadara transversa | Transverse Ark | 53 | 2.6 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Euvola raveneli | Round-rib Scallop | 49 | 0.2 | 16 | 5.5 |
| Conus austini |  | 34 | 0.4 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Lirophora clenchi | Clench Venus | 32 | 0.5 | 10 | 3.4 |
| Sconsia striata | Royal Bonnet | 31 | 0.5 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Tonna galea | Giant Tun | 18 | 3.4 | 11 | 3.8 |
| Argopecten gibbus | Atlantic Calico Scallop | 16 | 0.1 | 9 | 3.1 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Laevicardium mortoni | Yellow Eggcockle | 15 | 0.8 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Atrina serrata | Sawtooth Penshell | 14 | 2 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Distorsio clathrata | Atlantic Distorsio | 12 | 0.1 | 6 | 2.1 |
| Octopus vulgaris | Common Octopus | 12 | 1.5 | 7 | 2.4 |
| Octopus joubini | Atlantic Pygmy Octopus | 9 | 0.5 | 8 | 2.8 |
| Hexaplex fulvescens | Giant Eastern Murex | 7 | 0.1 | 5 | 1.7 |
| Narcissia trigonaria |  | 7 | 0.6 | 4 | 1.4 |
| Aequipecten glyptus | Red-ribbed Scallop | 6 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Chicoreus florifer |  | 5 | 0.1 | 4 | 1.4 |
| Pecten tereinus |  | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Macoma brevifrons | Short Macoma | 5 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pitar |  | 4 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Fasciolaria lilium hunteria | Banded Tulip | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Lima scabra | Rough Fileclam | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Stramonita haemastoma | Florida Rocksnail | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Arcinella cornuta | Florida Spiny Jewelbox | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Phyllonotum pomum |  | 3 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Macoma pulleyi | Delta Macoma | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Octopus briareus | Caribbean Reef Octopus | 3 | 0.7 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Xenophora caribaea | Caribbean Carriersnail | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Crepidula maculosa | Spotted Slippersnail | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Lindapecten muscosus | Rough Scallop | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Busycon candelabrum | Splendid Whelk | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Busycon sinistrum | Lightning Whelk | 2 | 1.4 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Arca zebra | Turkey Wing | 2 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cypraea cinera |  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cassis madagascariensis | Cameo Helmet | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Macrocallista maculata | Calico Clam | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Nudibranchia | Nudibranchs | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Ficus communis | Atlantic Figsnail | 2 | 0.1 | 2 | 0.7 |
| Ostrea |  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |


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


| Table 4. 2017 Bottom Longline Survey species composition list. Species with no weight recorded were too large to measure. |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |


| Table 4. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | TOTAL | TOTAL |  |
|  |  | NUMBER | NUMBER | TOTAL |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | WEIGHED | WEIGHT |
| Dasyatis centroura | Clam Cracker | 1 | 1 | 94 |



| Table 5. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | TOTAL |  |  |
|  |  | TOTAL |  |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | NUMBER | NUMBER |
| Sphyraena guachancho | Guaguanche | CAUGHT | WEIGHED |



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


Figure 2. Locations of plankton and environmental stations during the 2017 Spring Plankton Survey.


Figure 3. Locations of stations during the 2017 Fall Plankton Survey.


Figure 4. Locations of stations during the 2017 Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey.


Figure 5. Locations of stations during the 2017 Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey.


Figure 6. Locations of stations during the 2017 Reef Fish Survey.


Figure 7. Locations of stations during the 2017 Bottom Longline Survey.


Figure 8. Locations of stations during the 2017 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.

