## environmental and biological atlas of the gulf of mexico 2016


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# SEAMAP ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIOLOGICAL ATLAS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO, 2016 

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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 2015 (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); 2012 (Rester 2014), 2013 (Rester 2015), 2014 (Rester 2017), and 2015 (Rester 2017). 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 2016, 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 2015. Overall survey objectives in 1982 to 2016 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 is 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-fifth in a series of SEAMAP environmental and biological atlases presents such data, in a summarized form, collected during the 2016 SEAMAP surveys.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Methodology for the 2016 SEAMAP surveys is similar to that of the 1982 through 2015 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 30 - May 30. Vessels that participated in collecting plankton and environmental data during the Fall Plankton Survey included the NOAA Ship PISCES (September 5-30), the Alabama vessel ALABAMA DISCOVERY (September 8), the Louisiana vessel R/V DEFENDER (September 15-20), and USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO (September 12 and September 29).

Vessels that participated in the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey and concurrently sampled plankton and environmental data included the USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO (May 30 June 1), Florida using the TOMMY MUNRO (June 9 - July 1), Louisiana using the POINT SUR (June 7-9), and the NOAA Ship OREGON II (June 9 - July 19). The Alabama vessel ALABAMA DISCOVERY (June 24) did not sample plankton in conjunction with the summer survey.

The NOAA ship PISCES participated in the Reef Fish Survey from April 6 - May 31 while the SOUTHERN JOURNEY sampled from June 14 - September 8. Florida conducted seven reef fish cruises aboard the R/V GULF MARINER (5/18-5/20; 6/22-6/24; 6/27-6/30; 7/11-7/13; 7/19-7/21; 7/25-7/28; 8/2-8/4) and one day-trip (6/15) on the R/V NO FRILLS.

Vessels that participated in the Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey and collected environmental data included the NOAA Ships OREGON II (October 9 - November 19), the USM/GCRL vessel TOMMY MUNRO (October 3-4), and the Louisiana vessel PELICAN (October 25-26).

Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas conducted bottom longline sampling monthly from April to September 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 October 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 112 -degree
intervals along this grid. Some SEAMAP stations are located at < 56 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 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 2015 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 2016.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

[^0]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: 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 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.
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, although Louisiana measures 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. For the NMFS portion of the Reef Fish Survey, a two-stage procedure was used to select sample sites. 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 paired black-and-white Videre stereo cameras along with a color mpeg camera housed in cylindrical pressure housings. The camera array consisted of four housings positioned orthogonally and center mounted 51 cm above the bottom of the array. The camera array was baited with squid and was retrieved 40 minutes after 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.

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.

## 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 $3-10 \mathrm{~m}$ 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-hr 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 and plankton 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 - 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 $\mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{hr}$.

## 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, 1985-2016. 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 2016. This report contained the results and an overview of the effect of the 2015 Texas Closure. After review of these data and other information, the GMFMC voted to continue the Texas Closure for 2016.

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 2016.

| 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 |
| 2014 | -- | MAY | -- | JUNE-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2015 | -- | MAY | -- | MAY-JULY | -- | AUGUST-SEPTEMBER |
| 2016 | -- | APRIL-MAY | -- | MAY-JULY | -- | SEPTEMBER |


|  |  |  | EAMAP SURVEY AC |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 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 |



| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Upeneus parvus | Dwarf Goatish | 934 | 34.6 | 67 | 19.1 |
| Larimus fasciatus | Banded Drum | 855 | 39.9 | 38 | 10.8 |
| Harengula jaguana | Scaled Herring | 826 | 43.1 | 39 | 11.1 |
| Anchoa hepsetus | Broad-striped Anchovy | 817 | 14 | 36 | 10.3 |
| Lutjanus campechanus | Red Snapper | 793 | 240.2 | 125 | 35.6 |
| Trachurus lathami | Rough Scad | 791 | 21 | 57 | 16.2 |
| Prionotus stearnsi | Shortwing Searobin | 780 | 9.8 | 58 | 16.5 |
| Trichopsetta ventralis | Sash Flounder | 760 | 16.2 | 50 | 14.2 |
| Rhomboplites aurorubens | Vermilion Snapper | 735 | 62.9 | 71 | 20.2 |
| Etrumeus teres | Atlantic Red Herring | 691 | 4.9 | 6 | 1.7 |
| Trachinocephalus myops | Bluntnose Lizardfish | 648 | 36.8 | 70 | 19.9 |
| Anchoa lyolepis | Dusky Anchovy | 627 | 8.5 | 11 | 3.1 |
| Bellator militaris | Horned Searobin | 605 | 5.9 | 44 | 12.5 |
| Centropristis ocyurus |  | 602 | 22.9 | 53 | 15.1 |
| Lepophidium brevibarbe | Blackedge Cusk-eel | 539 | 16.1 | 49 | 14 |
| Synodus macrostigmus |  | 519 | 36.4 | 82 | 23.4 |
| Prionotus paralatus | Mexican Searobin | 487 | 10 | 35 | 10 |
| Porichthys plectrodon | Atlantic Midshipman | 469 | 10.6 | 81 | 23.1 |
| Sphoeroides spengleri | Bandtail Puffer | 431 | 15.4 | 69 | 19.7 |
| Diplectrum bivittatum | Dwarf Sand Perch | 428 | 9.9 | 40 | 11.4 |
| Stephanolepis hispida |  | 425 | 26.6 | 66 | 18.8 |
| Decapterus punctatus | Round Scad | 420 | 5.9 | 21 | 6 |
| Equetus lanceolatus | Jackknife Fish | 417 | 39.1 | 73 | 20.8 |
| Lepophidium jeannae | Mottled Cusk-eel | 398 | 20.2 | 19 | 5.4 |
| Haemulon plumierii | White Grunt | 389 | 57.5 | 23 | 6.6 |
| Acanthostracion quadricornis | Scrawled Cowfish | 381 | 65.3 | 91 | 25.9 |
| Bothus robinsi | Twospot Flounder | 358 | 9.5 | 71 | 20.2 |
| Scorpaena brasiliensis | Barbfish | 348 | 27.3 | 51 | 14.5 |
| Aluterus schoepfii | Orange Filefish | 321 | 184.4 | 53 | 15.1 |
| Pterois volitans | Lion Fish | 313 | 61.3 | 53 | 15.1 |
| Anchoa mitchilli | Bay Anchovy | 309 | 0.5 | 8 | 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 |
| Etropus crossotus | Fringed Flounder | 307 | 4.8 | 43 | 12.3 |
| Sphoeroides dorsalis | Marbled Puffer | 295 | 7.6 | 62 | 17.7 |
| Synodus poeyi | Offshore Lizardfish | 284 | 2.6 | 79 | 22.5 |
| Lagocephalus laevigatus | Smooth Puffer | 278 | 7.8 | 53 | 15.1 |
| Prionotus roseus | Bluespotted Searobin | 258 | 5.7 | 49 | 14 |
| Serranus phoebe | Tattler | 250 | 8.8 | 32 | 9.1 |
| Eucinostomus | Mojarras | 233 | 7.2 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Ophidion holbrookii | Bank Cusk-eel | 226 | 20.8 | 30 | 8.5 |
| Sphoeroides parvus | Least Puffer | 222 | 1.6 | 36 | 10.3 |
| Citharichthys spilopterus | Bay Whiff | 202 | 2.4 | 40 | 11.4 |
| Prionotus scitulus | Leopard Searobin | 201 | 5.5 | 22 | 6.3 |
| Orthopristis chrysoptera |  | 201 | 21.4 | 17 | 4.8 |
| Serranus notospilus | Saddle Bass | 201 | 1.1 | 22 | 6.3 |
| Urophycis floridana |  | 200 | 12.1 | 34 | 9.7 |
| Scorpaena agassizii | Longfin Scorpionfish | 198 | 3.7 | 16 | 4.6 |
| Cyclopsetta chittendeni | Mexican Flounder | 183 | 16.7 | 53 | 15.1 |
| Ogcocephalus declivirostris | Slantbrow Batfish | 170 | 3.3 | 34 | 9.7 |
| Engraulis eurystole | Camiguana Anchovy | 165 | 1.4 | 2 | 0.6 |
| Saurida normani | Shortjaw Lizardfish | 155 | 10.1 | 15 | 4.3 |
| Chaetodon ocellatus | Spotfin Butterflyfish | 155 | 12.5 | 55 | 15.7 |
| Etropus cyclosquamus | Shelf Flounder | 129 | 1.4 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Bollmannia communis | Ragged Goby | 122 | 0.5 | 18 | 5.1 |
| Opisthonema oglinum | Atlantic Thread Herring | 119 | 12.3 | 19 | 5.4 |
| Lutjanus griseus | Gray Snapper | 119 | 53.5 | 36 | 10.3 |
| Synodus intermedius | Sand Diver | 116 | 8 | 35 | 10 |
| Prionotus ophryas | Bandtail Searobin | 113 | 6.4 | 40 | 11.4 |
| Symphurus diomedeanus |  | 111 | 3 | 38 | 10.8 |
| Calamus arctifrons | Grass Porgy | 111 | 10.9 | 11 | 3.1 |
| Ariopsis felis | Hardhead Catish | 103 | 19.9 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Eucinostomus harengulus | Tidewater Mojarra | 94 | 5.5 | 18 | 5.1 |
| Microgobius thalassiunus |  | 175 | 0.5 | 2 | 0.5 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Symphurus civitatium |  | 93 | 1.7 | 16 | 4.6 |
| Etropus |  | 87 | 1 | 10 | 2.8 |
| Symphurus plagiusa | Blackcheek Tonguefish | 87 | 1.9 | 17 | 4.8 |
| Monacanthus ciliatus | Fringed Filefish | 87 | 1.8 | 35 | 10 |
| Prionotus alatus | Spiny Searobin | 86 | 3.1 | 22 | 6.3 |
| Calamus nodosus | Knobbed Porgy | 82 | 19.3 | 22 | 6.3 |
| Stellifer lanceolatus | Star Drum | 82 | 1.6 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Haemulon striatum | Striped Grunt | 81 | 2.3 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Nicholsina usta | Emerald Parrotish | 79 | 6.6 | 24 | 6.8 |
| Kathetostoma albigutta | Lancer Stargazer | 77 | 2.6 | 27 | 7.7 |
| Etropus microstomus | Smallmouth Flounder | 77 | 0.8 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Rhynchoconger flavus |  | 76 | 4.4 | 16 | 4.6 |
| Neomerinthe hemingwayi | Spinycheek Scorpionfish | 75 | 3.7 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Epinephelus morio | Red Grouper | 75 | 47.9 | 35 | 10 |
| Prionotus martis | Barred Searobin | 68 | 3.4 | 13 | 3.7 |
| Gymnothorax saxicola | Honeycomb Moray | 67 | 7.1 | 38 | 10.8 |
| Cyclopsetta fimbriata | Spotfin Flounder | 67 | 7.3 | 40 | 11.4 |
| Prionotus tribulus | Bighead Searobin | 66 | 2.9 | 14 | 4 |
| Halieutichthys aculeatus | Pancake Battish | 65 | 0.6 | 31 | 8.8 |
| Antennarius radiosus | Big-eyed Frogfish | 63 | 0.5 | 25 | 7.1 |
| Pagrus pagrus | Red Porgy | 58 | 11.1 | 21 | 6 |
| Pterois | Lion Fishes | 57 | 13.8 | 14 | 4 |
| Mullus auratus | Red Goattish | 56 | 2.3 | 23 | 6.6 |
| Citharichthys macrops | Spotted Whiff | 56 | 2 | 25 | 7.1 |
| Prionotus rubio | Blackfin Searobin | 55 | 9.8 | 22 | 6.3 |
| Urophycis cirrata | Gulf Hake | 54 | 1.5 | 14 | 4 |
| Brevoortia patronus | Gulf Menhaden | 54 | 2.8 | 6 | 1.7 |
| Centropristis striata | Black Sea Bass | 53 | 8.5 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Calamus leucosteus | Whitebone Porgy | 51 | 18.8 | 4 | 1.1 |
| Menticirrhus americanus | Jewsharp Drummer | 49 | 5.9 | 12 | 3.4 |
| Balistes capriscus | Gray Triggerfish | 48 | 22.8 | 30 | 8.5 |


| 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 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Sicyonia dorsalis | Lesser Rock Shrimp | 1966 | 6.2 | 49 | 14 |
| Rimapenaeus constrictus |  | 1920 | 6.4 | 20 | 5.7 |
| Portunus gibbesii | Iridescent Swimming Crab | 1888 | 9.1 | 86 | 24.5 |
| Squilla chydaea |  | 1676 | 9.1 | 69 | 19.7 |
| Solenocera vioscai | Humpback Shrimp | 1542 | 6.6 | 44 | 12.5 |
| Litopenaeus setiferus | Northern White Shrimp | 1130 | 38.1 | 56 | 16 |
| Parapenaeus politus | Deep-water Rose Shrimp | 1093 | 2 | 24 | 6.8 |
| Xiphopenaeus kroyeri | Atlantic Seabob | 692 | 4.9 | 4 | 1.1 |
| Chirostylus spinifer |  | 607 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Solenocera atlantidis | Dwarf Humpback Shrimp | 570 | 0.9 | 30 | 8.5 |
| Metapenaeopsis goodei | Caribbean Velvet Shrimp | 477 | 1 | 33 | 9.4 |
| Anasimus latus | Stilt Spider Crab | 406 | 1.8 | 65 | 18.5 |
| Portunus spinimanus | Blotched Swimming Crab | 250 | 8.3 | 57 | 16.2 |
| Calappa sulcata | Yellow Box Crab | 245 | 26.6 | 54 | 15.4 |
| Raninoides louisianensis | Gulf Frog Crab | 168 | 1.3 | 41 | 11.7 |
| Callinectes sapidus | Blue Crab | 159 | 24.7 | 56 | 16 |
| Stenorhynchus seticornis | Yellowline Arrow Crab | 147 | 0.3 | 65 | 18.5 |
| Scyllarus chacei | Chace Slipper Lobster | 129 | 0.4 | 38 | 10.8 |
| Ovalipes floridanus | Florida Lady Crab | 115 | 1.2 | 21 | 6 |
| Munida pusilla |  | 114 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Sicyonia typica | Kinglet Rock Shrimp | 94 | 1.4 | 7 | 2 |
| Iliacantha liodactylus |  | 87 | 0.4 | 26 | 7.4 |
| Pseudorhombila quadridentata | Flecked Squareback Crab | 85 | 0.7 | 19 | 5.4 |
| Scyllarides nodifer | Ridged Slipper Lobster | 83 | 19.2 | 27 | 7.7 |
| Leiolambrus nitidus | White Elbow Crab | 76 | 0.2 | 37 | 10.5 |
| Portunus ordwayi |  | 71 | 0.5 | 14 | 4 |
| Speocarcinus lobatus | Gulf Squareback Crab | 49 | 0.2 | 14 | 4 |
| Paguristes sericeus | Blue-eye Hermit | 42 | 0.1 | 25 | 7.1 |
| Cryptodromiopsis antillensis | Decorator Crab | 42 | 0.2 | 31 | 8.8 |
| Euphrosynoplax clausa | Craggy Bathyal Crab | 38 | 0.4 | 16 | 4.6 |
| Platylambrus granulata | Bladetooth Elbow Crab | 35 | 0.1 | 26 | 7.4 |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Hepatus epheliticus | Calico Box Crab | 29 | 1 | 13 | 3.7 |
| Dardanus insignis | Red Brocade Hermit | 29 | 0.1 | 14 | 4 |
| Myropsis quinquespinosa | Fivespine Purse Crab | 28 | 0.1 | 12 | 3.4 |
| Mithrax hispidus | Coral Clinging Crab | 27 | 0.1 | 17 | 4.8 |
| Mithrax |  | 26 | 0 | 10 | 2.8 |
| Dardanus fucosus | Bareye Hermit | 21 | 0 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Persephona crinita | Pink Purse Crab | 19 | 0 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Petrolisthes galathinus | Banded Porcelain Crab | 19 | 6 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Calappa flammea | Flame Box Crab | 19 | 4.8 | 12 | 3.4 |
| Sicyonia burkenroadi | Spiny Rock Shrimp | 18 | 0 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Mesopenaeus tropicalis | Salmon Shrimp | 17 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Pilumnus sayi | Spineback Hairy Crab | 16 | 0.1 | 11 | 3.1 |
| Gibbesia neglecta |  | 15 | 0.1 | 4 | 1.1 |
| Stenocionops furcatus | Furcate Spider Crab | 15 | 0.3 | 14 | 4 |
| Libinia emarginata | Portly Spider Crab | 14 | 1.1 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Collodes robustus |  | 14 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Podochela sidneyi | Shortinger Neck Crab | 14 | 0 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Libinia dubia | Longnose Spider Crab | 13 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Paguristes triangulatus |  | 12 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Petrochirus diogenes | Giant Hermit | 12 | 0.3 | 8 | 2.3 |
| Pseudomedaeus agassizii | Rough Rubble Crab | 12 | 0.1 | 7 | 2 |
| Pagurus bullisi |  | 11 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Xanthidae | Mud Crabs | 11 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Plesionika longicauda |  | 10 | 0 | 4 | 1.1 |
| Porcellana sayana | Spotted Porcelain Crab | 9 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Squilla rugosa |  | 9 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Leiolambrus granulosus |  | 8 | 0 | 5 | 1.4 |
| Macrocoeloma trispinosum | Spongy Decorator Crab | 8 | 0.1 | 7 | 2 |
| Portunus sayi | Sargassum Swimming Crab | 8 | 0 | 3 | 0.9 |
| Mithrax pleuracanthus | Shaggy Clinging Crab | 8 | 0 | 7 | 2 |
| Plesionika |  | 7 | 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) |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Table 2. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Tagelus |  | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pitar |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Melongenidae |  | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Nemocardium transversum | Transverse Micro-cockle | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Musculus lateralis | Lateral Mussel | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cerithium atratum | Dark Cerith | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Anadara notabilis | Eared Ark | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Octopus burryi | Brownstripe Octopus | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Abra |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Distorsio constricta mcgintyi |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pleurobranchaea |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Conus daucus | Carrot Cone | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Turridae |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cypraea cinera |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Papyridea |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Aequipecten |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Aequipecten glyptus | Red-ribbed Scallop | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Pleuroploca gigantea | Horse Conch | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Fasciolaria tulipa | True Tulip | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Argopecten |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Aplysia juliana |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cancellaria reticulata |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Cypraea cervus | Atlantic Deer Cowrie | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Latirus infundibulum | Brown-line Latirus | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |


| Table 3. 2016 Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey species composition list, 198 trawl stations, for those vessels that used a 42-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 | 85638 | 3497.2 | 120 | 60.6 |
| Chloroscombrus chrysurus | Atlantic Bumper | 25029 | 646.1 | 98 | 49.5 |
| Stenotomus caprinus | Longspine Porgy | 8001 | 317.7 | 90 | 45.5 |
| Peprilus burti | Gulf Butterfish | 4576 | 255.6 | 95 | 48 |
| Syacium papillosum | Dusky Flounder | 4416 | 210.8 | 66 | 33.3 |
| Prionotus longispinosus | Bigeye Searobin | 3730 | 88.6 | 105 | 53 |
| Leiostomus xanthurus | Spot | 3114 | 249.3 | 73 | 36.9 |
| Anchoa hepsetus | Broad-striped Anchovy | 2733 | 40.8 | 44 | 22.2 |
| Cynoscion nothus | Silver Seatrout | 2547 | 151.9 | 78 | 39.4 |
| Syacium gunteri | Shoal Flounder | 2003 | 35.7 | 59 | 29.8 |
| Lutjanus campechanus | Red Snapper | 1952 | 192.1 | 100 | 50.5 |
| Centropristis philadelphicus | Rock Sea Bass | 1942 | 70.3 | 97 | 49 |
| Serranus atrobranchus | Blackear Bass | 1832 | 21.6 | 55 | 27.8 |
| Synodus foetens | Inshore Lizardfish | 1749 | 194.4 | 142 | 71.7 |
| Lagodon rhomboides | Pinfish | 1526 | 100.4 | 81 | 40.9 |
| Trichiurus lepturus | Atlantic Cutlassfish | 1391 | 74.7 | 51 | 25.8 |
| Scorpaena calcarata | Smoothhead Scorpionfish | 1377 | 24.1 | 42 | 21.2 |
| Bellator militaris | Horned Searobin | 1203 | 20.6 | 27 | 13.6 |
| Pristipomoides aquilonaris | Wenchman | 1149 | 69.7 | 59 | 29.8 |
| Trachurus lathami | Rough Scad | 1037 | 64.8 | 36 | 18.2 |
| Larimus fasciatus | Banded Drum | 1022 | 68.3 | 38 | 19.2 |
| Prionotus stearnsi | Shortwing Searobin | 933 | 11.7 | 29 | 14.6 |
| Trichopsetta ventralis | Sash Flounder | 853 | 17.6 | 36 | 18.2 |
| Cynoscion arenarius | Sand Seatrout | 795 | 67.3 | 65 | 32.8 |
| Upeneus parvus | Dwarf Goatfish | 756 | 28.6 | 46 | 23.2 |
| Diplectrum formosum | Sand Perch | 737 | 56.5 | 63 | 31.8 |
| Ariopsis felis | Hardhead Catfish | 663 | 122.6 | 41 | 20.7 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Haemulon aurolineatum | Tomtate | 635 | 55.2 | 38 | 19.2 |
| Trachinocephalus myops | Bluntnose Lizardfish | 619 | 47.3 | 47 | 23.7 |
| Decapterus punctatus | Round Scad | 618 | 12.7 | 22 | 11.1 |
| Rhomboplites aurorubens | Vermilion Snapper | 556 | 68.7 | 22 | 11.1 |
| Cyclopsetta chittendeni | Mexican Flounder | 543 | 41 | 58 | 29.3 |
| Selene setapinnis | Atlantic Moonfish | 532 | 26.4 | 75 | 37.9 |
| Peprilus paru | Harvestish | 517 | 21.7 | 27 | 13.6 |
| Harengula jaguana | Scaled Herring | 517 | 24 | 40 | 20.2 |
| Lutjanus synagris | Lane Snapper | 513 | 61.6 | 48 | 24.2 |
| Prionotus roseus | Bluespotted Searobin | 506 | 21.5 | 40 | 20.2 |
| Sphoeroides dorsalis | Marbled Puffer | 463 | 16.9 | 41 | 20.7 |
| Chaetodipterus faber | Atlantic Spadefish | 463 | 35.5 | 61 | 30.8 |
| Synodus macrostigmus |  | 438 | 33.6 | 35 | 17.7 |
| Halieutichthys |  | 405 | 2.9 | 69 | 34.8 |
| Caranx crysos | Blue Runner | 397 | 19.8 | 51 | 25.8 |
| Sphoeroides parvus | Least Puffer | 394 | 2.7 | 38 | 19.2 |
| Etropus cyclosquamus | Shelf Flounder | 384 | 5.6 | 16 | 8.1 |
| Stellifer lanceolatus | Star Drum | 382 | 5.9 | 12 | 6.1 |
| Saurida brasiliensis | Largescale Lizardfish | 360 | 1.1 | 33 | 16.7 |
| Synodus poeyi | Offshore Lizardfish | 353 | 3.1 | 42 | 21.2 |
| Diplectrum bivittatum | Dwarf Sand Perch | 338 | 6.8 | 24 | 12.1 |
| Lepophidium jeannae | Mottled Cusk-eel | 320 | 17 | 14 | 7.1 |
| Prionotus scitulus | Leopard Searobin | 311 | 10.4 | 23 | 11.6 |
| Eucinostomus gula | Silver Jenny | 294 | 7.5 | 38 | 19.2 |
| Bothus robinsi | Twospot Flounder | 254 | 5.9 | 41 | 20.7 |
| Opisthonema oglinum | Atlantic Thread Herring | 253 | 15 | 32 | 16.2 |
| Pterois volitans | Lion Fish | 238 | 43.3 | 22 | 11.1 |
| Citharichthys spilopterus | Bay Whiff | 226 | 3.7 | 40 | 20.2 |
| Monacanthus ciliatus | Fringed Filefish | 225 | 2.6 | 25 | 12.6 |
| Calamus proridens | Littlehead Porgy | 223 | 44.4 | 15 | 7.6 |
| Scorpaena brasiliensis | Barbfish | 216 | 17.3 | 27 | 13.6 |


| 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 |
| Anchoa mitchilli | Bay Anchovy | 45 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Synodus | Lizard Fishes | 42 | 0.9 | 4 | 2 |
| Selar crumenophthalmus | Bigeye Scad | 42 | 1.7 | 11 | 5.6 |
| Calamus leucosteus | Whitebone Porgy | 41 | 13 | 6 | 3 |
| Chaetodon sedentarius | Reef Butterflyfish | 40 | 1.7 | 7 | 3.5 |
| Brotula barbata | Bearded Brotula | 40 | 2.2 | 17 | 8.6 |
| Ophidion josephi | Crested Cusk-eel | 39 | 1.7 | 10 | 5.1 |
| Synodus synodus | Red Lizardfish | 38 | 0.5 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Haemulon plumierii | White Grunt | 35 | 9.5 | 4 | 2 |
| Mullus auratus | Red Goatish | 35 | 2 | 10 | 5.1 |
| Menticirrhus americanus | Jewsharp Drummer | 32 | 5.7 | 13 | 6.6 |
| Scorpaena agassizii | Longfin Scorpionfish | 32 | 0.7 | 5 | 2.5 |
| Ariomma regulus | Spotted Driftrish | 31 | 1.6 | 8 | 4 |
| Aluterus heudelotii |  | 30 | 5.2 | 7 | 3.5 |
| Gymnothorax saxicola | Honeycomb Moray | 30 | 3.6 | 16 | 8.1 |
| Prionotus alatus | Spiny Searobin | 29 | 0.9 | 8 | 4 |
| Ogcocephalus parvus | Roughback Battish | 28 | 0.3 | 14 | 7.1 |
| Bellator brachychir | Shortfin Searobin | 28 | 0.1 | 8 | 4 |
| Haemulon striatum | Striped Grunt | 28 | 1 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Saurida normani | Shortjaw Lizardfish | 27 | 2.7 | 4 | 2 |
| Xyrichtys novacula | Pearly Razorfish | 27 | 1.5 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Brevoortia patronus | Gulf Menhaden | 25 | 2.9 | 11 | 5.6 |
| Prionotus tribulus | Bighead Searobin | 25 | 2.3 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Nicholsina usta | Emerald Parrotish | 24 | 1.9 | 6 | 3 |
| Bathyanthias mexicanus | Yellowtail Bass | 24 | 0.2 | 7 | 3.5 |
| Symphurus civitatium |  | 23 | 0.5 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Pagrus pagrus | Red Porgy | 23 | 5.1 | 6 | 3 |
| Neobythites gilli |  | 21 | 0.1 | 4 | 2 |
| Synodus intermedius | Sand Diver | 21 | 2.1 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Engyophrys senta | Spiny Flounder | 21 | 0.1 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Caulolatilus intermedius | Anchor Tilefish | 20 | 1.6 | 8 | 4 |


| 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 |
| Acanthostracion polygonius | Honeycomb Cowfish | 3 | 2.4 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Echiophis intertinctus | Spotted Spoon-nose Eel | 3 | 0.5 | 2 | 1 |
| Pseudupeneus maculatus | Spotted Goattish | 3 | 0.2 | 2 | 1 |
| Mycteroperca phenax | Scamp | 3 | 2.5 | 2 | 1 |
| Pontinus longispinis | Longspine Scorpionfish | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Trachinotus carolinus | Florida Pompano | 3 | 0.9 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Rachycentron canadum | Cobia | 2 | 1.1 | 2 | 1 |
| Paralichthys albigutta | Gulf Flounder | 2 | 0.8 | 2 | 1 |
| Echiophis punctifer | Snapper Eel | 2 | 0.7 | 2 | 1 |
| Lonchopisthus micrognathus | Swordtail Jawfish | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Calamus bajonado | Jolthead Porgy | 2 | 3.2 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Lachnolaimus maximus | Hogfish | 2 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Ocyurus chrysurus | Yellowtail Snapper | 2 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Gobiesox strumosus | Skilletfish | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Hypleurochilus |  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Sphoeroides nephelus | Southern Puffer | 2 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Eucinostomus argenteus | Spotfin Mojarra | 2 | 0.1 | 2 | 1 |
| Echeneis | Sharksuckers | 2 | 2.2 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Symphurus plagiusa | Blackcheek Tonguefish | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Carcharhinus acronotus | Blacknose Shark | 2 | 4.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Calamus pennatula | Pluma | 2 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Sparisoma atomarium | Greenblotch Parrotish | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Diodon holocanthus | Balloonfish | 2 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Conodon nobilis | Barred Grunt | 2 | 0.7 | 2 | 1 |
| Dasyatis say | Bluntnose Stingray | 2 | 1.3 | 2 | 1 |
| Lophiodes reticulatus | Reticulate Goosefish | 2 | 0.1 | 2 | 1 |
| Hoplunnis diomediana | Blacktail Pike-conger | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Halichoeres bathyphilus | Greenband Wrasse | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Chilomycterus antennatus | Bridled Burrish | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Phaeoptyx pigmentaria | Dusky Cardinalfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Antennarius striatus | Striated Frogfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Sargocentron poco |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Holocentrus adscensionis | Squirrelfish | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Chromis insolatus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Muraena retifera | Reticulate Moray | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Dasyatis americana | Southern Stingray | 1 | 1.7 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Neoepinnula americanus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Parablennius marmoreus | Seaweed Blenny | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Aluterus monoceros | Unicorn Filefish | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Sciaenops ocellatus | Red Drum | 1 | 10 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Hoplunnis |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Halichoeres poeyi | Blackear Wrasse | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Bregmaceros |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Raja eglanteria | Clearnose Skate | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Epigonus |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Engyophrys |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Pomatomus saltatrix | Bluefish | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Gymnothorax kolpos | Blacktail Moray | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Sphyraena borealis | Northern Sennet | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Elops saurus | Ladyfish | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Uraspis secunda | Cottonmouth Jack | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Rhinoptera bonasus | Cownose Ray | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Squatina dumeril | Atlantic Angel Shark | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Ariomma bondi | Silver-rag | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Canthigaster jamestyleri |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Oligoplites saurus | Leatherjack | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Paralepididae | Barracudinas | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Narcine brasiliensis | Lesser Electric Ray | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Opistognathus lonchurus | Moustache Jawfish | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Peprilus paru | Harvestfish | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Rhynchoconger |  | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Physiculus fulvus | Hakeling | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |


| Table 3. Species composition list (continued) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | NUMBER OF |  |
|  |  | TOTAL NUMBER | TOTAL WEIGHT | TOWS WHERE | \% FREQUENCY |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | CAUGHT (KG) | CAUGHT | OCCURRENCE |
| Lophius americanus | Goosefish | 1 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Trinectes maculatus | Hogchoker | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Hemanthias aureorubens | Streamer Bass | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Myliobatis freminvillii | Bullnose Ray | 1 | 0.3 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Crustaceans |  |  |  |  |  |
| Farfantepenaeus aztecus | Brown Shrimp | 7437 | 193.9 | 112 | 56.6 |
| Portunus spinicarpus | Longspine Swimming Crab | 3049 | 19.1 | 78 | 39.4 |
| Callinectes similis | Lesser Blue Crab | 2659 | 49.6 | 81 | 40.9 |
| Sicyonia brevirostris | Brown Rock Shrimp | 2165 | 34.6 | 54 | 27.3 |
| Squilla empusa | Mantis Shrimp | 1071 | 13.3 | 52 | 26.3 |
| Litopenaeus setiferus | Northern White Shrimp | 907 | 26.7 | 41 | 20.7 |
| Solenocera vioscai | Humpback Shrimp | 747 | 4.1 | 20 | 10.1 |
| Farfantepenaeus duorarum | Northern Pink Shrimp | 665 | 18.8 | 32 | 16.2 |
| Portunus gibbesii | Iridescent Swimming Crab | 414 | 8.4 | 49 | 24.7 |
| Munida |  | 203 | 0.1 | 4 | 2 |
| Anasimus latus | Stilt Spider Crab | 191 | 1.2 | 31 | 15.7 |
| Squilla chydaea |  | 169 | 1.1 | 32 | 16.2 |
| Solenocera atlantidis | Dwarf Humpback Shrimp | 160 | 0.2 | 13 | 6.6 |
| Portunus spinimanus | Blotched Swimming Crab | 155 | 6.2 | 42 | 21.2 |
| Raninoides louisianensis | Gulf Frog Crab | 138 | 1 | 31 | 15.7 |
| Sicyonia dorsalis | Lesser Rock Shrimp | 133 | 0.5 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Metapenaeopsis goodei | Caribbean Velvet Shrimp | 131 | 0.2 | 13 | 6.6 |
| Portunus ordwayi |  | 125 | 0.8 | 19 | 9.6 |
| Parapenaeus politus | Deep-water Rose Shrimp | 105 | 0.2 | 11 | 5.6 |
| Stenorhynchus seticornis | Yellowline Arrow Crab | 103 | 0.3 | 37 | 18.7 |
| Calappa sulcata | Yellow Box Crab | 102 | 19.5 | 34 | 17.2 |
| Rimapenaeus similis | Roughback Shrimp | 70 | 0.2 | 22 | 11.1 |
| Sicyonia typica | Kinglet Rock Shrimp | 39 | 0.2 | 2 | 1 |
| Callinectes sapidus | Blue Crab | 37 | 5.5 | 21 | 10.6 |


| 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 |
| Pagurus pollicaris | Flatclaw Hermit | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Podochela sidneyi | Shortfinger Neck Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Isopoda | Isopods | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Cyclozodion angustum | Nodose Box Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Glyptoxanthus erosus | Eroded Mud Crab | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Danielum ixbauchac |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Scyllarides delfosi | Three-spot Slipper Lobster | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Paguristes hummi |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Others |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amusium papyraceum | Paper Scallop | 5409 | 75.1 | 48 | 24.2 |
| Doryteuthis plei | Arrow Squid | 1686 | 22.9 | 64 | 32.3 |
| Doryteuthis pealeii | Longfin Inshore Squid | 514 | 16.1 | 56 | 28.3 |
| Pitar cordatus | Corded Pitar | 403 | 8.4 | 26 | 13.1 |
| Lolliguncula brevis | Atlantic Brief Squid | 312 | 2.6 | 20 | 10.1 |
| Anadara baughmani | Skewed Ark | 234 | 3.8 | 13 | 6.6 |
| Polystira tellea | Delicate Giant-turris | 138 | 1.2 | 17 | 8.6 |
| Lirophora clenchi |  | 99 | 1.3 | 10 | 5.1 |
| Laevicardium laevigatum | Eggcockle | 71 | 1.6 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Austraeolis |  | 37 | 12.4 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Octopus vulgaris | Common Octopus | 36 | 3.8 | 23 | 11.6 |
| Nudibranchia | Nudibranchs | 33 | 0.5 | 3 | 1.5 |
| Polystira albida | White Giant-turris | 29 | 0.3 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Argopecten gibbus | Atlantic Calico Scallop | 28 | 0.2 | 8 | 4 |
| Sconsia striata | Royal Bonnet | 27 | 0.5 | 8 | 4 |
| Gastropoda | Gastropods | 24 | 0.4 | 7 | 3.5 |
| Distorsio clathrata | Atlantic Distorsio | 19 | 0.2 | 7 | 3.5 |
| Laevicardium mortoni | Yellow Eggcockle | 16 | 0.4 | 9 | 4.5 |
| Conus austini |  | 15 | 0.2 | 4 | 2 |
| Arcinella cornuta | Florida Spiny Jewelbox | 11 | 0 | 1 | 0.5 |


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


| Table 4. 2016 Bottom Longline Survey species composition list. Species with no weight recorded were too large to measure. |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |


| Table 4. 2016 Bottom Longline Survey species composition list. Species with no weight recorded were too large to measure. |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | TOTAL | TOTAL |  |
| GENUS/SPECIES | NUMBER | NUMBER | TOTAL |  |
| Dasyatis centroura | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | WEIGHED | WEIGHT |


| Table 5. 2016 Vertical Line Survey species composition list. Species with no weight recorded were too large to measure. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | TOTAL | TOTAL |  |
|  |  | NUMBER | NUMBER | TOTAL |
| GENUS/SPECIES | COMMON NAME | CAUGHT | WEIGHED | WEIGHT |
| Finfishes |  |  |  |  |
| Lutjanus campechanus | Red Snapper | 804 | 797 | 1277.81 |
| Balistes capriscus | Gray Triggerfish | 19 | 19 | 31.99 |
| Pagrus pagrus | Red Porgy | 18 | 18 | 17.84 |
| Cynoscion arenarius | Sand Seatrout | 12 | 12 | 4.14 |
| Pristipomoides aquilonaris | Wenchman | 10 | 10 | 1.58 |
| Ariopsis felis | Hardhead Catish | 8 | 6 | 1.36 |
| Sciaenops ocellatus | Red Drum | 7 | 7 | 34.64 |
| Rhomboplites aurorubens | Vermilion Snapper | 7 | 7 | 3.53 |
| Carcharhinus brevipinna | Spinner Shark | 5 | 0 |  |
| Lutjanus synagris | Lane Snapper | 4 | 4 | 3.57 |
| Rhizoprionodon terraenovae | Atlantic Sharpnose Shark | 3 | 3 | 4.74 |
| Caranx crysos | Blue Runner | 3 | 1 | 1.04 |
| Bagre marinus | Gaftopsail Catfish | 3 | 2 | 1.74 |
| Seriola rivoliana | Almaco Jack | 2 | 2 | 1.38 |
| Cynoscion nebulosus | Spotted Seatrout | 2 | 2 | 1.03 |
| Mycteroperca phenax | Scamp | 2 | 2 | 4.08 |
| Pomatomus saltatrix | Bluefish | 1 | 0 |  |
| Seriola fasciata | Lesser Amberjack | 1 | 1 | 1.3 |
| Seriola dumerili | Greater Amberjack | 1 | 1 | 4.36 |
| Lutjanus griseus | Gray Snapper | 1 | 1 | 0.79 |
| Sphyraena guachancho | Guaguanche | 1 | 1 | 0.32 |



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


Figure 2. Locations of plankton and environmental stations during the 2016 Spring Plankton Survey.


Figure 3. Locations of stations during the 2016 Fall Plankton Survey.


Figure 4. Locations of stations during the 2016 Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey.


Figure 5. Locations of stations during the 2016 Fall Shrimp/Groundfish Survey.


Figure 6. Locations of stations during the 2016 Reef Fish Survey.


Figure 7. Locations of stations during the 2016 Bottom Longline Survey.


Figure 8. Locations of stations during the 2016 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.

