



Department of Environmental Protection

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TO: Ken Haddad
THROUGH: Mark Leiby
FROM: Kim Williams *KAW*
DATE: November 15, 1995
SUBJECT: Cruise Report: R/V Suncoaster 95-2

Cruise 95-2 (SEAMAP fall ichthyoplankton cruise 95-2) of the R/V Suncoaster departed Bayboro Harbor on 24 September 1995. The purpose of the cruise was collection of hydrographic and ichthyoplankton data as part of the state of Florida's participation in SEAMAP. This was the second of two cruises contracted for 1995. Scientific personnel included: Kim Williams (Chief Scientist), Tedi Crawford, Connie Stevens, Frank McIntyre, and Bruce Ackerman all from FRMI-St. Petersburg. A total of 29 stations were planned. The stations were spaced along 30 minute latitude/longitude grids from 27°30'N to 25°00'N, at the southern extent and between 82°00'W and 85°00'W (see attached cruise track). These stations were selected to complement sampling done during the same period by the National Marine Fisheries Service vessel the R/V Oregon II, which operated to the north of our stations.

Weather conditions were fair, and sampling was very successful. Sampling finished at 1155 hours on 28 September. Due to time constraints and dwindling weather conditions 4 of the 29 stations planned were not completed. In addition to our regular sampling, we preserved water samples for red tide analyses for Dr. Karen Steidinger. We also obtained large quantities of offshore water to be used in the phytoplankton cultures, as well as for the Aquatic Health group.

The R/V Suncoaster docked in Bayboro Harbor on 29 September 1995. Chlorophyll samples are being processed by Paul Carlson of FRMI-St. Pet. Right bongo and neuston samples are being prepared for delivery to Mr. Alonzo Hamilton, NMFS, Pascagoula for shipment to the sorting center in Poland. Left bongo samples are being readied for delivery to Mr. Ken Stuck, Gulf Coast Research Lab, Biloxi, MS for archiving. All data has been entered into the SEAMAP DMS module except for chlorophyll values which are in the process of being compiled. Completion of data compilation is expected by the end of November, at which time it will be mailed to the appropriate personnel/agencies.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

cc: Dave Donaldson, SEAMAP Coordinator - Gulf Archives
Joanne Shultz, NMFS
Ken Savastano, Stennis Space Center
Alonzo Hamilton, NMFS

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