

# SEAMAP Fall 2008 Shrimp & Groundfish Survey Cruise Report

Prepared by  
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## Introduction

SEAMAP Fall Shrimp and Groundfish cruises are conducted to provide fishery-independent monitoring assessment and shrimp abundance and location information essential to management of Alabama and nearshore FMZ Gulf of Mexico fisheries resources in a coordinated and cost-efficient program. Fishery-independent information is that collected without direct reliance on statistics reported by commercial or recreational fishermen.

## Objectives

1. Conduct a fall trawl survey to collect information on shrimp and groundfish abundance and distribution with standard SEAMAP 40-ft trawls.
2. Select stations from NMFS generated charts of SEAMAP station location east of the Mississippi River for random sampling. All species are identified, weighed and counted, and measured according to NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual.
3. Collect information on environmental parameters (salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, wind speed and direction, wave height, precipitation) in conjunction with trawl sampling.
4. Code all data according to approved NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines, and enter data on the NMFS SEAMAP data entry system.
5. Submit data to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission/NMFS Data Manager.

## Methods

The vessel that participated in the Alabama Fall Shrimp & Groundfish Survey was the A.E.Verrill. Ten trawls samples were collected in gulf statistical zone 11 on November 7, 2008 and November 17, 2008. A 40 ft trawl with 1.58 inch stretched mesh was lowered into position at the selected site and towline was set at a 5:1 cable length water depth ratio.

Trawl towing was conducted at or near 3 knots for a minimum 10 minutes after lockdown, and towed across a fathom strata. Direction of tows were south to north or north to south.

Sample workup and data processing was conducted in accordance with the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines. Data was entered and checked with the NMFS SEAMAP Data Entry Database.

Environmental data were collected in conjunction with each trawl. Temperature and dissolved oxygen, salinity, and turbidity values were measured with a CDT.

**Results**

Alabama collected 10 Fall Shrimp and Groundfish stations in Alabama's territorial sea and the adjacent FEZ (between latitudes 30° 03'.88 and longitudes 88° 18'.83) (Table 1). A total of 240 biological and 1873 length frequency records were recorded (Table 1)

**Cruise participants:**

Alabama Marine Resources Division personnel collected samples. Sample summary and data entry completed by Ashley Edwards.

Submitted By:

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*Mark Van Hoose*  
SEAMAP Field Party Chief

**Table 1. AMRD SEAMAP 2008 Summer Shrimp & groundfish cruise report summary.**

STA#	DATE		LAT	LONG	STAT ZONE	MAX DEPTH	D.O			SALINITY			TEMPERATUR			FIN CATCH	CRUS CATCH	OTHR CATCH	MIN FISHED	BIO COUNT	LENGTH COUNT	OP
	MM/DD/YY	TIME					SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX							
23 A.E. Verrill																						
23001	11/07/2008	851	30 08.51	88 02.79	11	8	6.7	6.6	6.9	32.4	33.6	34.1	20.4	20.4	20.1	0.384	0.000	0.290	10			
23002	11/07/2008	931	30.09.60	88 04.28	11	12	7.2	6.8	6.3	32.2	34.1	34.4	20.4	20.4	20.5	3.283	0.076	0.291	10			
23003	11/07/2008	1059	30 03.88	88 11.54	11	20	6.7	6.6	6.3	34.4	34.4	34.4	21.5	21.5	21.5	8.772	0.002	0.000	12			
23004	11/07/2008	1153	30 05.68	88 15.06	11	22	7.0	6.9	7.7	33.6	34.2	34.7	20.5	21.0	21.5	40.448	0.418	0.464	56			
23005	11/17/2008	1607	30 11.39	88 18.75	11	12	7.3	7.1	6.8	33.6	34.1	34.2	18.5	19.2	19.5	1.321	0.040	0.000	15			
23006	11/17/2008	1649	30 08.77	88 18.70	11	18	7.2	7.0	6.6	34.2	34.5	35.0	19.5	20.0	21.0	63.666	0.400	0.000	26			
23007	11/17/08	1835	30 07.30	88 16.73	11	20	7.1	7.0	6.6	34.5	34.9	35.3	19.7	20.2	21.1	63.102	0.774	0.119	24			
23008	11/17/2008	1952	30 10.47	88 18.83	11	15	4.7	6.6	6.4	34.2	34.3	34.6	19.5	19.7	20.2	7.660	0.223	2.333	10			
23009	11/17/2008	2050	30 12.48	88 17.88	11	10	4.9	5.9	6.7	33.9	33.9	33.8	18.8	18.8	18.6	5.216	0.454	0.044	12			
23010	11/17/2008	2130	30 13.59	88 15.31	11	9	5.1	6.2	6.0	33.6	33.7	33.9	18.4	18.4	18.6	3.531	0.609	0.139	15			

**Data transfer summary: number of observations in each table.**

Station Card	Environmental	Biological Index	General Length Freq.	<b>Submitted by: Mark Van Hoose</b>
80	130	192	1150	<b>Date submitted: January 6, 2009</b>