

SEAMAP Fall 2008 Groundfish and Shrimp Survey Cruise Report

Prepared by
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Introduction

SEAMAP groundfish and shrimp cruises are conducted to provide fishery-independent monitoring and assessment information essential to management of Louisiana 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 trawl survey to collect information on shrimp and groundfish abundance and distribution with standard SEAMAP 42ft trawls.
2. Select stations west 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 Louisiana Groundfish Survey was the R/V Pelican on 23-26 September 2008. A 42ft trawl with 1.58 inch stretched mesh was lowered into position at the selected sites and towline was set at a 5:1 cable length water depth ratio to sample shrimp and groundfish species. Trawl towing was conducted at or near 3 knots for a minimum 10 minutes after lockdown and towed across a one-fathom stratum. Direction of tows were south to north or north to south. Each station was occupied once during daytime hours and once during nighttime hours. Trawl catch specimens were identified, counted, measured for length and weighed.

Plankton sampling was conducted at fixed-coordinate stations, using 60cm, 0.333mm-mesh bongo and 1m x 2m, 0.947mm-mesh neuston nets. Samples were transported back to the laboratory for measurements of total plankton biomass, measured as displaced volume. 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 and plankton sample. Temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity and conductivity values were measured with a CTD.

Results

Louisiana collected 18 groundfish stations in Louisiana's territorial sea and the adjacent FEZ (between latitudes 28° 29' and 29° 8' and longitudes -89° 29' and -91° 30') (Table 1). A total of 925.6 biological and 2088 length frequency records were recorded (Table 1).

Deviations

There were no significant deviations.

Cruise participants:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Marine Fisheries Division personnel collected samples. Sample summary and data entry completed by Marsha Strong.

Submitted By:

Kym Walsh
SEAMAP Chief Scientist

Table 1. LDWF SEAMAP 2008 Summer groundfish cruise report summary.

STA #	DATE MM/DD/YYYY	TIME	LAT	LONG	STAT ZONE	MAX DEPTH	DO			SALINITY			TEMPERATURE			FIN CATCH	CRUS CATCH	OTHR CATCH	MIN FISH		
							SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX						
35006	09/24/2008	02:16	28	28.02	91	04.82	15	32	6.5	6.5	6.3	34.430	34.430	34.480	27.30	27.30	27.24	104.2	1.8	1.8	30
35007	09/24/2008	05:05	28	34.10	90	57.99	14	24	6.3	6.3	6.3	34.060	34.060	34.060	27.19	27.20	27.21	66.6	0.4	0.4	14
35009	09/24/2008	08:19	28	28.19	91	04.45	15	36	6.4	6.4	6.0	34.400	34.400	34.460	27.28	27.28	27.18	57.9	1.1	1.1	26
35010	09/24/2008	10:41	28	34.31	90	58.17	14	24	6.4	6.3	6.3	33.530	34.120	34.120	27.17	27.16	27.16	166.7	0.8	0.8	30
35011	09/24/2008	19:58	28	47.27	90	10.74	14	27	6.7	6.6	5.1				27.10	27.17	26.98	57.9	4.1	4.1	30
35012	09/24/2008	22:06	28	57.01	90	12.83	14	16	6.4	6.4	6.4	33.550	33.550	33.580	27.24	27.27	27.30	1.0	0.0	34.0	31
35013	09/25/2008	01:06	28	57.42	89	57.62	13	27	6.6	6.6	5.4	30.210	32.700	34.930	26.83	27.11	27.05	49.5	4.0	4.0	23
35014	09/25/2008	02:41	29	00.83	89	56.12	13	25	6.6	6.6	5.6	29.750	31.650	34.240	26.89	27.12	27.37	9.5	1.1	5.5	12
35016	09/25/2008	08:15	28	46.16	90	10.83	14	30	6.5	6.5	5.1	33.940	33.950	35.190	26.87	26.90	27.04	169.2	1.7	1.8	30
35017	09/25/2008	11:02	28	57.77	90	13.11	14	17	6.5	6.5	6.5	33.320	33.320	33.330	26.96	26.95	26.95	2.9	0.0	0.0	30
35018	09/25/2008	14:19	28	57.96	89	57.24	13	30	6.9	6.4	5.3	29.490	31.810	34.750	26.85	27.00	27.15	61.6	.04	0.4	30
35019	09/25/2008	15:28	29	00.53	89	55.72	13	27	7.2	6.5	5.5	28.430	31.030	34.260	26.82	26.93	27.31	76.7	1.3	1.3	31
35020	09/25/2008	17:07	29	05.39	89	49.83	13	24	8.3	6.6	5.3	24.440	29.500	33.370	26.31	26.69	27.34	10.8	0.1	2.2	30
35021	09/25/2008	20:13	29	06.12	89	48.89	13	24	7.9	6.8		24.630	29.010	23.300	26.22	26.49	27.05	1.3	0.2	2.2	30
35022	09/25/2008	21:41	29	11.89	89	49.34	13	13	7.7	8.1	6.8	26.180	28.170	30.360	26.06	26.53	26.68	11.0	3.6	6.5	30
35023	09/26/2008	00:45	29	12.73	89	39.10	13	8	7.0	7.1	6.2	25.100	25.140	28.430	26.06	26.10	26.86	2.3	0.8	2.7	28
35024	09/26/2008	08:08	29	13.23	89	39.05	13	7	7.1	6.8	6.5	25.650	28.050	28.630	25.70	26.51	26.75	3.3	0.2	1.7	30
35025	09/26/2008	09:51	29	11.72	89	49.58	13	14	7.8	7.2	6.6	25.690	27.480	30.490	25.55	26.06	26.72	2.1	0.1	0.3	30

Data transfer summary: number of observations in each table.

Station Card	Environmental	Biological Index	General Length Freq.
25	25	925.6	2088

Submitted by: Kym Walsh
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