

SEAMAP Fall 2012 Plankton Survey Cruise Report
Cruise Dates: 09/10/12-09/12/12

Prepared by Chloe Dean on 9/28/2012
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Introduction

The Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) fall plankton surveys are conducted to provide information on the occurrence, abundance and geographical distribution of the eggs and larvae of fall spawning fish, which is essential to fisheries management of the Gulf of Mexico.

Objectives

1. Sample in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) SEAMAP Fall Plankton Survey and select stations from their Fall sampling grid.
2. Conduct bongo and neuston tows at each designated station according to NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual.
3. Collect a water column profile (salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity) at each SEAMAP station using a Conductivity/Temperature/Depth (CTD). Other environmental data were taken according to the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines.
4. Measure chlorophyll in the water column by collecting water with the CTD water sampler and filtering onboard for later spectroscopic analysis in the LDWF lab.
5. Label and prepare plankton samples according to NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines and transfer them in a timely manner to the NMFS Pascagoula, MS lab.
6. Code all data according to approved NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines, and enter data on the LDWF SEAMAP data entry system.
7. Submit data to Jeff Rester, SEAMAP coordinator and Lloyd Kirk, Data Manager at the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Methods

Plankton sampling is conducted at each station using 60cm, 0.335mm-mesh bongo and 1m x 2m, 0.950mm-mesh neuston nets. Samples are transported back to the LDWF Fisheries Research Laboratory for preparation and transfer. Sample workup and data processing is conducted in accordance with the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines. Samples are then transferred to the NMFS Pascagoula, MS lab.

Environmental data is collected in conjunction with each plankton station. Temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity and conductivity values are measured with a CTD. In the event a DO reading falls below 2.0 Mg/L, the DO is verified using a YSI.

Data is coded according to the NMFS SEAMAP Operations Manual guidelines and entered into the LDWF SEAMAP data entry system. The data is then submitted to Jeff Rester, SEAMAP coordinator and Lloyd Kirk, Data Manager at the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Results

The survey was conducted on 10-12 September 2012. Louisiana sampled seven plankton stations between longitudes $-89^{\circ} 34.80'$ and $-91^{\circ} 29.96'$ and between the latitudes $28^{\circ} 29.92'$ and $29^{\circ} 00.08'$. Thirty-three plankton samples jars were collected. Plankton samples were transferred to the NMFS Pascagoula, MS lab on 24 September 2012. All chlorophyll samples were analyzed by spectroscopy in the LDWF Fisheries Research Laboratory.

Deviations

There were no significant deviations.

Cruise participants:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Fisheries Management Division personnel collected samples, completed data summaries and entered data on the SAS data entry system. Personnel included Chloe Dean, Suzy Delaune, Robert Boothe and Caitlin Hamer.

Submitted By:

Chloe Dean
SEAMAP Chief Scientist

Table 1. LDWF SEAMAP 2012 Fall Plankton Survey cruise report summary.

STA #	DATE	TIME	LAT	LONG	STAT ZONE	MAX DEPTH (fm)	SALINITY			TEMPERATURE			DO				
	MM/DD/YYYY						SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX	SUR	MID	MAX		
88001	09/10/2012	0005	29	00.01	91	29.96	15	6	NA*	NA*	NA*	28.50	28.30	28.70	NA*	NA*	NA*
88002	09/11/2012	0721	28	29.92	91	00.01	15	18.4	NA*	NA*	NA*	28.53	28.90	26.60	NA*	NA*	NA*
88003	09/11/2012	1046	28	47.10	90	53.08	14	9.5	32.0	32.0	34.5	28.19	28.20	27.84	6.0	6.0	3.9
88004	09/11/2012	1244	28	54.10	90	33.03	14	9	32.1	32.1	32.1	27.96	27.97	27.96	5.7	5.7	5.7
88005	09/11/2012	1642	28	30.28	90	30.20	14	21.4	NA*	NA*	NA*	28.20	28.80	25.80	NA*	NA*	NA*
88006	09/11/2012	0020	28	56.63	89	34.80	13	30	28.8	33.9	36.2	27.94	28.26	23.35	7.0	5.0	3.8
88007	09/12/2012	0423	29	00.08	90	00.09	14	13.7	31.1	31.2	34.0	27.89	28.02	27.48	6.3	6.3	3.8

*Readings were NA due to a computer glitch with the CTD.

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Date submitted: 09/28/2012

LDWF / SEAMAP Fall Plankton Sample Check-In

Cruise 123

Month/Year September 2012

List stations in ascending order by Pascagoula Station No. (refer to Plankton Station data sheets or Cruise Summary page), then fill in corresponding LDWF Stn. No.

Pascagoula Stn. No.	SEAMAP Stn. No.	Target Lat.	Target Long.	Net	Coll. Date	No. Jars, Remarks		SEAMAP Plankton Sample No.
						Plastic	Glass	
88001	B197	29°00.00	91°30.00	Bongo-Lt.	09/10/12	2	1	44716
				Bongo-Rt.	09/10/12	2	1	44717
				Neuston	09/10/12	8	6	44718
88002	B194	28°30.00	91°00.00	Bongo-Lt.	09/11/12	1	1	44719
				Bongo-Rt.	09/11/12	1	1	44720
				Neuston	09/11/12	2	2	44721
88003	B193	28°47.00	90°53.00	Bongo-Lt.	09/11/12	2	1	44722
				Bongo-Rt.	09/11/12	1	1	44723
				Neuston	09/11/12	2	1	44724
88004	B192	28°54.00	90°33.00	Bongo-Lt.	09/11/12	2	1	44725
				Bongo-Rt.	09/11/12	0	0	-----
				Neuston	09/11/12	2	2	44726
88005	B191	28°30.00	90°30.00	Bongo-Lt.	09/11/12	2	1	44727
				Bongo-Rt.	09/11/12	1	1	44728
				Neuston	09/11/12	1	1	44729
88006	B187	28°57.48	89°33.18	Bongo-Lt.	09/12/12	1	1	44730
				Bongo-Rt.	09/12/12	1	1	44731
				Neuston	09/12/12	4	5	44732
88007	B188	29°00.00	90°00.00	Bongo-Lt.	09/12/12	1	1	44733
				Bongo-Rt.	09/12/12	1	1	44734
				Neuston	09/12/12	2	3	44735

