

**Center for Fisheries Research & Development - Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
University of Southern Mississippi
SEAMAP Spring Plankton Cruise Report – Cruise 1401**

Introduction – The SEAMAP Spring Plankton Survey was conducted in May 2014. A total of eight grid stations were sampled over a two-day period.

Objectives

- Conduct offshore plankton sampling during spring to assess larval recruitment dynamics in federal Gulf waters.
- Collect information on physical-chemical and environmental parameters in conjunction with plankton sampling.
- Submit data to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission/NMFS Data Manager.

Methods - Plankton samples were collected at grid stations in the north-central Gulf using bongo and neuston nets and following established SEAMAP protocols. Temperature, dissolved oxygen, and salinity values were measured with a YSI (CTD delayed return from Sea-Bird annual calibration/servicing), and meteorological conditions were recorded. Collection and processing of environmental data followed SEAMAP guidelines.

Results – A total of sixteen collections (eight neuston and eight bongo) were made during the Spring Plankton Survey on May 5 and 6 (Figure 1). All plankton samples were delivered to the NMFS Pascagoula Laboratory for shipment to the Polish Sorting Center. Copies of the station data forms are included as Appendix I.

Deviations - There were no deviations from standard SEAMAP protocol.

Cruise Participants - USM/GCRL/CFRD

Submitted By:



Read Hendon, Principal Investigator

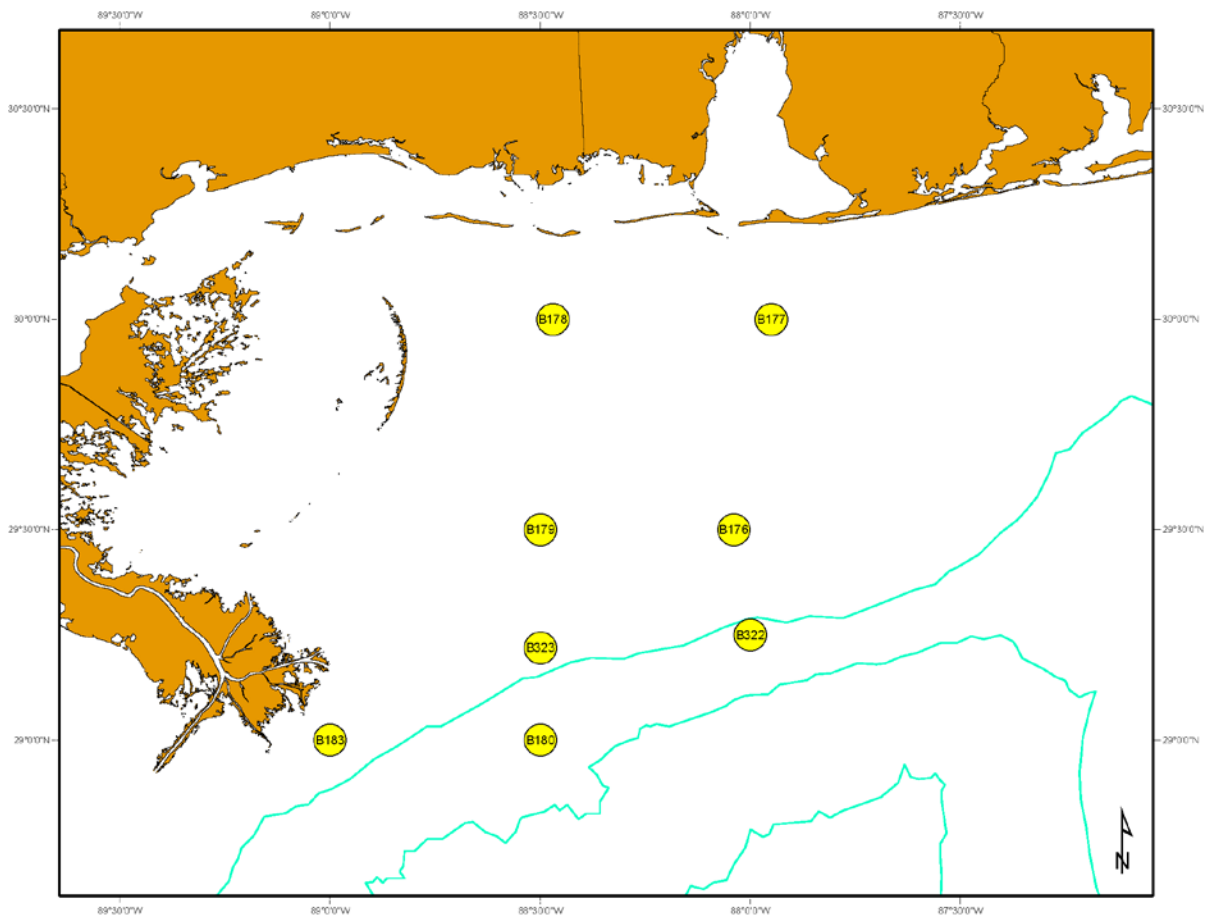


Figure 1. Map of 2014 spring plankton stations, Mississippi Cruise 1401.

APPENDIX I

Station Data Form Scans