

**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.

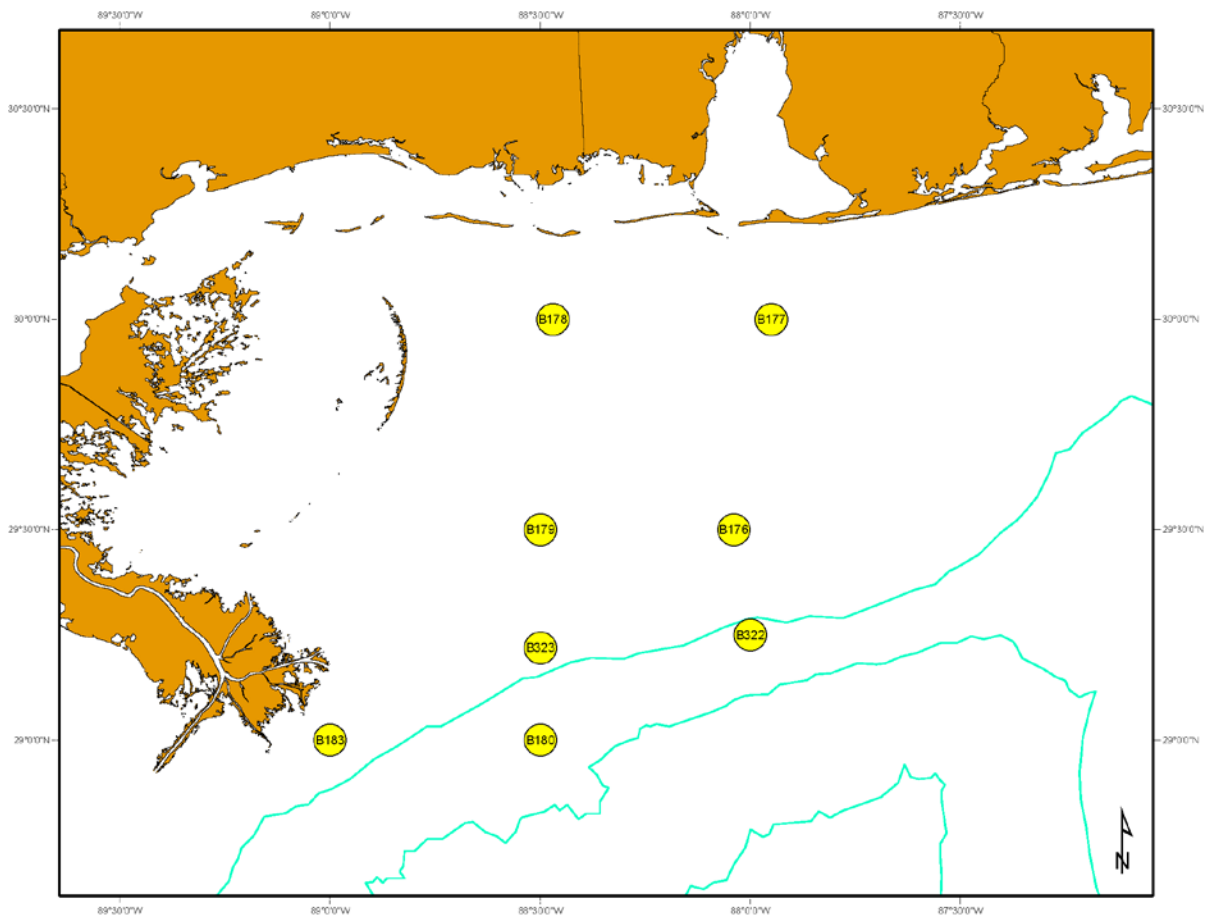
**Deviations** - There were no deviations from standard SEAMAP protocol.

**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**