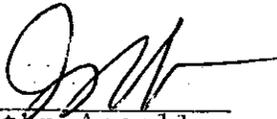


LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Approved: 5/11/87



J. Burton Angelle

BOARD MEETING

May 1, 1987

DALE VINET
Chairman

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

AGENDA

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
May 1, 1987

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1. Roll Call	1
2. Approval of Minutes of April 3, 1987	1
3. Enforcement Report	1
4. Survey Report	1
5. Notice of Intent - Establish a Minimum Legal Size for Spanish Mackerel	1
6. Notice of Intent - Establish a Minimum Legal Size for Cobia	2
7. Set Shrimp Season for 1987	3
8. Ratification of Public Oyster Seed Grounds - Vermilion Bay Area	3
9. Alligator Season for 1987	3
10. Channel Catfish Minimum Size Length Limit	3
11. Set August Meeting Date	3

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

May 1, 1987

Chairman Dale Vinet presiding:

Jack Cappel
Lyle Crain
Don Hines
Joe Palmisano
Warren Pol
Mark Roberts

Mr. J. Burton Angelle was also present.

The minutes of the meeting of April 3, 1987 were approved with a motion from Dr. Cappel and seconded by Mr. Roberts.

At Thursday's meeting Ray Montet gave the enforcement report for the month of April 1987.

Corky Perret gave the Survey Report at Thursday's meeting for the period of March 30-April 26, 1987. During this period field activity consisted of 124 surveys were scheduled, 48 surveys were unable to be done due to bad weather or fishermen unable to meet surveyor. Lease rental collected was \$850.90, survey fees collected were \$1,055.00, ten applications were filed and seventeen new leases were issued.

Gerald Adkins presented two Notices of Intent. One to establish a minimum legal size for Spanish Mackerel and one to establish a minimum legal size for Cobia.

(The full text of the notices of intent is made a part of the record)

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt a minimum legal size for Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*) in Louisiana waters. The minimum legal size shall be established as 14" (inches) total length, or 12" (inches) fork length. Authority for this change is included in RS 56:326.1.

Interested parties may submit written comments or comment on this proposed change until 4:30 PM, July 2, 1987 in person or writing to: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 15570, Baton Rouge, LA 70895.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt a minimum legal size for cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*) in Louisiana waters. The minimum legal size shall be established as 33" (inches) fork length. Authority for this change is included in R.S. 56:326.1.

Interested parties may submit written comments or comment on this proposed change until 4:30 PM, July 2, 1987 in person or writing to: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P. O. Box 15570, Baton Rouge, LA 70895.

Corky Perret presented a declaration of emergency to set the shrimp season for 1987. Mr. Palmisano made a motion to approve the declaration to set the 1987 shrimp season, seconded by Mr. Crain and approved unanimously. Dr. Cappel made a motion to approve the special three day white shrimp season, seconded by Mr. Pol and approved unanimously.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record)

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Act, R.S. 56:967 which allows the wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does:

1. Hereby set the 1987 inshore spring shrimp season to open at 6:00 AM on Monday, May 25, 1987, statewide.
2. Authorize and empower the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 1987 inshore shrimp season in any area where the season needs to be closed to protect forthcoming white shrimp crop as defined in R.S. 56:497.
3. Sets a special white shrimp season for Calcasieu Lake including that portion of the Calcasieu Ship Channel south of channel marker 91-92 to run from 6:00 AM Tuesday, May 5 through 6:00 AM, Friday, May 8, 1987.
4. Provide that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries give a minimum of 72 hours notice prior to the closing of the 1987 spring shrimp season or the opening of any special season.

Corky Perret also presented a resolution to ratify the Public Oyster Seed Grounds in the Vermilion Bay Area. Dr. Hines made a motion to ratify the resolution, seconded by Mr. Roberts and passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, RS 56:434 A authorized the Commission to set aside such area from the inside waterbottoms of the state as it judges best adapted to the planting, propagation, growth and policing of seed oysters, and

WHEREAS, Biological surveys have shown the Atchafalaya, Vermilion Bay area to meet such qualifications, and

WHEREAS, There is a pressing need for an oyster seed ground in the Atchafalaya, Vermilion Bay area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following described area be set aside as a designated oyster seed ground.

Johnnie Tarver presented a resolution to set the alligator season for 1987. A motion was made by Mr. Pol, seconded by Mr. Roberts which passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has the authority under state and federal statute to establish an alligator harvesting program; and

WHEREAS, the alligator harvesting program as approved by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on July 11, 1986 for the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the experimental harvest program are clearly outlined and procedures described in the accompanying documents entitled "1986 Experimental Alligator Harvest Program on Marsh Island Refuge" and "1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Proposal; and

WHEREAS, the alligator population on Marsh Island has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining a harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby urge and authorize the Department to continue the Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program set to begin on July 6, 1987 to further refine the state alligator management program.

No action was taken on the channel catfish minimum size length limit.

The August meeting will be held at Rockefeller on the 6th and 7th.

The meeting was adjourned.

WHEREAS, RS 56:434 A Authorized the Commission to set aside such area from the inside water bottoms of the state as it judges best adapted to the planting, propagation, growth and policing of seed oysters, and

WHEREAS, Biological surveys have shown the Atchalaya, Vermilion Bay area to meet such qualifications, and

WHEREAS, There is a pressing need for an oyster seed ground in the Atchafala, Vermilion Bay area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following described area be set aside as a designated oyster seed ground

ATCHAFALAYA-VERMILION BAY OYSTER SEED GROUND

DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point of land on the southwest side of Southwest Pass, (y-335554.00) (x-1,774,683.00), thence S 31 54 44 E 4300.4 feet to Lighthouse Point on the southeast side of Southwest Pass and the most westerly point of Marsh Island (y-331,903.69) (x-1,776,956.24), thence along the south shoreline of Marsh Island to the point known as South Point (y-298,750.40) (x-1,863,189.50) thence S 74 10 18 E 5278.6 feet to a platform (y-284,352.82) (x-1,913973.65) thence S 68 18 41 E 75,154.9 feet to Eugene Island (y-256,578.31) (x-1,983808.02) thence S 35 17 41 E 17,453.6 feet to Point Au Fer (y-242,332.84) (x-1,993,892.44) thence along the southeastern shoreline of Atchafalaya Bay to South Point (y-257,413.00) (x-2,031,117.00) thence N 29 36 41 E 7455.7 feet to the north bank of Four League Pass (y-263,895.00) (x-2,034,801.00) thence along the eastern shoreline of Achafalaya Bay to the east bank of the Achafalaya River (y-294,175.00) (x-2,020,925.00) thence N 80 57 36 W 6001.5 feet to the west bank of the Achafalaya River (y-295,118.00) (x-2,014,998.00) thence along the north shoreline of Achafalaya Bay to Belle Isle Point (y-312,510.00) (x-1,969,990.00) thence following the shoreline of New Pass to a point on the west bank of New Pass (y-318,375.00) (x-1,967,345.00) thence westerly along the North shoreline of Achafalaya Bay to Point Chevreuil (y-309,951.00) (x-1,930,415.00) thence northerly along the shoreline of East Cote Blanche Bay to Point Marone (y-352,112.00) (x-1,898,410.00) thence northerly along the east shoreline of West Cote Blanche Bay to the East side of the Jaws (y-389,415.00) (x-1,909,020.00) thence N 64 01 41 W 4407.1 feet to the west side of the Jaws (y-391,345.00) (x-1,905,058.00) thence westerly along the north shoreline of West Cote Blanche Bay to Cypremort Point (y-380,726.00) (x-1,826,461.00) thence northerly along the east shoreline of Vermilion Bay to Little Mud Point (y-412,498.00) (x-1,836,480.00) thence in a southerly direction along the shoreline of Weeks Bay to the east bank of Shark Bayou (y-403,692.00) (x-1,840,583.00) thence northerly along the east shore of Weeks Bay to a point at the Mouth of Bayou Carlin (y-422,780.00) (x-1,841,195.00) thence westerly along the north shoreline of Vermilion Bay to Mud Point (y-382,749.00) (x-1,741,026.00) thence continue along the shoreline to a point at the southeast corner of Little White Lake (y-395,495.00) (x-1,738,384.00) thence along the shoreline of Little White Lake to Buck Point (y-391,673.00)

(x-1,736,065.00) thence continue along the shoreline to Redfish Point (y-375,420.00) (x-1,786,260.00) thence southerly along the west shoreline of Vermilion Bay to a point at the mouth of Hog Bayou (y-346,604.00) (x-1,752,950.00) thence along the shoreline of Hell Hole to a point at the northeast corner of Hell Hole (y-347,496.00) (x-1,755,604.00) thence easterly along the shoreline of Vermilion Bay to Indian Point (y-352,201.00) (x-1,777,875.00) thence southerly along the shoreline of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass to the Gulf and the Point of Beginning less and except the following.

1. Marsh Island wildlife Refuge and Game Preserve.
2. State Oyster leases presently active in the described area.

a. L22069	c. L22087	e. L22091	g. L27760
b. L22070	d. L22088	f. L28292	h. L22090



J. BURTON ANGELE
Secretary

RESOLUTION OF CONCURRENCE BY THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
COMMISSION AT THE REGULAR MEETING HELD IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
ON FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1987.

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish an alligator harvesting program; and

WHEREAS, The alligator harvesting program was approved by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on July 11, 1986 for the fiscal year; and

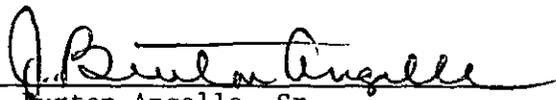
WHEREAS, the objectives of the experimental harvest program are clearly outlined and procedures described in the accompanying documents entitled "1986 Experimental Alligator Harvest Program on Marsh Island Refuge" and "1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Proposal; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population on Marsh Island has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining a harvest of surplus animals; and

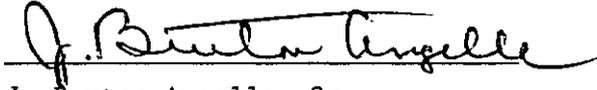
WHEREAS, The removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby urge and authorize the Department to continue the Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program set to begin on July 6, 1987 to further refine the statewide alligator management program.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the excerpt of the minutes of the meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission held in New Orleans, Louisiana on Friday, May 1, 1987.


J. Burton Angelle, Sr.
Secretary

This is to certify that the attached document entitled "1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Proposal" is a true copy of the excerpt of the minutes of the meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission held in New Orleans, Louisiana on Friday, May 1, 1987.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Burton Angelle", written over a horizontal line.

J. Burton Angelle, Sr.
Secretary

1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator
Harvest Proposal

INTRODUCTION

During the Spring and Summer of 1986 an experimental harvest of alligators was conducted on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge. A total of 2,930 alligators were harvested. Although data analysis is ongoing, Kinler et al. (1987) reported on the results of this 1986 harvest and made recommendations for a 1987 experimental harvest. An active alligator research program is currently being conducted on Marsh Island. Research projects include night counts and aerial nest counts to estimate populations, tagging for growth rate data, and an adult female telemetry study. This proposal details the objectives and procedures for the upcoming 1987 experimental harvest.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To collect reproductive data to determine the proportion of adult-sized females [≥ 1.83 m (6 feet)] nesting annually. Also to determine reproductive rates as related to marsh management units on Marsh Island (weired marsh, natural marsh and impoundment).
- 2) To evaluate an alternate time of annual harvest

with the intent of changing the sex ratio in the harvest. Also to evaluate size-class ratios in summer harvested alligators.

- 3) To evaluate the accuracy of a calculated optimum harvest rate.
- 4) To evaluate the logistics of handling and selling whole alligators so that the entire alligator (hide and meat) can be utilized.
- 5) To collect femurs from adult-sized females and extremely large male [≥ 3.34 m (11 feet)] alligators to evaluate age at sexual maturity in females and overall age structure of males.
- 6) To evaluate an alternate harvest methodology for 1.22 m (4 feet) and 1.52 m (5 feet) alligators.

PROCEDURES

Harvest Quotas

Data collected from the 1986 experimental harvest was used to calculate a harvest quota for the 1987 harvest (Fig. 1). Due to the skewed size class frequency distribution in the 1986 harvest (Kinler et al. 1987) and to the different, but more representative production rate calculated from the 1986 data (Taylor et al. submitted for publication in 1987) the harvest quota for 1987 has been reduced significantly. The base quota for 1987, to be taken

by the fishing method, is 1,500 alligators. An additional 500 tags will be issued to harvest 1.22 m (4 feet) and 1.52 m (5 feet) size alligators by shooting.

Selection of Hunters

A total of 18 hunters and 5 alternates will be selected for the experimental harvest. These hunters will receive 50% of the value for the alligators they harvest and the Department will receive 50%. Each hunter will harvest approximately 111 alligators. Preference will be given to the individuals with previous trapping and/or alligator hunting experience on Marsh Island. Other hunters will be selected by screening applications (Fig. 2), using the criteria listed below, and then drawing names.

- 1) Previous trapping and/or alligator hunting experience on Marsh Island Refuge.
- 2) Previous alligator hunting experience in Louisiana.
- 3) Ownership of essential equipment for alligator hunting on Marsh Island. Due to the location and topography of Marsh Island Refuge each hunter will need two boats.
 - a) Minimum 18' hull to cross the open water of Vermilion Bay on a daily basis.
 - b) A smaller boat (small flat, mudboat, etc.) to hunt the interior bayous and ponds.
- 4) Each applicant will be required to report to the

refuge each morning until his quota is filled (no exceptions allowed).

- 5) Ability to follow specific instructions issued by Department personnel.
- 6) Ability to maintain required records.
- 7) All applicants will be checked for past wildlife violations. Any applicant possessing a wildlife violation in the past 5 years will be rejected.

All hunters will be required to sign and abide by an alligator hunting contract (Fig. 3).

Unit Assignments

Hunters will be assigned to specific units on Marsh Island (Fig 4). Assignments of hunting units will be done by a drawing. Hunting units will be distributed throughout the refuge so that hunting success, reproductive rates and size-class data can be evaluated by habitat types.

Harvest Date

The 1987 experimental harvest will begin on July 6. The hunt will continue on a daily basis until the quota is completed or until specified by Department officials.

Harvest Methods

The base quota of 1,500 alligators will be harvested by the baited hook and line (fishing) method. The number of

lines to be set daily by an individual will be regulated as needed to catch approximately 5 alligators per day per hunter. All alligators will be tagged according to Department regulations and taken to a central location for processing.

An additional allotment of 500 tags will be issued to shoot free swimming 1.22 m (4 feet) and 1.52 m (5 feet) alligators. Since these size classes are underrepresented in the fall harvest we are evaluating an alternate harvest methodology. Data on hunter effort and their ability to select certain sized alligators will be evaluated.

Sale of Alligators

The sale of approximately 2,000 whole alligators will be advertised in April (Fig. 5). The bid to purchase these alligators will be awarded to the individual offering the highest price per foot. An official contract will be executed between the buyer and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (Fig. 6). Alligators will be picked up each morning at the Marsh Island Headquarters dock. In order to utilize the meat, the alligators must be refrigerated at the time of pick-up. The length measurement taken at Marsh Island will be the official length used for calculating payment. An official invoice form (provided by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries) will be utilized for all financial transactions between the buyer

and both the hunter and the Department (Fig. 7). The hunters will be able to cash their invoices at a local bank (New Iberia) every 5 days. The Department will be paid its share of the revenue within 7 days of the completion of the harvest.

Data Collection

All alligators will be brought to the refuge headquarters and loaded onto the transport boat. The following data will be collected:

- 1) Alligator hide tag numbers
- 2) Length (feet and inches)
- 3) Weight (pounds)
- 4) Sex
- 5) Location where the alligator is captured
- 6) All adult-size females [≥ 1.83 m (6 feet)] will be web tagged and the head was painted to identify for necropsy.
- 7) All large males will be marked to identify for femur removal.
- 8) Obvious mutilations (i.e., cuts, bobtails, missing legs) will be recorded.

After processing, each alligator will be iced and transported to the processing facility. Fur & Refuge Division personnel will collect reproductive tracts and femurs immediately after the alligators are skinned. These

items will be labeled, placed in plastic bags and stored in freezers. Reproductive tracts will be examined at the New Iberia office for classification of reproductive status (i.e., immature, producer, quiescent, or barren). Femurs will be sectioned for age determination. After completion of the 1987 harvest, data will be entered into a computer for analysis.

LITERATURE CITED

- KINLER, N., D. TAYLOR, AND G. LINScombe. 1987.
Experimental alligator harvest program on Marsh
Island Refuge. Mimeograph Report. 26 pp.
- TAYLOR, D., N. KINLER, G. LINScombe, AND T. JOANEN. 1987.
Management implications of a female alligator
reproductive study. (Submitted for publication in
1987)
- TAYLOR, D. AND W. NEAL. 1984. Management implications
of size-class frequency distributions in Louisiana
alligator populations. Wildl. Soc. Bull. 12:312-319.

Figure 1. Data and calculations necessary to establish the harvest quota for the 1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

CALCULATIONS FOR 1987 QUOTA

<u>Data</u>	<u>Source of Data</u>
21.6% nesting rate (1986)	July 1986 Marsh Island data
850 nests (1986)	1986 aerial nest survey and potential nesting females harvested in April and May 1986
56M:44F sex ratio	1986 Marsh Island data
Size class frequency distribution by sex	Taylor and Neal, 1984
Size class frequency distribution in Marsh Island harvest	1986 Marsh Island harvest rate

During the 1986 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest, adult-sized alligators were not harvested in proportion to their existence in the population (as calculated from past Louisiana harvest statistics and night count data) (Kinler et al. 1987). Therefore the 1987 harvest quota is based on estimated number of 2.13 m (7 feet) males instead of the total estimated number of 1.83 m (6 feet) alligators (both sexes).

Calculations

- 1) If 21.6% of ≥ 1.83 m (6 feet) females produced 850 nests; then $850 \div .216 = 3,935$ total females ≥ 1.83 m (6 feet)
- 2) If 56M:44F = adult sex ratio; then 5,009 = number of males ≥ 1.83 m (6 feet)
- 3) $5,009 + 3,935 = 8,944$ total alligators ≥ 1.83 m (6 feet)
- 4) $(5,009) \times (.60) = 3,000 \geq 2.13$ m (7 feet) males (Taylor and Neal 1984)
- 5) $3,000 \times 18\%$ harvest rate on ≥ 2.13 m (7 feet) males = 540 tags for ≥ 2.13 m (7 feet) males (Taylor and Neal 1984)
- 6) If 60M:40F = sex ratio for ≥ 2.13 m (7 feet) class (Taylor and Neal 1984); then $540 \div .60 = 900$ = Total tags for ≥ 2.13 m (7 feet) class
- 7) If ≥ 2.13 m (7 feet) class = 40% of total harvest (Taylor and Neal, 1984) then $900 \div .40 = 2,250$ maximum harvest quota (by the fishing method).
- 8) $2,250 - 33\%$ (reduction for potential errors in data) = 1,500 harvest quota.

Figure 2. Hunter application form to be used for the 1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

ALLIGATOR HUNTING APPLICATION
MARSH ISLAND EXPERIMENTAL HARVEST
1987

Applications must be in by May 8, 1987 (no exceptions)

NAME: _____ PHONE: Home _____ Office _____
STREET: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

Please provide the following information on your previous alligator hunting experiences.

YEAR: 1986

Landowner (Name): _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____
Number of tags issued _____ Number of tags used _____

Please provide the same information on additional landowners on reverse side.

YEAR: 1985

Landowner (Name): _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____
Number of tags issued _____ Number of tags used _____

YEAR: 1984

Landowner (Name): _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____
Number of tags issued _____ Number of tags used _____

Please provide the following information on the boats you own and plan to use for harvesting alligators.

Category I: Minimum size 18' for open waters of Vermilion Bay.

Boat Registration Numbers: LA _____
Expiration Date: _____ Length _____ Width _____
Horsepower _____ Type of Engine _____

Category II: Smaller boat (flat boat, mud boat, etc.) for hunting interior ponds and bayous.

Boat Registration Numbers: LA _____
Expiration Date: _____ Length _____ Width _____
Horsepower _____ Type of Engine _____

Are you self-employed (check one) YES _____ No _____

If not self-employed provide the following information:

Employer: _____
Name Address

Immediate Supervisor _____ () _____
Name Telephone

I certify that the information I have provided in this application is true. I understand that falsification of this information may cause my application to be rejected, my name removed from the eligible register and/or subject me to immediate dismissal from this project.

Signature of Applicant Date

RETURN APPLICATION TO: Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Fur and Refuge Division
Rt. 4, Box 78, Darnell Road
New Iberia, LA 70560

Figure 3. Contract between the La. Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and the hunters participating in the 1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

CONTRACT FOR ALLIGATOR HUNTING ON MARSH ISLAND (1987)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____
Street or Box No. City or Town, Zip

I hereby agree to follow all the rules and regulations pertaining to Marsh Island Refuge and to alligator hunting.

Specifically I further understand that:

- 1) No commercial fishing activity such as crab traps, trot lines, gill nets, or bush lines can be utilized on Marsh Island. Only sport fishing is allowed. No trawling is allowed within the boundaries of Marsh Island.
- 2) A single firearm may be carried on to Marsh Island only after clearance and registration with Departmental personnel. You may have the firearm in your possession only when you are checking your lines. Otherwise the firearms must remain at your camp, houseboat or shrimp boat. The firearm can be utilized only to kill alligators. No other type of wildlife (including blackbirds and grackles) are to be harmed in any way.
- 3) No nighttime activities will be allowed on Marsh Island unless specified by Departmental personnel. You may leave your camp or enter the refuge at sunrise and you must return to your camp or leave the refuge by sunset.
- 4) No littering of any kind will be allowed. You are responsible for proper disposal of all garbage and trash from your camp, houseboat or shrimp boat.
- 5) Fifty percent (50%) of the revenues derived from the sale of the whole alligators will go to the selected hunters and fifty percent (50%) will go to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.
- 6) Selected hunters will provide all of the equipment necessary for harvesting his quota of alligators. Lack of proper equipment or continued failure of equipment will be grounds for termination.
- 7) Each selected hunter will have to report to Marsh Island each morning (at daylight) until his monthly quota of tags is filled. Each selected hunter may have only one licensed helper present at any one time, however this does not alleviate the responsibility of the selected hunter for being present on a daily basis.
- 8) Unless otherwise specified each hunter must take alligators only from his designated unit. Unit assignments will be determined by a drawing. Each hunter must proceed to his designated unit at daylight, remove alligators from the lines and return immediately to the headquarters facility. Each hunter must keep alligators cool by covering. Departmental personnel will specify a specific time by which all alligators must be delivered to the headquarters facility.
- 9) Unless otherwise specified all alligators will be taken by the hook and line fishing technique. All alligators that are caught on the lines shall be taken. You must set lines so as to minimize the capture of alligators less than 4 feet long. However, no alligators may be cut loose from hooks and lines for purposes of selecting larger alligators. The number of lines to be set will be regulated by Departmental personnel. Adjustment will be made as necessary, however each hunter shall have a quota of 5 alligators per day unless otherwise specified.
- 10) No type of wild birds or animals may be used for bait. You must supply your own bait and it should be of some type of domestic animal (beef melt, tallow or lung or poultry parts) or a commercial fish species.
- 11) Alligators must be tagged upon taking. Before you proceed to your next line, the alligator tag must be in place and fully locked.
- 12) Violation of any of these agreements by you or by your licensed helper will be grounds for cancellation of your alligator hunting privileges, revocation of all alligator tags and immediate removal from the area.
- 13) This contract becomes effective July 1, 1987, and terminates at project completion.

I have read the above and understand that by signing below I agree to the above terms.

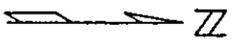
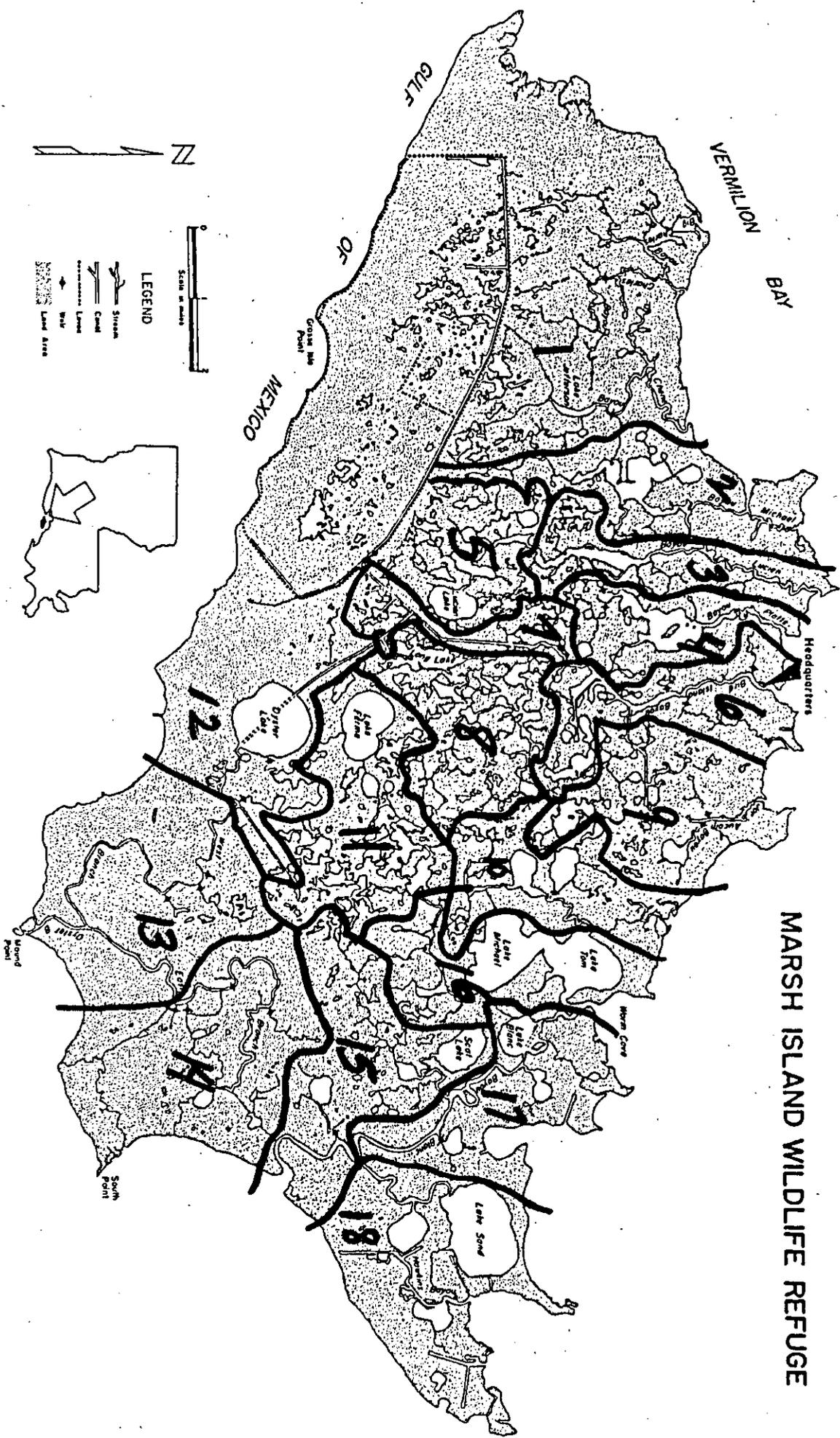
 Alligator Hunter Signature

 Alligator Helper Signature

APPROVED: _____
La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Date

Figure 4. Map of Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge with the designated hunting units for the 1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

MARSH ISLAND WILDLIFE REFUGE



- LEGEND**
- Stream
 - Canal
 - Land
 - Water
 - Land Area



Figure 5. Information concerning the sale of whole alligators along with the official bid form for the 1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

MARSH ISLAND EXPERIMENTAL ALLIGATOR HARVEST

BID PROPOSAL

The Fur and Refuge Division of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is planning an experimental harvest of alligators on Marsh Island Refuge during the summer of 1987. We have projected a harvest of approximately 1,500 alligators beginning on July 6, 1987. The harvest will continue until the quota is completed. These alligators should average between 7 and 8 feet in length. We also plan to harvest an additional 500 alligators averaging 4 to 5 feet in length. We are interested in acting in the behalf of the alligator hunters to sell these alligators whole so that the meat can be utilized in commercial sales.

By the way of this proposal, we are inviting you to submit a bid for these whole alligators on the attached form. We will accept bids through May 6, 1987 at 11:00 a.m. At that time bids will be opened and the buyer with the highest price per foot for the whole alligator will be awarded the bid. All prospective bidders must be properly licensed to handle alligator hides, meat and parts. Verification of license will be required. All bidders must comply to all Louisiana State Health Department regulations governing the sale of alligator meat. All bidders must comply with all applicable state and federal regulations.

The Fur and Refuge Division reserves the right to reject all bids if the bid price is unsatisfactory.

Alligators will have to be picked up each day by boat at the Marsh Island Refuge Headquarters facilities located on Bird Island Bayou which is approximately 6 miles south of Cypremort Point in St. Mary Parish. In order to utilize the meat, alligators will have to be iced or refrigerated upon pick-up. The boat utilized to transport the alligators from Marsh Island Refuge must be approved by Department personnel and must have the following capabilities:

- 1) An automatic winch system and a derrick system capable of hoisting very large alligators from the hunter's boat onto the deck and into the refrigerated storage room of the transport boat. The winch system will also be used to weigh the alligators.
- 2) An open deck area approximately 20' x 30' to process the alligators
- 3) Storage capacity to refrigerate a minimum of 100, 7 to 8 feet alligators
- 4) A crew on the boat consisting of a minimum of two or three people capable of handling large alligators
- 5) The boat must be docked at the headquarters facility by 7:30 a.m. each day the hunt is in progress.

The successful bidder is responsible for making all arrangements and must provide all personnel necessary to expeditiously move

the alligators from the boat to a refrigerated truck.

Alligators will be measured, sexed and webb-tagged by Department personnel on Marsh Island at the time of pick-up. This length measurement will be the official length used for calculating payment. Please keep in mind that alligators will be measured in feet and inches and payment made on this total length (payment for an alligator measuring 6'6" will be calculated as 6.5' times bid price).

The Department will provide an official invoice form to be completed each day for each hunter. This form will be used for all financial transactions between the buyer and both the hunter and the Department. The hunter will be able to redeem his invoices for cash at a local bank in New Iberia every 5 days. The Department will redeem their invoices, in full, no later than 1 week after completion of the harvest. Fifty percent of the value of the alligators will go to the Department while the remaining 50% will go to the hunter.

The successful bidder must cooperate with Department personnel allowing us to pull samples such as leg bones and reproductive tracts in the processing facility. These samples will be taken immediately after the animal is skinned.

A formal contract will be executed between the highest bidder and the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries.

OFFICIAL BID FORM

BELOW INFORMATION IS TO BE TYPED OR PRINTED IN INK

Company Name _____ Phone # _____

Company Address _____

Bidder's Name _____

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ATTACHED PROPOSAL AND AGREE THAT
IF I FAIL TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
THIS CONTRACT WILL BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY.

Bidder's Signature _____

PRICE PER FOOT \$ _____

(Measured to nearest inch for whole alligator)

If additional information is needed, contact

Noel Kinler or Greg Linscombe at (318) 369-3807.

RETURN THIS ORIGINAL SIGNED FORM IN ENCLOSED BLUE ENVELOPE

BY MAY 6, 1987, 11:00 AM

Figure 6. Contract to be executed between the La. Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and the highest bidder for purchase of alligators harvested in the 1987 Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.

CONTRACT

Be it known, that on this _____ DAY OF _____, 19____, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Department") and _____ (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Contractor:") do hereby enter into contract under the following terms and conditions:

Contractor hereby agrees to furnish the following services:

1.

Contractor shall comply with all Louisiana State Health Department laws and regulations governing the sale of alligator meat and all other applicable state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the purchase of approximately 2,000 alligators during July 1987 from the Marsh Island experimental alligator harvest at a price of _____ per foot (measured to the nearest inch for whole alligators). Harvesting of alligators will begin on July 6, 1987.

2.

Contractor shall pick up alligators each day by boat at the Marsh Island Refuge Headquarters facility located on Bird Island Bayou, approximately six miles south of Cypremort Point, St. Mary Parish or at any other location designated by State during the term of this contract.

3.

Contractor will immediately ice and/or refrigerate alligators upon pick up.

4.

Contractor will allow State personnel to measure, sex and web tag alligators at time of pick up.

5.

Contractor agrees that the above length measurement will be the official length used for calculating payment pursuant to this contract.

6.

Contractor shall daily and at the time of pick up pay one-half the total value payable to each alligator hunter and one-half the total value payable to Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

7.

Contractor hereby agrees to cooperate with State personnel in allowing the sampling of leg bones, reproductive tracts and other alligator parts at a time immediately after skinning.

8.

Upon completion of this contract, or if terminated earlier, all records, reports, worksheets or any other materials related to this contract shall become the property of the Department.

9.

It is hereby agreed that the department Auditor shall have the option of auditing all accounts of contractor which relate to this contract.

10.

Contractor hereby agrees and understands that failure to comply with any of the above terms and conditions of this contract may result in termination of this contract by the Department.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED AT Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on the day, month and year first written above.

Witnesses:

Contractor:

By: _____

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

By: _____

J. Burton Angelle, Secretary

Figure 7. Official invoice form to be used for the 1987
Marsh Island Experimental Alligator Harvest Program.



P. O. Box 15570
Baton Rouge, LA 70895

OFFICIAL RECEIPT

Receipt No. 0001

DATE: _____

HUNTER'S NAME: _____

License No.: _____

Purchased by:

WHOLESALE FISH & FUR CO.
1860 Scenic Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
504-343-9785

MARSH ISLAND EXPERIMENTAL ALLIGATOR HARVEST

ALLIGATOR HIDE TAG NO.	LENGTH FT. / IN.	SEX	CARCASS TAG NO.
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			

Payment Rate \$20.10/ft. X Total Feet _____ = \$ _____

Payment Rate \$1.675/in. X Total Inches _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL VALUE \$ _____

Amount to be paid to hunter (50% of total value) \$ _____

Amount to be paid to Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (50% of total value) \$ _____

SIGNED: _____
Hunter

Wholesale Fish & Fur Co.



J BURTON ANGELLE, SR.
SECRETARY
15041 925-3617

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
NEW IBERIA FIELD OFFICE
ROUTE 4 BOX 78
NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA 70560
318/369-3807

EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

ADVERTISEMENT FOR ALLIGATOR HUNTERS FOR AN EXPERIMENTAL ALLIGATOR HARVEST ON MARSH ISLAND REFUGE

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is planning to conduct an experimental harvest of alligators from Marsh Island Refuge in Iberia Parish. We project a harvest of approximately 2,000 alligators during the Summer of 1987. The harvest will begin on July 6, 1987 and continue (non-stop) until the harvest is completed. The harvest will last a minimum of 20 to 30 days; therefore each hunter must be able to participate in the harvest for this entire period or until released by Departmental officials. Invoices from the sale of alligators totaling \$500.00 will be held as a deposit to ensure complete cooperation from the hunters. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of the deposit. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will solicit bids for the sale of the whole alligators taken during this experimental harvest. Fifty percent of the monies received from the sales of these alligators will go to the selected hunters and fifty percent to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

A total of 18 hunters and 5 alternates will be selected based on the following criteria:

- 1) Previous trapping and/or alligator hunting experience on Marsh Island Refuge.
- 2) Previous alligator hunting experience in Louisiana.
- 3) Ownership of essential equipment for alligator hunting on Marsh Island. Due to the location and topography of Marsh Island Refuge each hunter will need two boats.
 - a) Minimum 18' hull to cross the open waters of Vermilion Bay on a daily basis.
 - b) A smaller boat (small flat, mudboat, etc.) to hunt the interior bayous and ponds.

- 4) Each applicant must be able to report to the refuge each morning until his monthly quota is filled (No exceptions allowed). If an applicant has a regular job he must provide written documentation (signed by your immediate supervisor) that he will be able to participate in this harvest for the entire period (20 to 30 days).
- 5) Ability to follow specific instructions issued by Departmental personnel.
- 6) Ability to maintain required records.
- 7) All applicants will be checked for past wildlife violations for a period of five years.

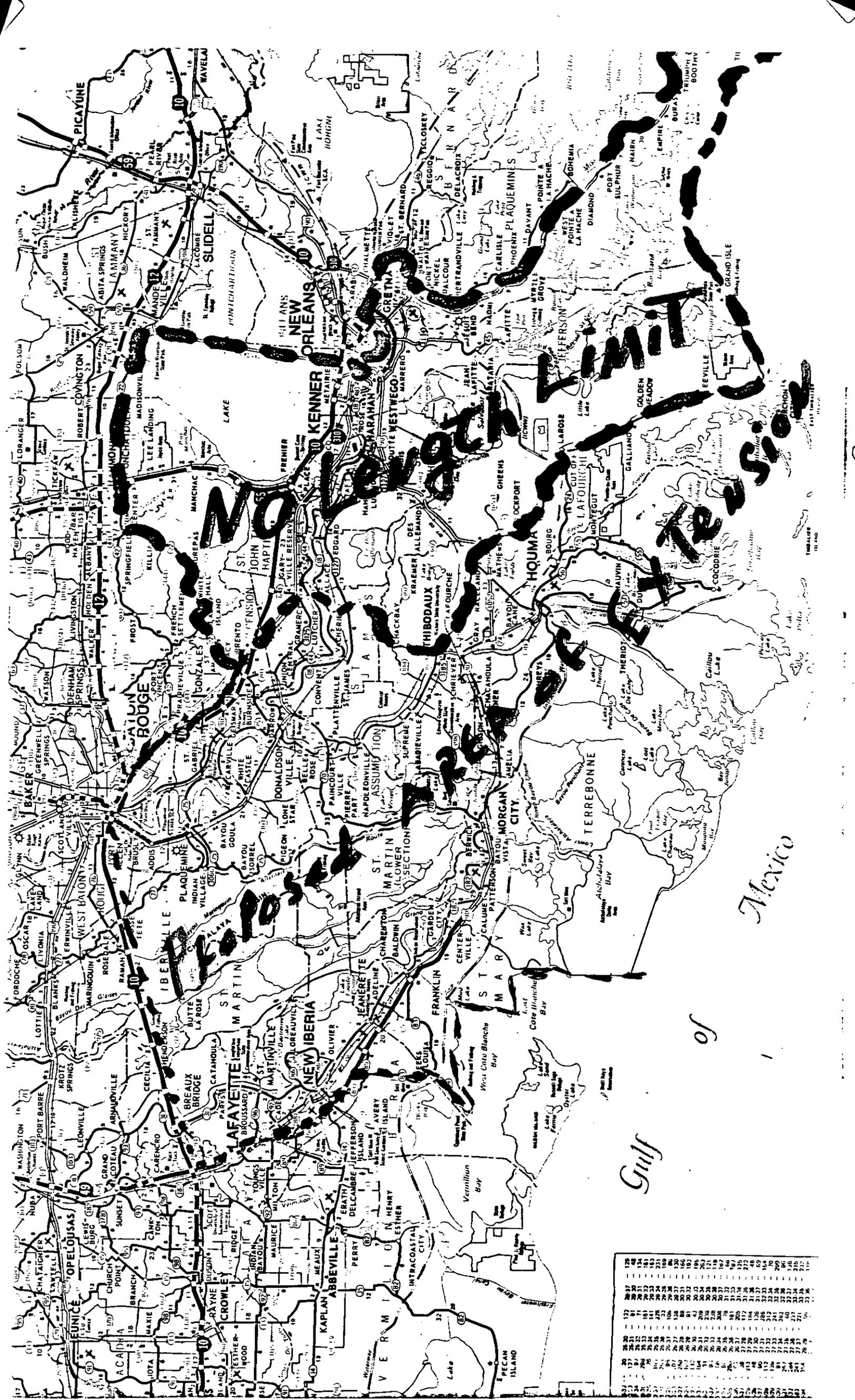
If an only if you can meet these preliminary criteria and if you are interested in participating in this experimental alligator harvest on Marsh Island Refuge please request an application form from the following address:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Fur and Refuge Division
Rt. 4, Box 78, Darnell Road
New Iberia, LA 70560

Applications will be accepted through May 8, 1987. Applications will be reviewed and individuals will be interviewed as deemed necessary by Departmental personnel. Hunters will be selected and notified by June 1, 1987.

Please do not request an application unless you can meet the previously mentioned criteria. If additional information is needed, please contact me at (318) 369-3807.

Noel Kinler, Research Biologist



NO BROTHERS

Mexico

Gulf

128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200																											
201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300



J. BURTON ANGELLE, SR.
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
DISTRICT VIII
400 ROYAL ST.
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

April 27, 1987

COASTAL & MARINE RESOURCES

SURVEY SECTION
03 - 43
ACTIVITY REPORT

MARCH 30, 1987 thru APRIL 26, 1987

During this period field activity consisted of:

- 124 - Surveys that were scheduled.
- 48 - Surveys that were unable to be done due to bad weather or fishermen unable to meet surveyor.

Surveys that were completed consisted of:

- 35 - Leases that were tied into the monument control system.
- 6 - Applications for new area.
- 27 - 15 year limitations.
- 8 - Restake applications.

Total field activity:

<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	
473	480	442	- Surveys scheduled.
246	314	236	- Surveys performed.
218	160	206	- Surveys unable to be done due to bad weather or fishermen unable to meet surveyor.
1	0	0	- Survey where fishermen refused to survey.
0	0	0	- Disputes settled.
8	4	0	- No shows.
0	2	0	- Applications cancelled by request.

Office activity during this period:

- \$ 850.90 - Lease rental collected.
- \$1,055.00 - Survey fees collected.
- 10 - Applications filed.
- 17 - New leases issued.



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES BUILDING

400 ROYAL STREET

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130

SEAFOOD DIVISION
(504) 568-5676

SURVEY SECTION
(504) 568-5681

April 27, 1987

OYSTER LEASE AUCTION

On March 31, 1987, the first oyster lease auction was held at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building on 400 Royal Street. 165 leases were auctioned. 117 leases containing 5,964 acres were sold for \$56,993.74. 48 leases containing 5,061 acres did not receive an opening bid and therefore were cancelled and made available for application at the next opening in August 1987.

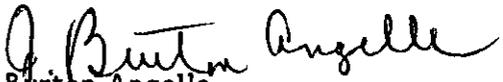


Notice of Intent

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt a minimum legal size for Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*) in Louisiana waters. The minimum legal size shall be established as 14" (inches) total length, or 12" (inches) fork length. Authority for this change is included in RS56:326.1.

Interested parties may submit written comments or comment on this proposed change until 4:30 p.m., July 2, 1987 in person or writing to: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Post Office Box 15570, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895.


J. Burton Angelle
Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in cost to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 86-87	FY 87-88	FY 88-89
PERSONAL SERVICES			
OPERATING EXPENSES			
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
OTHER CHARGES		None	
EQUIPMENT			
TOTAL			
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.			
POSITIONS(##)			

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "I.A.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 86-87	FY 87-88	FY 88-89
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED (Specify)			
DEDICATED (Specify)			
FEDERAL FUNDS (Specify)		None	
OTHER (Specify)			
TOTAL			

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

None

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

None

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

SUMMARY

Rule
Title: _____

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment.

Part A: Narrative

- (A) Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, amendment or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment).

Will adopt a minimum legal size for Spanish mackerel in Louisiana waters. The length shall be established as 14" (inches) total length and 12" (inches) fork length.

- (B) Summarize the circumstances which require this action. (If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.)

Federal regulations are determined by Department staff to be most beneficial to those resources occurring in state waters. Other Gulf states have adopted those size limits, and Louisiana should to eliminate harvest and marketing problems.

Part B: Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (A) Effective Date of Rule or Rule Change: _____

- (B) Did the Legislature specifically appropriate the funds necessary for the associated expenditures?

- 1. Yes _____ If yes, documentation must be attached.
- 2. No X If no, provide justification as to why this rule or rule change should be published at this time.

Published prior to fishing season.

Part C: Summary Statements to be Published

The following summary statements, based on the attached worksheets, will be published in the Louisiana Register with the proposed agency rule.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

None

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

None

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

None

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

None

Signature of Agency Head or Designee

MARK C. DRENNEN
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER

Date of Agency Submission

Date of signature

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 86-87	FY 87-88	FY 88-89
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED (Specify)			
RESTRICTED FUNDS (Specify)			
FEDERAL FUNDS (Specify)		None	
LOCAL FUNDS			
TOTAL			

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "II.A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effects on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

None

B. Also provide an estimate of any revenue impact resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

None

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

None

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Lincoln Center, Suite 881 • 5401 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33609 • Phone: 813/228-2815

March 31, 1987

Dr. William Fox
University of Miami Rosentiel School
of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
4600 Rickenbacker Causeway
Miami, Florida 33149

Dear Bill:

I'm responding to your letter to Chairman Brumfield regarding mackerel rules and state actions. We appreciate the Commission's consideration of these rule changes which will address what NMFS has identified as a significant local loop-hole resulting in continuation of landing of commercial catch after closure of those fisheries. I have enclosed previous letters to the states regarding compatible regulation (the last of which is dated 10/3/85) and state responses (all from Texas).

I contacted each of the states to determine their progress in addressing the commercial landing closures and bag limit actions. These are summarized as follows:

Commercial king mackerel landings

- o Texas bag limit of two fish per person applies to all persons, fish are not landed commercially.
- o Mississippi invoked an emergency rule in mid March to prohibit sale of fishery landings.
- o Alabama reported fish are not landed commercially.
- o Louisiana indicated commercial landings from EEZ have been closed.

Spanish mackerel commercial landings

- o No states have taken action. No fish have been taken commercially from western Gulf. Council recommendation for emergency rule extension for four fish bag limit from the EEZ was taken with understanding commercial fishery would be limited to state waters since none of western quota has been taken.

Dr. William Fox
Page 2
March 31, 1987

King mackerel bag limits

- o Texas and Mississippi have implemented two fish per person per trip limits.
- o Alabama submitted a proposed rule for a two fish bag limit in March.

Spanish mackerel bag limits

- o Alabama included in its proposed rule a four fish bag limit.
- o Other Gulf states have not taken action, since Council has not determined a bag limit level for Spanish mackerel other than the temporary emergency rule.

Size limits

- o All states, except Louisiana, have implemented Spanish mackerel and
cobia size limits.

Sincerely,



Wayne E. Swingle
Executive Director

WES:plb

Enclosure

cc: George Brumfield
Bob Mahood
Connor Davis, w/copy enclosure
Alex Jernigan, w/copy enclosure
Craig O'Connor, w/copy enclosure
Mackerel Management Committee
Staff

RULE

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt rules and regulations establishing the minimum legal size for Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*) as fourteen (14) inches total length, or twelve (12) inches fork length.

Authority for adoption of this rule is included in RS56:326.1.

R U L E

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt rules and regulations establishing the minimum legal size of cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*) as thirty-three (33) inches fork length.

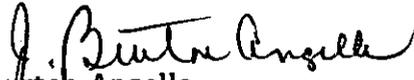
Authority for adoption of this rule is included in RS56:362.1.

Notice of Intent

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt a minimum legal size for cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*) in Louisiana waters. The minimum legal size shall be established as 33" (inches) fork length. Authority for this change is included in RS56:326.1.

Interested parties may submit written comments or comment on this proposed change until 4:30 p.m., July 2, 1987 in person or writing to: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Post Office Box 15570, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895.


J. Burton Angelle
Secretary

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Lincoln Center, Suite 881 • 5401 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33609 • Phone: 813/228-2815

March 31, 1987

Dr. William Fox
University of Miami Rosentiel School
of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
4600 Rickenbacker Causeway
Miami, Florida 33149

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Dr. William Fox
Page 2
March 31, 1987

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Spanish mackerel bag limits

- o Alabama included in its proposed rule a four fish bag limit.
- o Other Gulf states have not taken action, since Council has not determined a bag limit level for Spanish mackerel other than the temporary emergency rule.

Size limits

- o All states, except Louisiana, have implemented Spanish mackerel and cobia size limits.

Sincerely,



Wayne E. Swingle
Executive Director

WES:plb

Enclosure

cc: George Brumfield
Bob Mahood
Connor Davis, w/copy enclosure
Alex Jernigan, w/copy enclosure
Craig O'Connor, w/copy enclosure
Mackerel Management Committee
Staff

Rule
Title: _____

SUMMARY

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment.

Part A: Narrative

- (A) Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, amendment or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment).

Will adopt a minimum legal size for Cobia in Louisiana waters. The length shall be established as 33" (inches) fork length.

- (B) Summarize the circumstances which require this action. (If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.)

Federal regulations are determined by Department staff to be most beneficial to those resources occurring in state waters. Other Gulf states have adopted this size limit, and Louisiana should to eliminate harvest and marketing problems.

Part B: Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (A) Effective Date of Rule or Rule Change: _____
- (B) Did the Legislature specifically appropriate the funds necessary for the associated expenditures?
 1. Yes _____ If yes, documentation must be attached.
 2. No X If no, provide justification as to why this rule or rule change should be published at this time.

Published prior to fishing season.

Part C: Summary Statements to be Published

The following summary statements, based on the attached worksheets, will be published in the Louisiana Register with the proposed agency rule.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

None

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

None

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

None

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

None

Signature of Agency Head or Designee

MARK C. DRENNEN
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER

Date of Agency Submission

Date of signature

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in cost to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 86-87	FY 87-88	FY 88-89
PERSONAL SERVICES			
OPERATING EXPENSES			
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
OTHER CHARGES		None	
EQUIPMENT			
TOTAL			
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.			
POSITIONS(#)			

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "I.A.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 86-87	FY 87-88	FY 88-89
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED (Specify)			
DEDICATED (Specify)			
FEDERAL FUNDS (Specify)			
OTHER (Specify)		None	
TOTAL			

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

None

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

None

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effects on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

None

B. Also provide an estimate of any revenue impact resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

None

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

None

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

<u>REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE</u>	<u>FY 86-87</u>	<u>FY 87-88</u>	<u>FY 88-89</u>
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED (Specify)			
RESTRICTED FUNDS (Specify)			
FEDERAL FUNDS (Specify)	None		
<u>LOCAL FUNDS</u>			
<u>TOTAL</u>			

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "II.A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

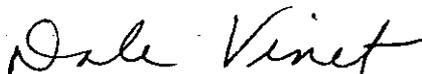
In accordance with the emergency provisions of R. S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedures Act, R. S. 56:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R. S. 56:497, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does:

1. Hereby set the 1987 inshore spring shrimp season to open at 6:00 A.M. on Monday, May 25, 1987, statewide.

2. Authorize and empower the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 1987 inshore shrimp season in any area where the season needs to be closed to protect forthcoming white shrimp crop as defined in R. S. 56:497.

3. Sets a special white shrimp season for Calcasieu Lake including that portion of the Calcasieu Ship Channel south of channel marker 91-92 to run from 6:00 A.M. Tuesday, May 5 through 6:00 A.M. Friday, May 8, 1987.

4. Provide that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries give a minimum of 72 hours notice prior to the closing of the 1987 spring shrimp season or the opening of any special season.

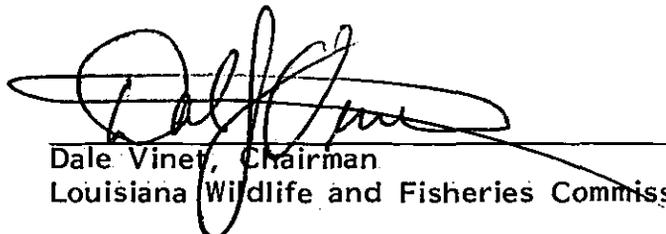


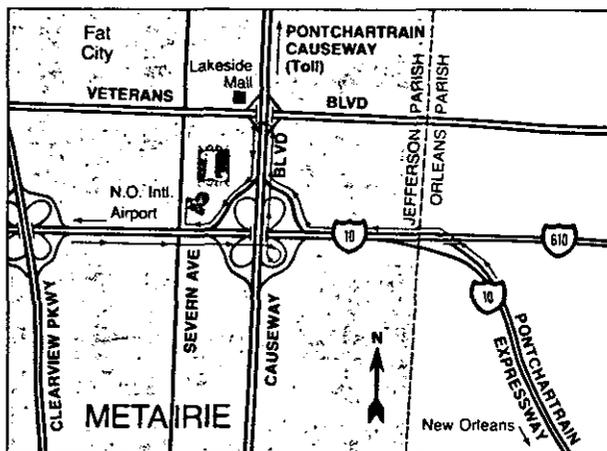
Dale Vinet, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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1. Hereby set the 1987 inshore spring shrimp season to open at 6:00 A.M. on Monday, May 25, 1987, statewide.
2. Authorize and empower the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 1987 inshore shrimp season in any area where the season needs to be closed to protect forthcoming white shrimp crop as defined in R. S. 56:497.
3. ~~Authorize and empower the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to set a special white shrimp season south of CHANNEL MARKER 91-92 to RUN From 6:00 A.M. to harvest overwintering white shrimp during May, 1987 if the technical data indicates the need for such a season.~~
SETS A SPECIAL WHITE SHRIMP SEASON FOR CALCASIEU LAKE INCLUDING THAT PORTION OF THE CALCASIEU SHIP CHANNEL
4. Provide that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries give a minimum of 72 hours notice prior to the closing of the 1987 spring shrimp season or the opening of any special season.


Dale Vinet, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission



Located precisely mid-way between New Orleans International Airport and the world famed French Quarter, the Landmark offers the serenity for a productive meeting with the alternative of a fast-paced evening on Bourbon Street. Within walking distance is one of the largest shopping malls in the South, as well as an array of fine restaurants, specialty shops, theatres and nightclubs.

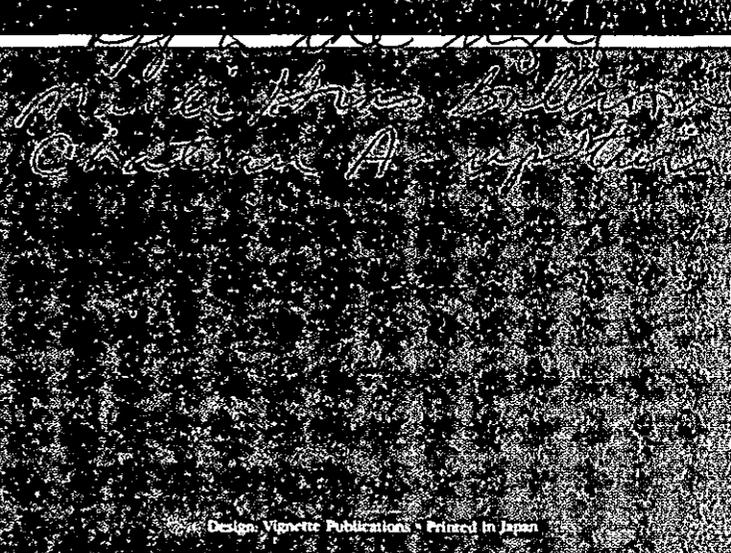
Landmark

METAIRIE

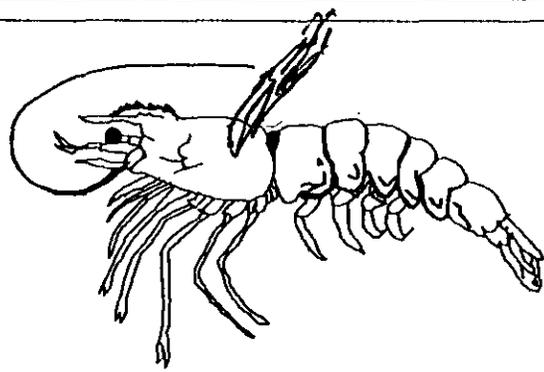
2601 Severn Avenue
Metairie, LA 70002
504-888-9500

Toll Free Numbers:

Inside Louisiana 800-321-4975
Outside Louisiana 800-535-8840



(1987)
111

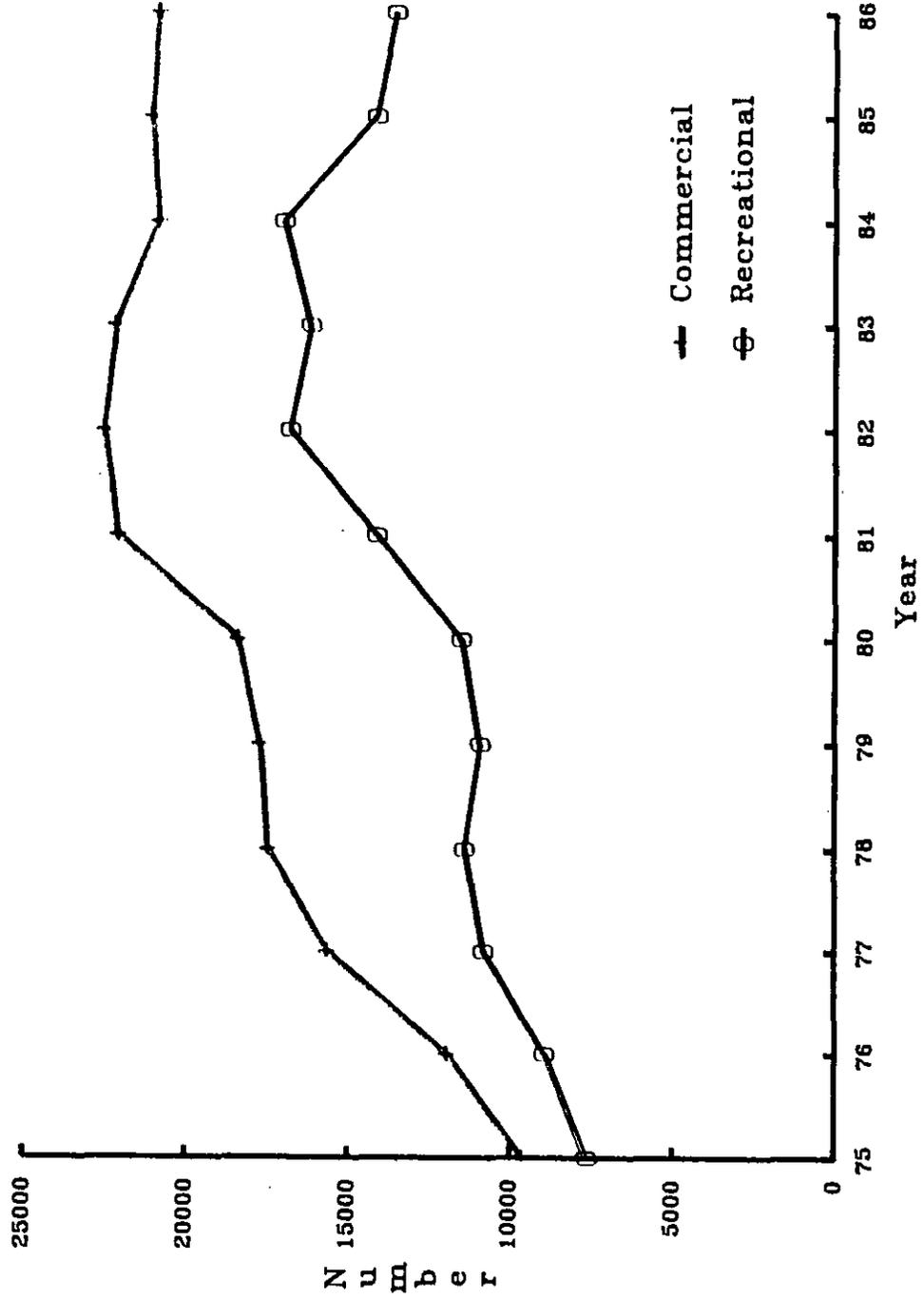


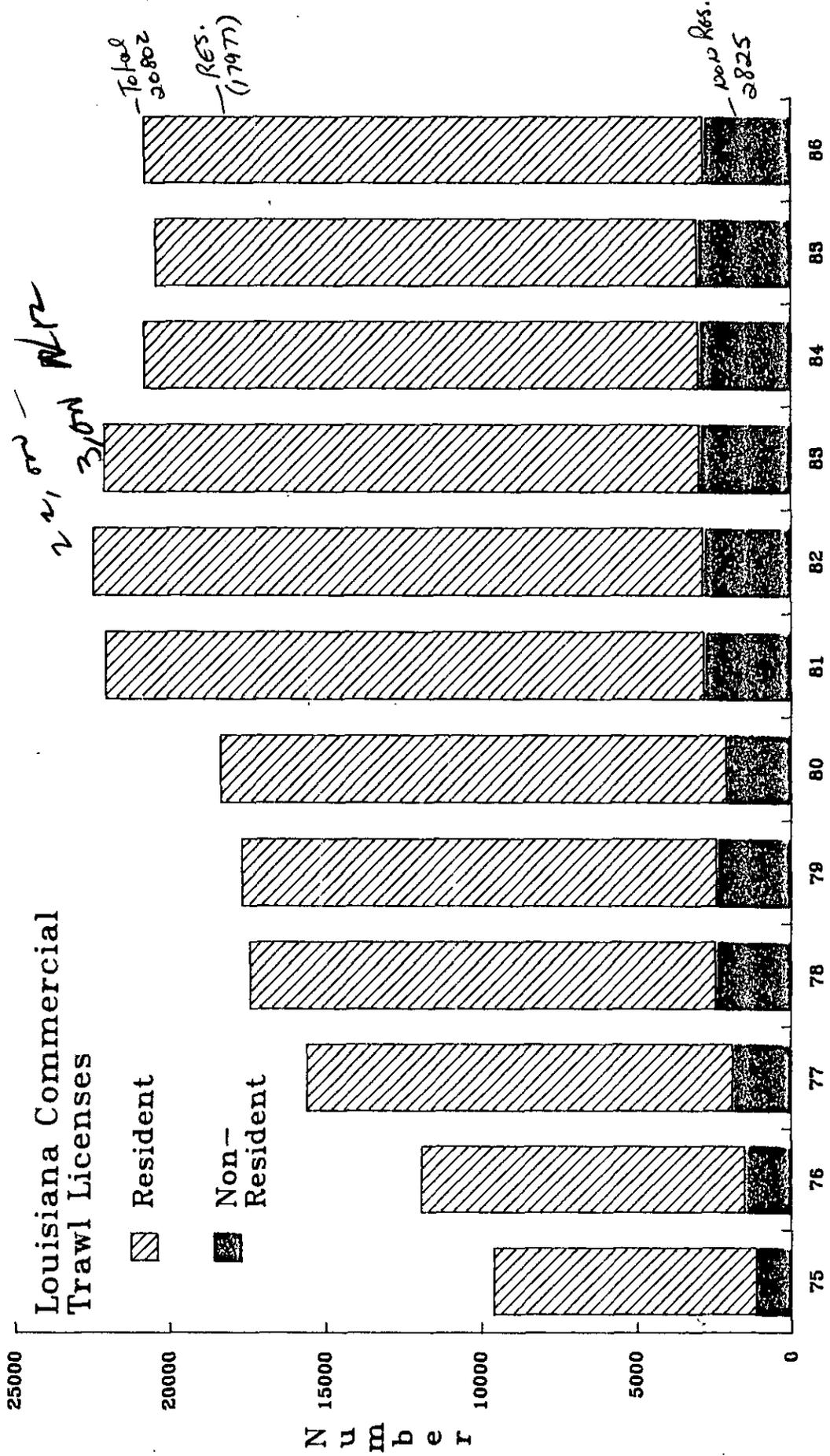
II

Louisiana
Department of
Wildlife and Fisheries
1987
Spring Shrimp
Presentation

Zone 49 / (18)

Shrimp Trawl Licenses





Year

N u m b e r

25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Suite 400-H
World Trade Center
2 Canal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

March 11, 1987

William S. Perret
Assistant Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Post Office Box 15570
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895

Dear Corky:

For your information and use, presented below are 1) 1986 Louisiana shrimp landings and 2) 1986 shrimp catch from Louisiana waters.

1986 Louisiana Shrimp Landings

<u>Species</u>	<u>Pounds</u>		<u>Dollars</u>
	<u>Heads-on</u>	<u>Heads-off</u>	
Brown	62,422,435	38,771,699	68,549,890
Pink	9,424	5,890	32,126
White	71,541,056	46,455,231	132,634,431
Seabobs	12,708,149	8,305,980	5,139,282
<u>Total</u>	<u>146,681,064</u>	<u>93,538,800</u>	<u>206,355,729</u>

1986 Shrimp Catch from Louisiana Waters*

<u>Species</u>	<u>Pounds</u>		<u>Dollars</u>
	<u>Heads-on</u>	<u>Heads-off</u>	
Brown	87,827,638	54,551,328	129,233,620
Pink	37,312	23,320	75,003
White	81,309,374	52,798,295	159,292,875
Seabobs	13,528,362	8,842,067	5,468,931
<u>Total</u>	<u>182,702,686</u>	<u>116,215,010</u>	<u>294,070,429</u>

*Note: "Louisiana waters" are here defined as NMFS statistical grid areas 12 through 17, inclusive, both inshore and offshore.



I believe that these totals represent new records for both annual Louisiana shrimp landings and for the annual catch of shrimp from Louisiana waters.

Sincerely yours,

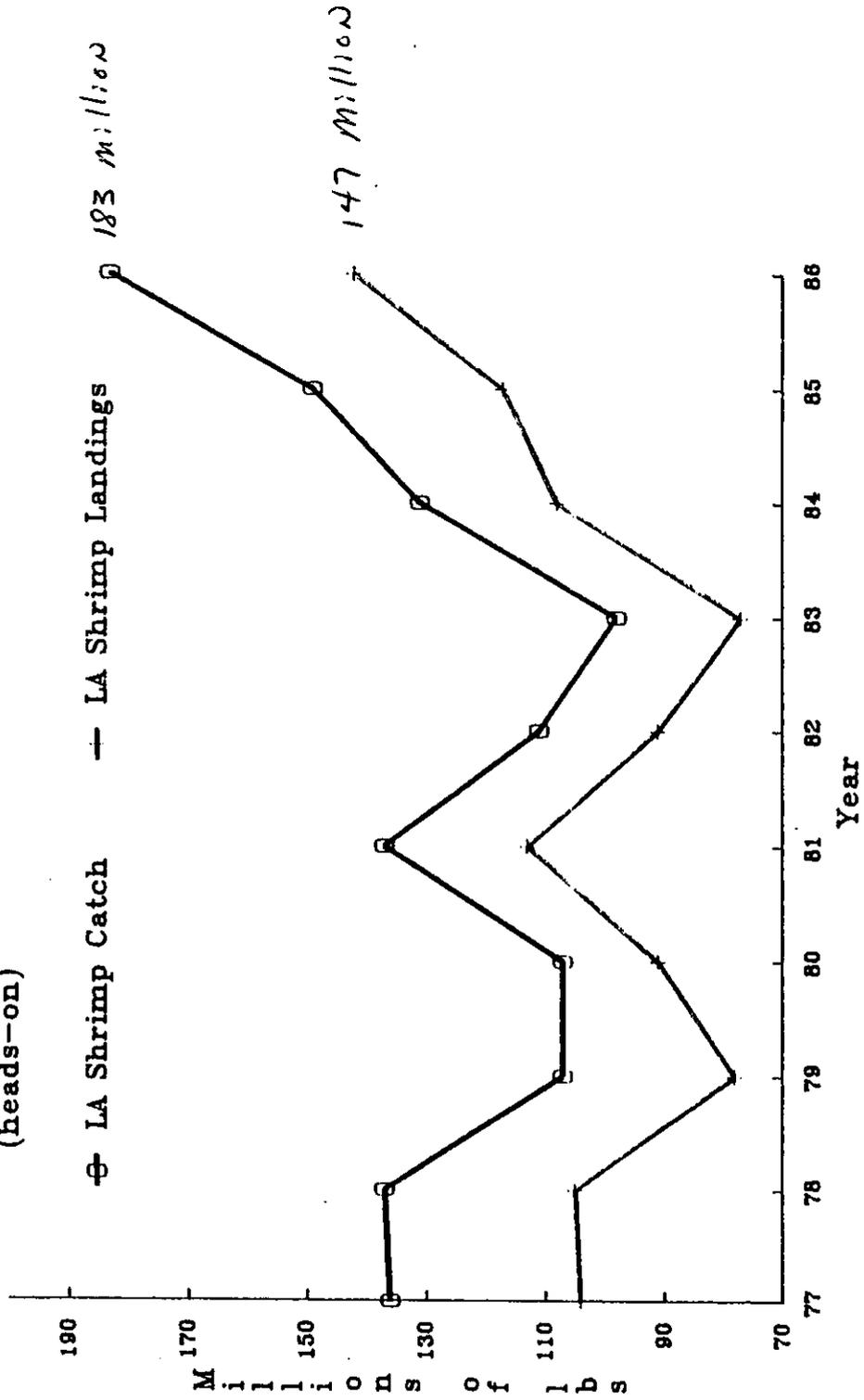


Thomas R. Dawley
Area Supervisor

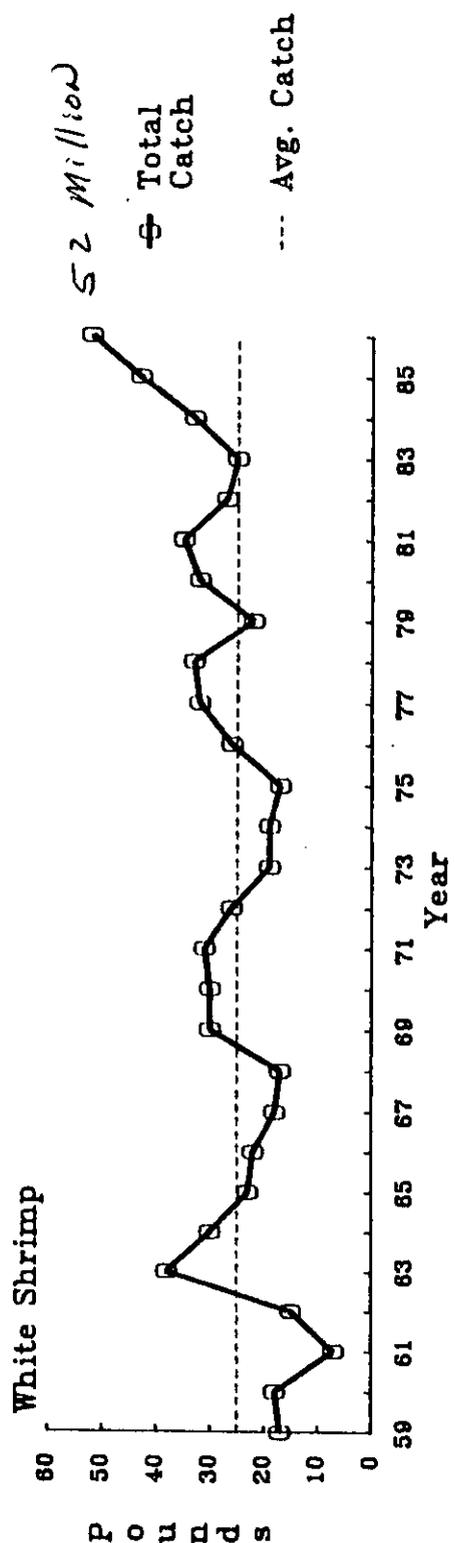
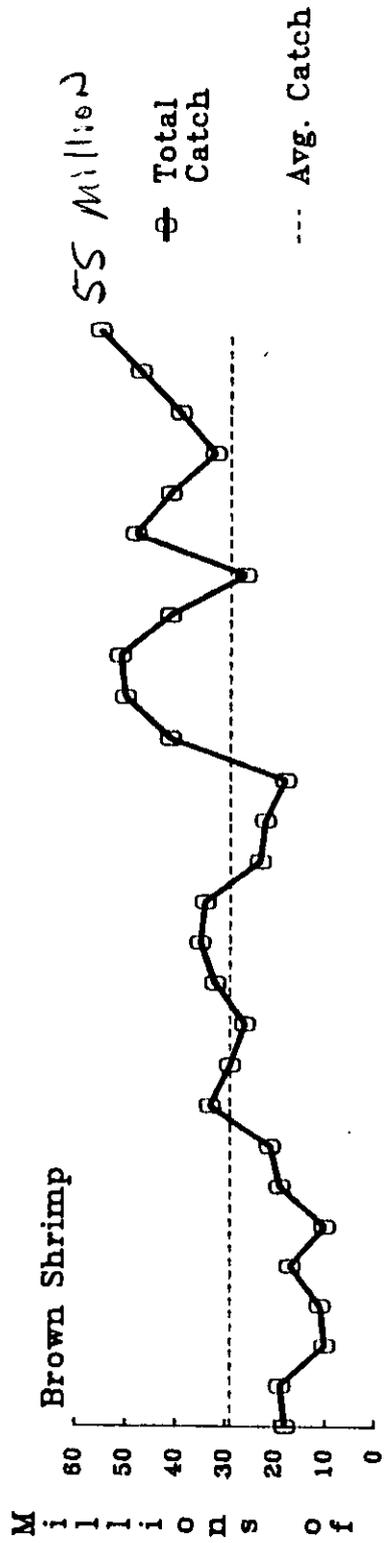
cc: LDWF - Bowman
LSU CWR CFI - Bane
F/SECx113 - Snell
F/SECx1134 - Usie

Louisiana Shrimp Production

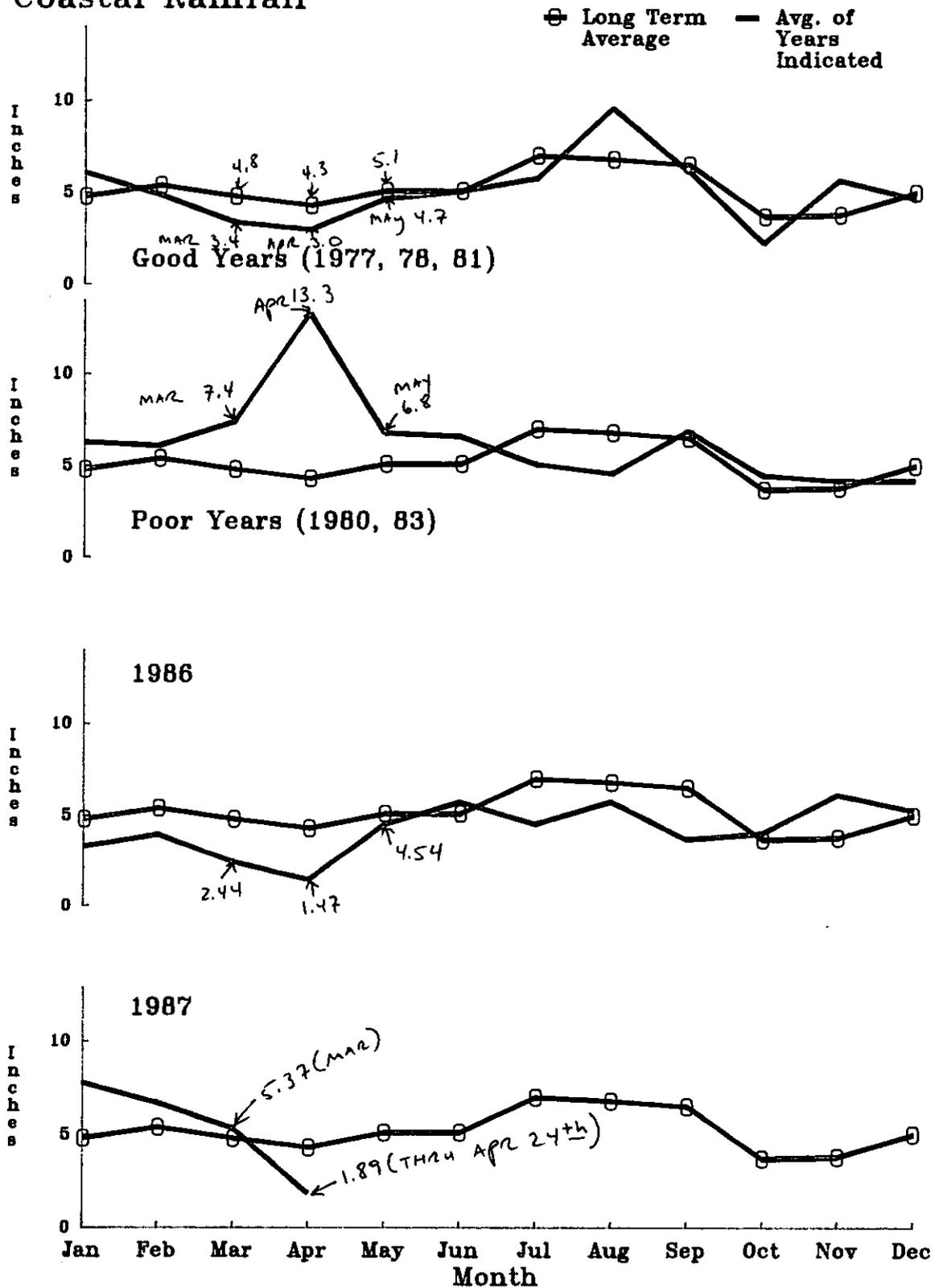
1977-86
(heads-on)



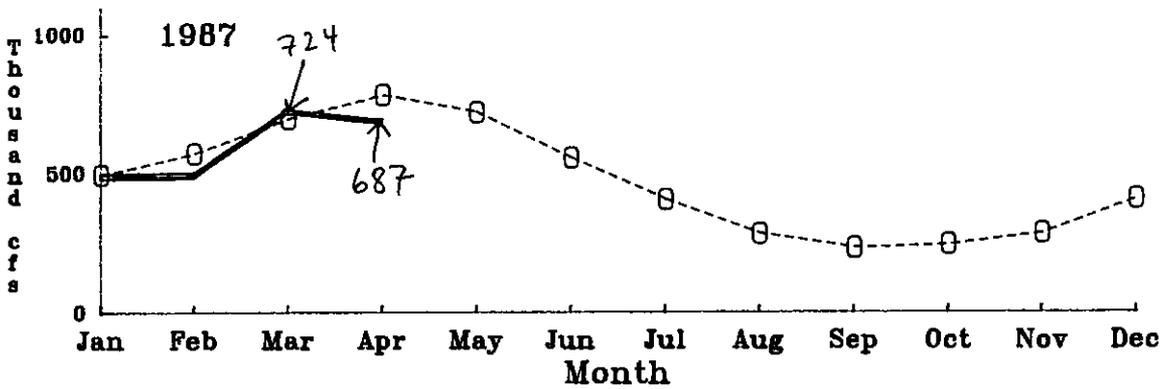
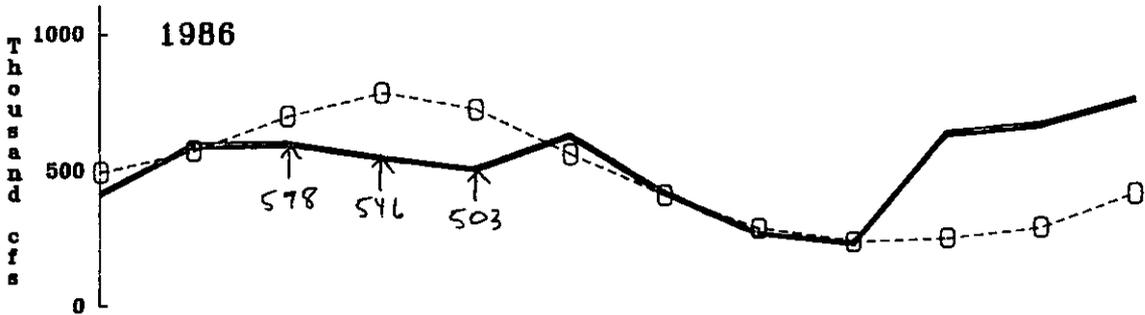
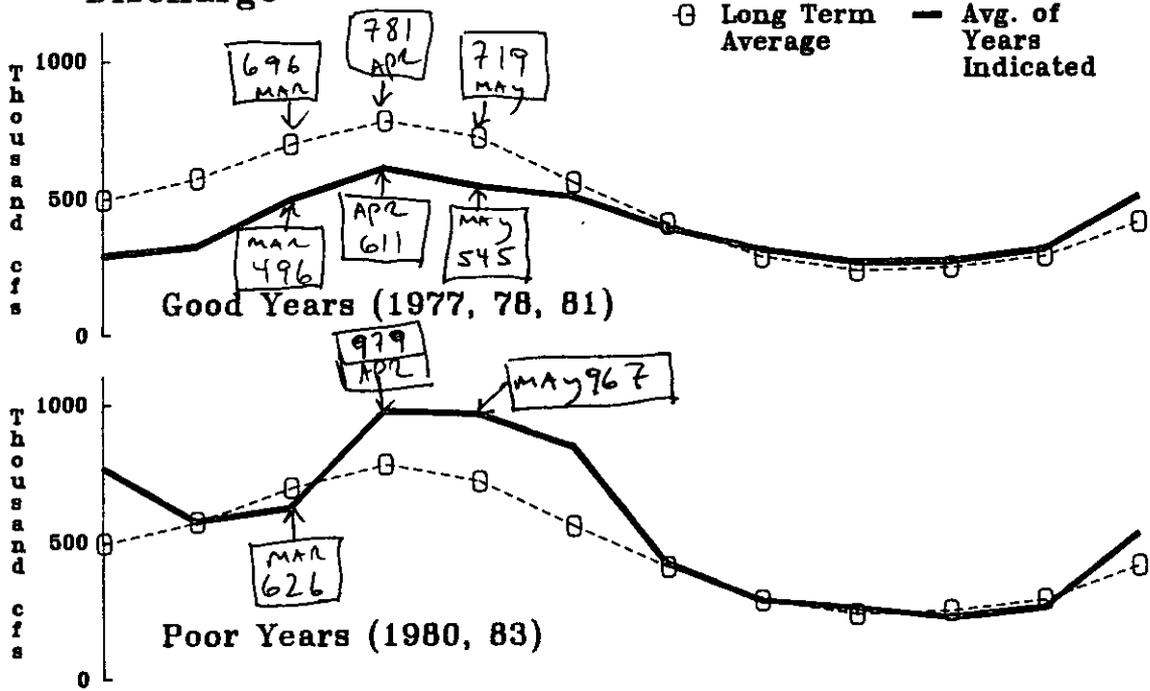
Total Louisiana Shrimp Catch (headless)



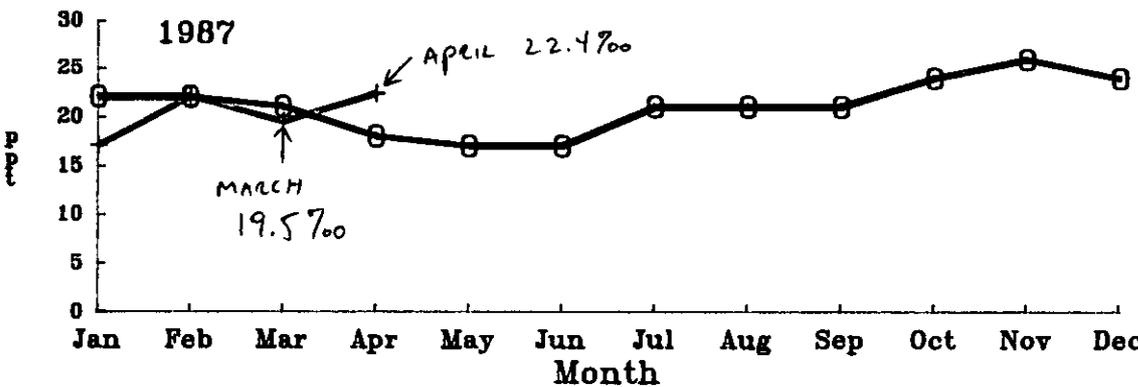
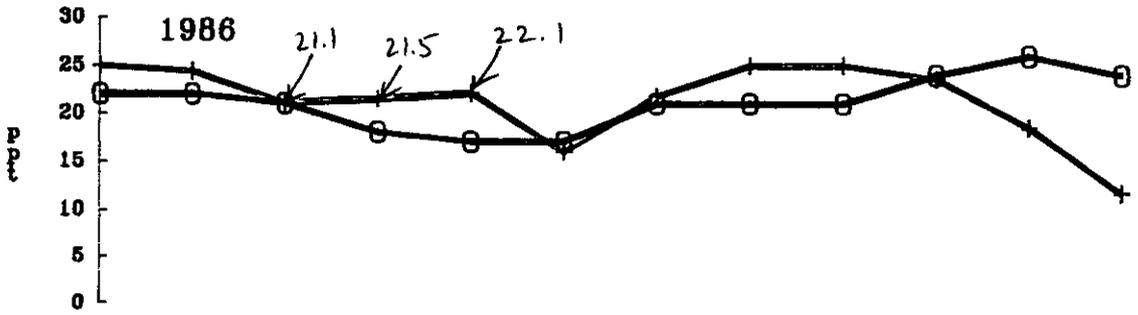
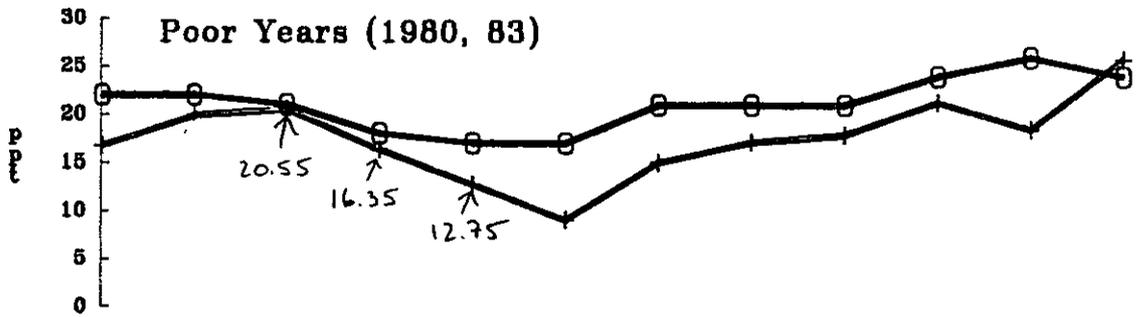
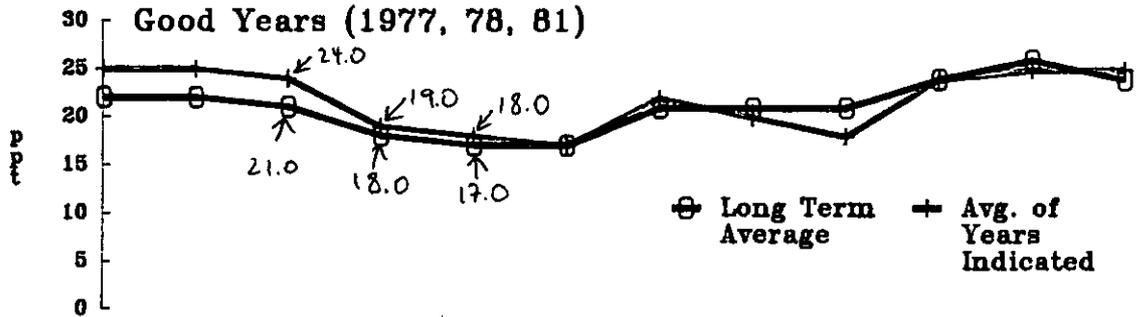
S. E. Louisiana Coastal Rainfall



Mississippi River Discharge

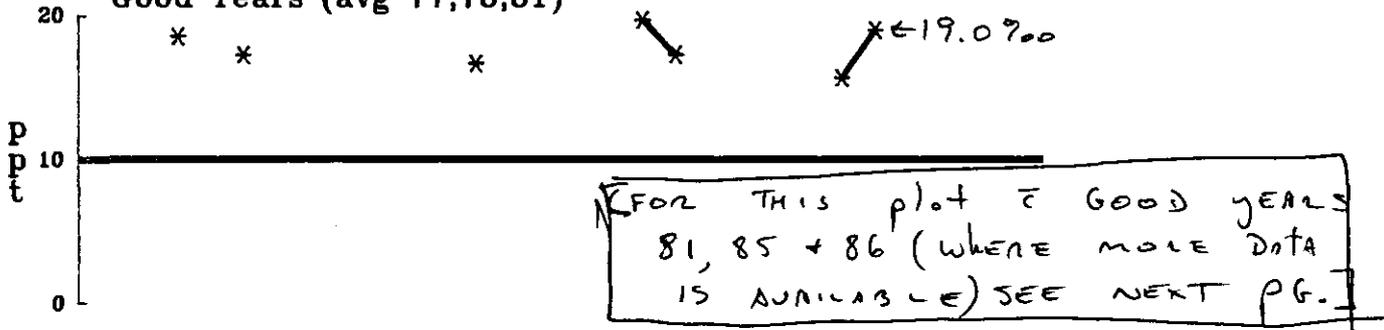


S.Barataria Bay, LA Monthly Salinity

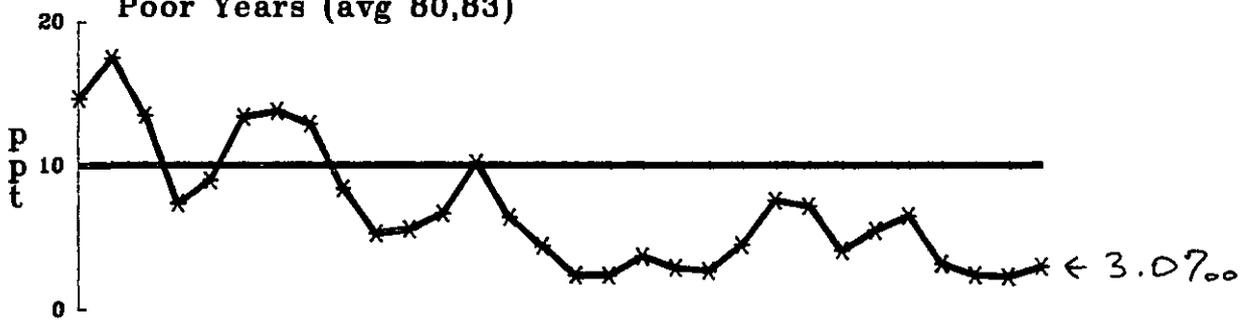


N. Barataria Bay, LA
April Daily Salinity

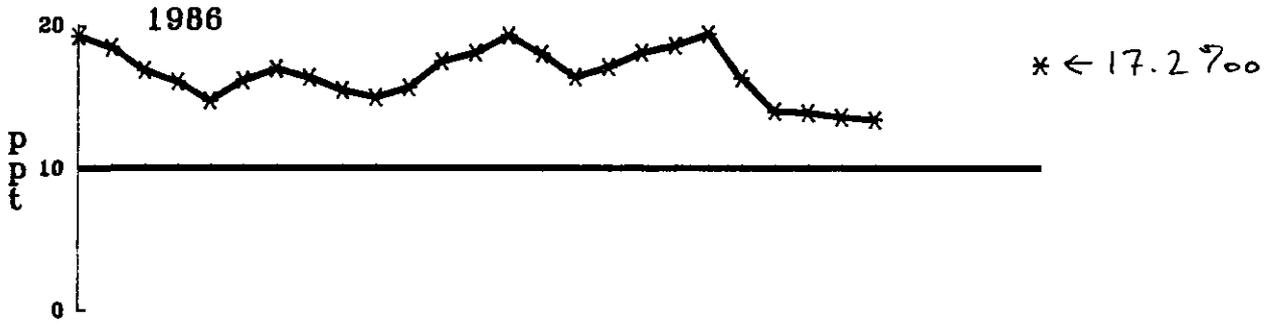
Good Years (avg 77,78,81)



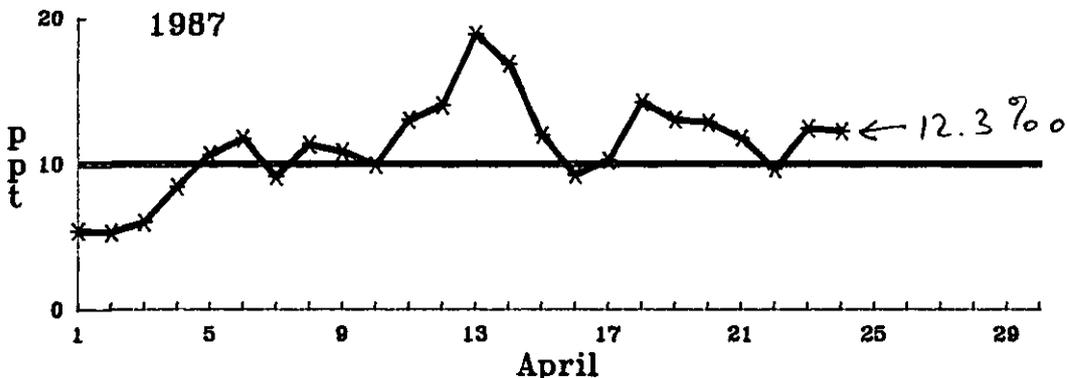
Poor Years (avg 80,83)



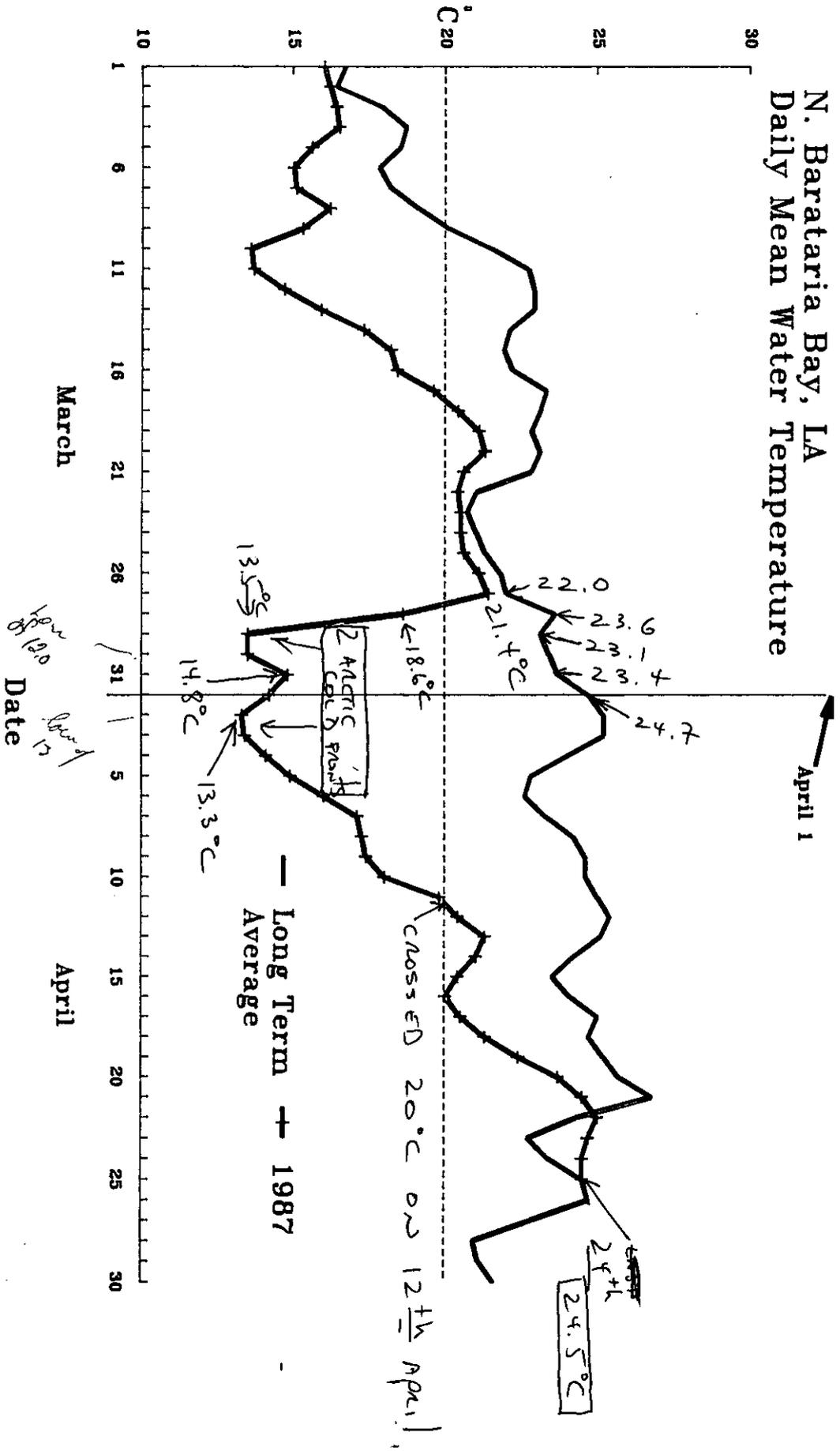
1986



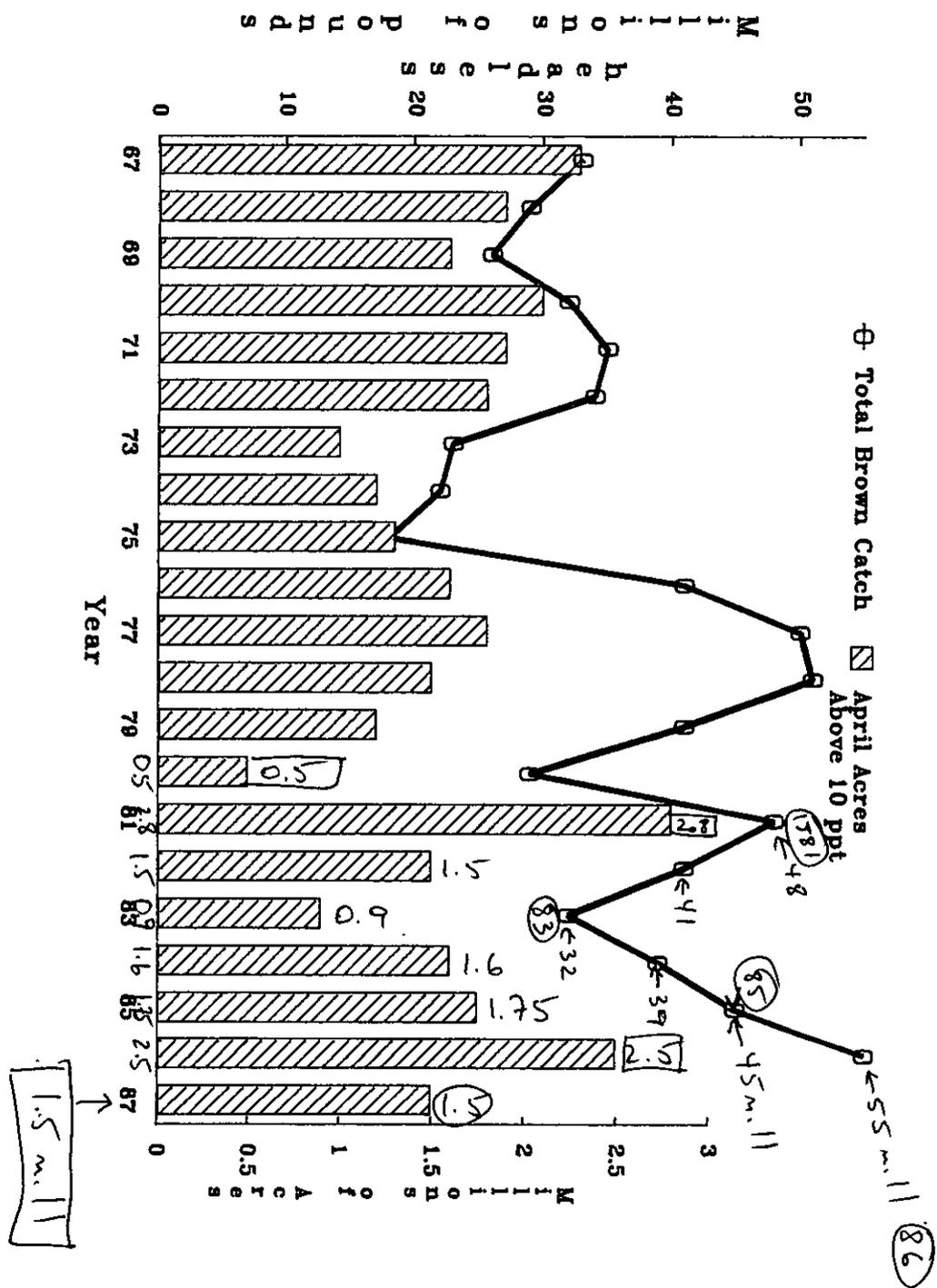
1987



N. Barataria Bay, LA Daily Mean Water Temperature

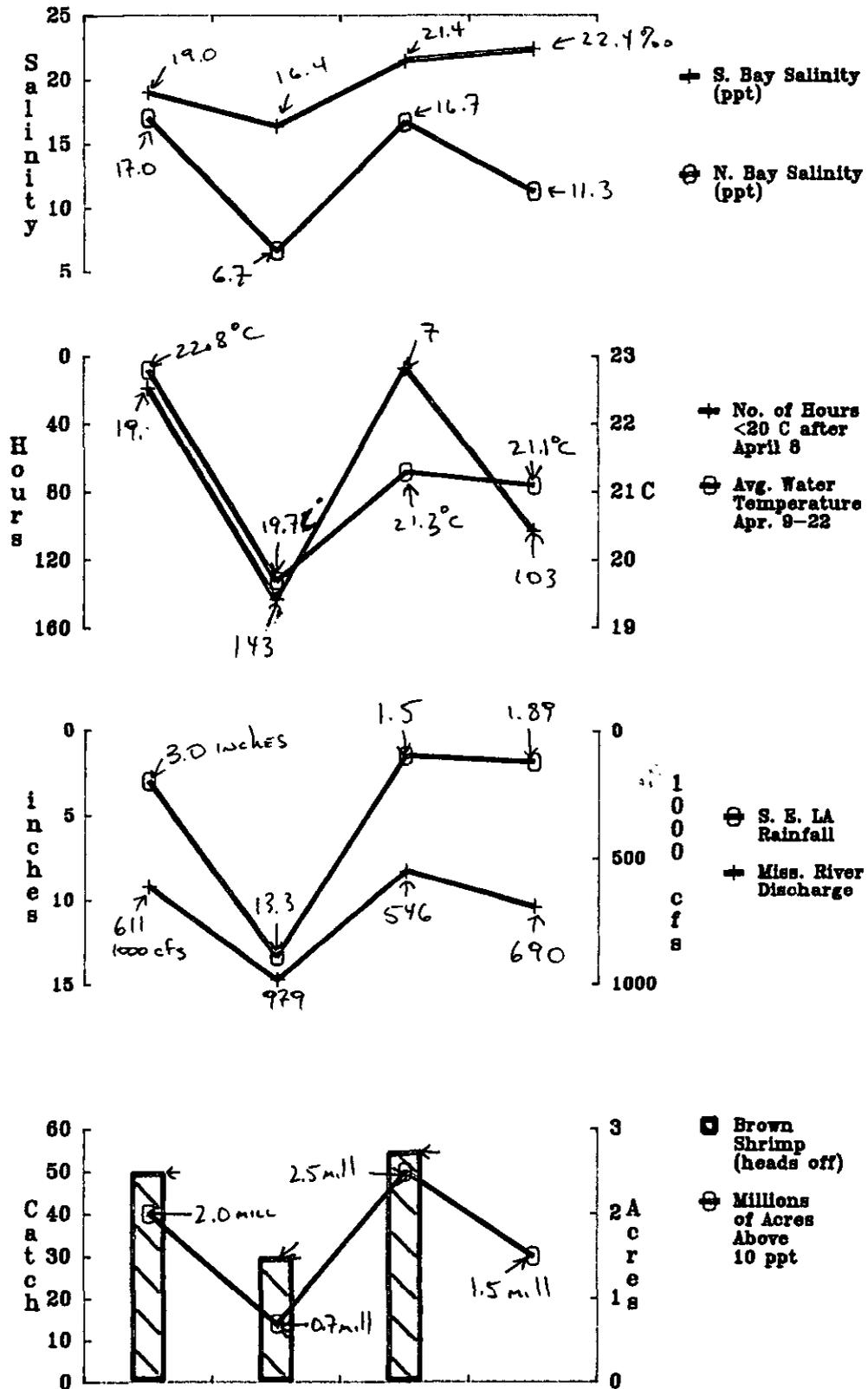


April Potential Nursery Area (above 10 ppt) in Coastal Louisiana

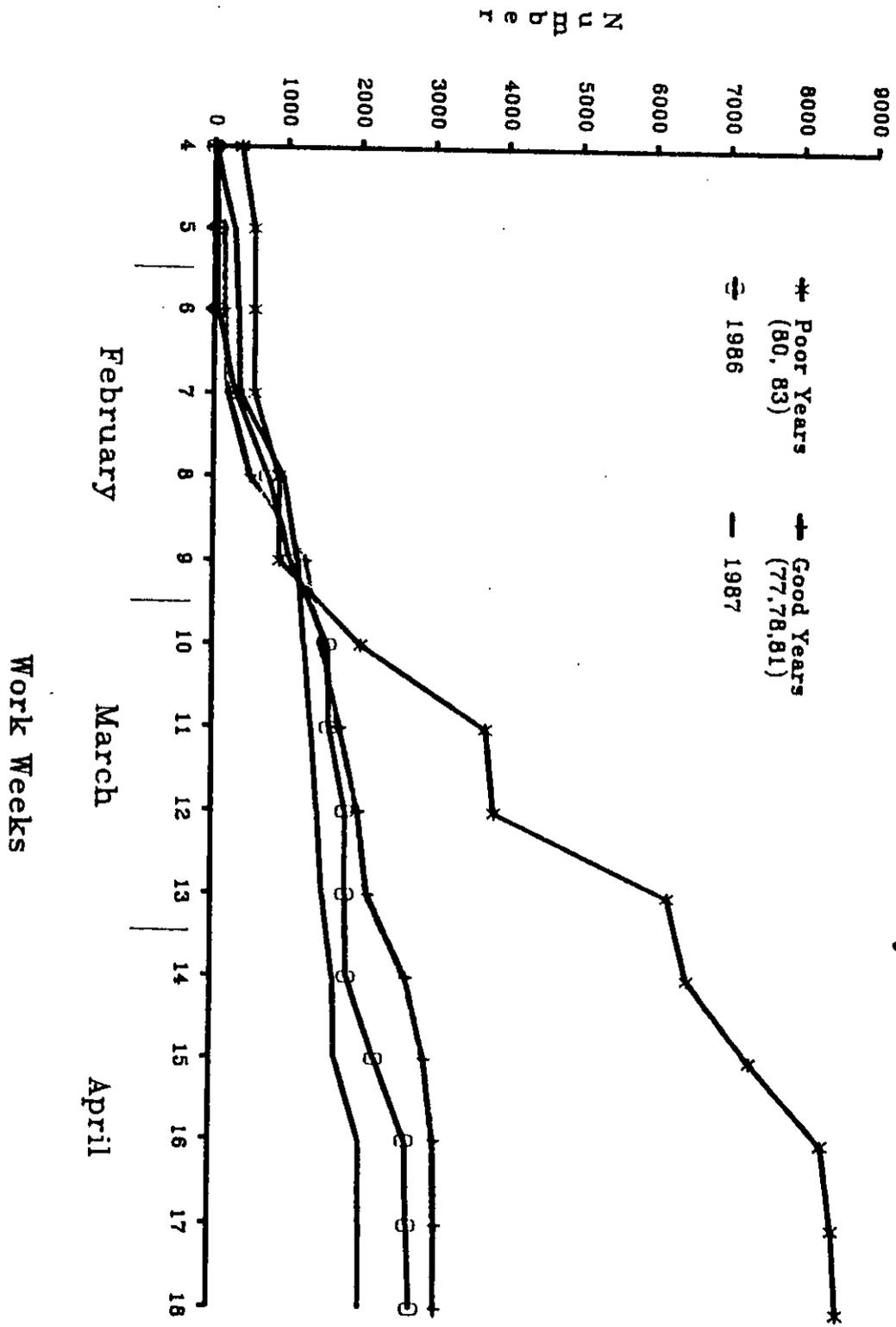


April 1987 Environmental Conditions

Good Years (77,78,81) **Poor Years (80,83)** **1986** **1987**

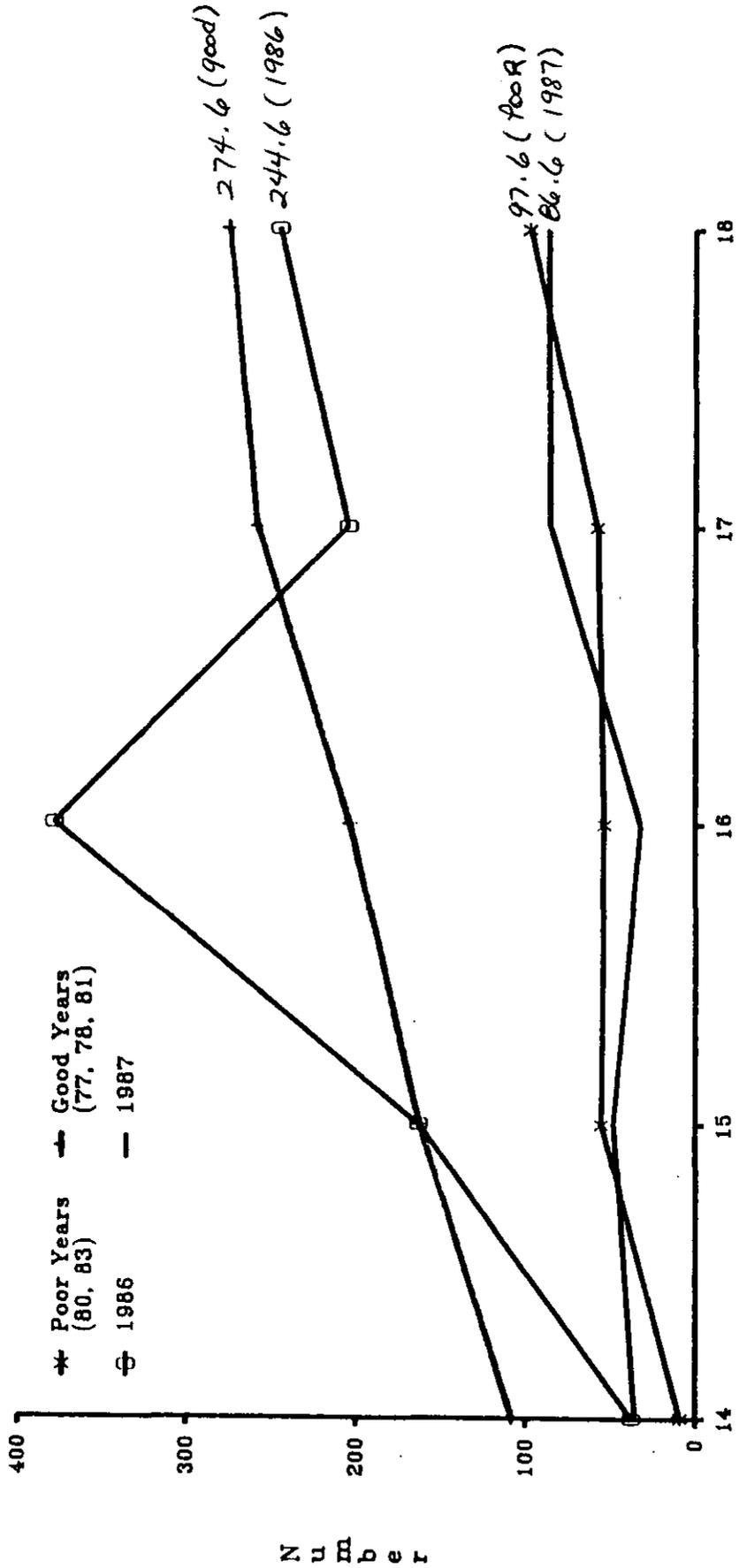


Accumulative Postlarval Catch Barataria Bay



Work Weeks

Avg. Catch Brown Shrimp Barataria Bay (6' Trawl)

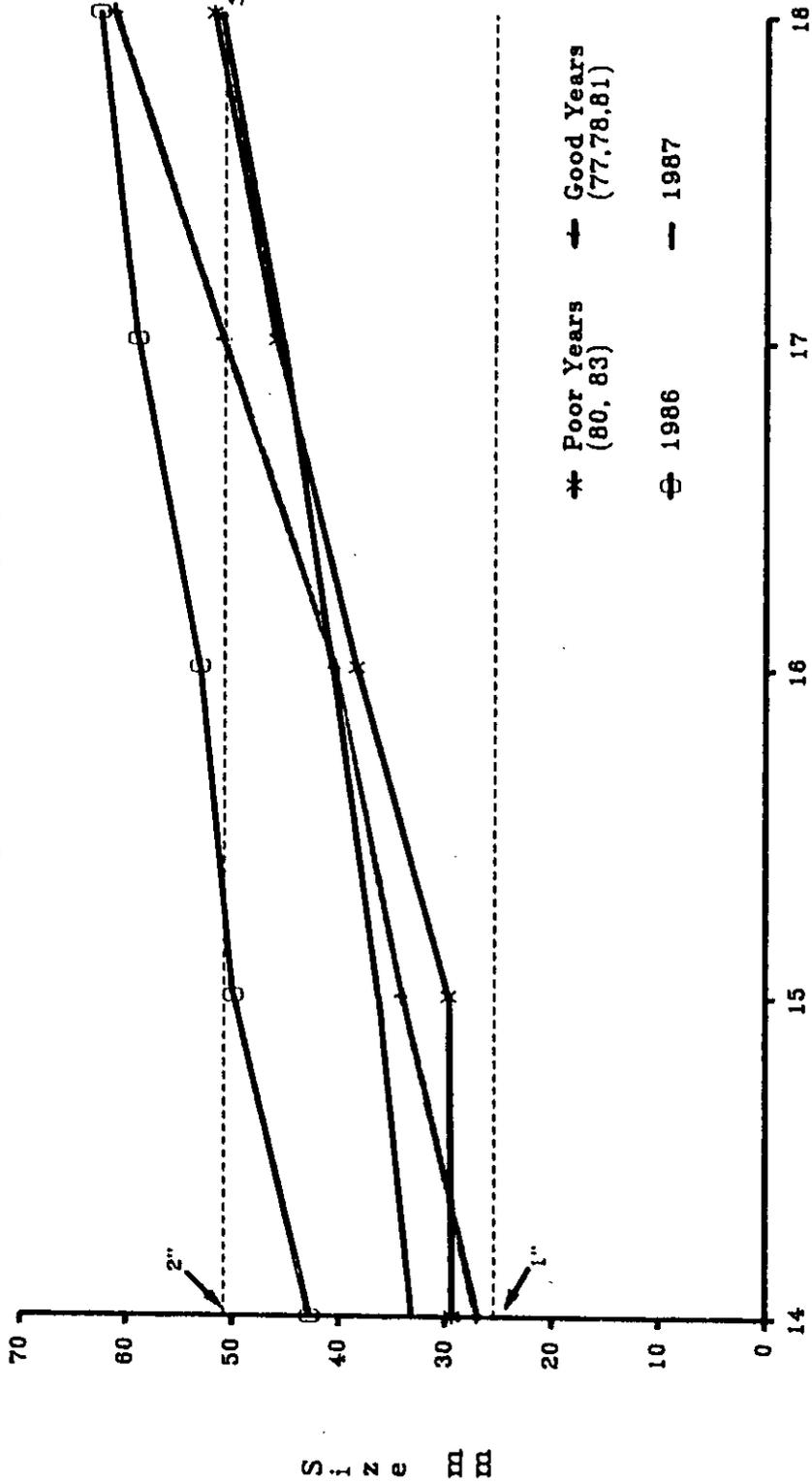


April

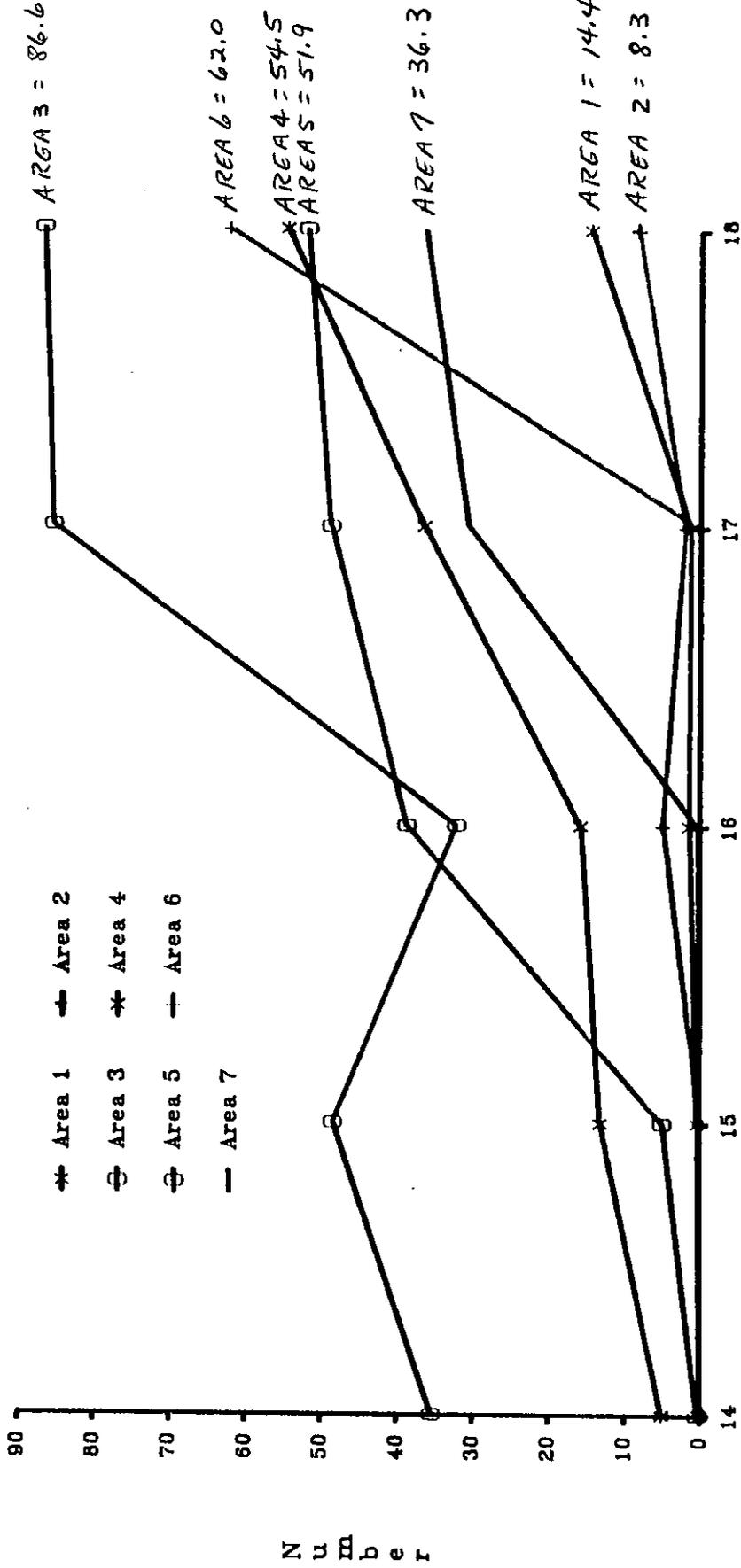
Work Weeks

Number

Avg. Size Brown Shrimp Barataria Bay (6' Trawl)



1987 Avg. Catch Brown Shrimp (Coastwide)



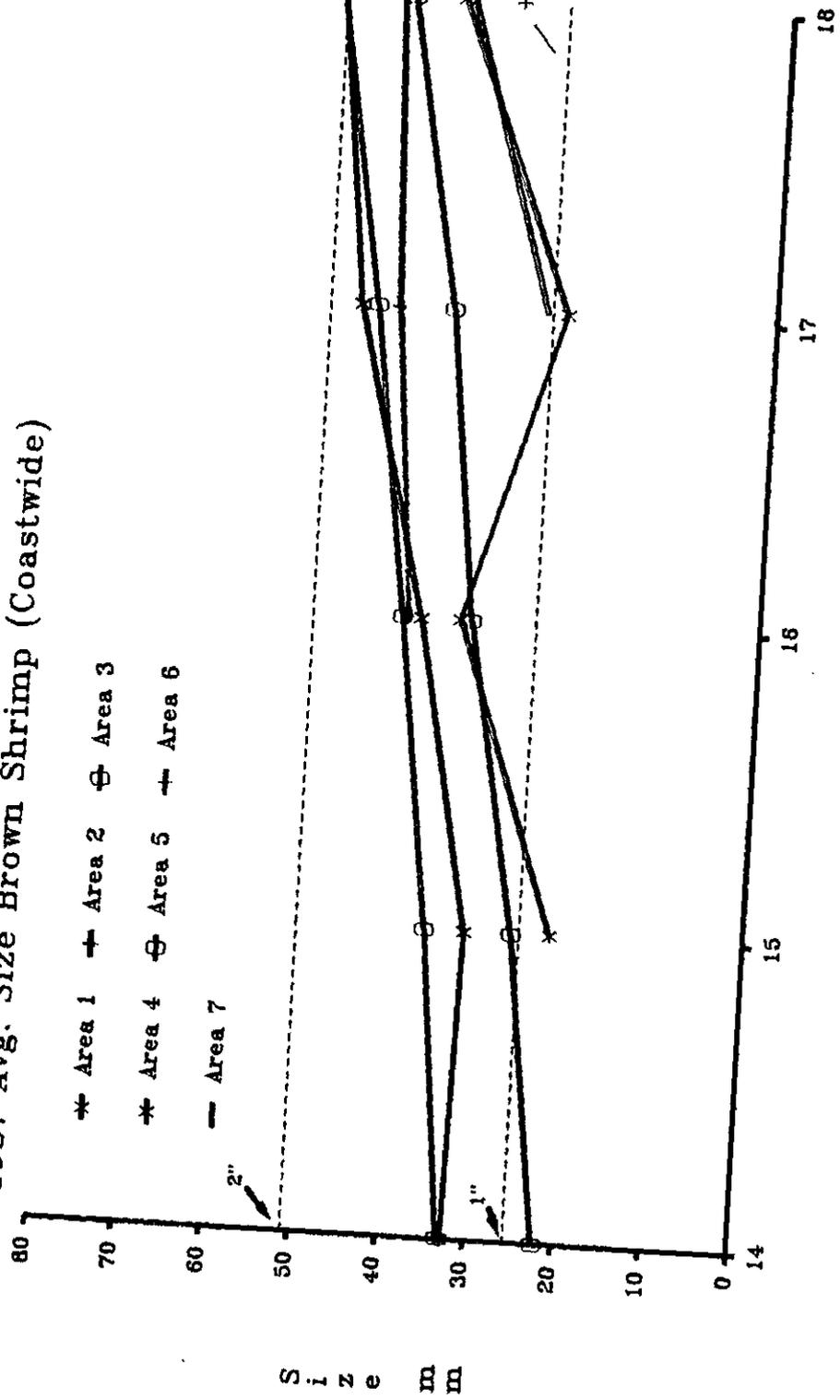
April

Work Weeks

1987 Avg. Size Brown Shrimp (Coastwide)

- * Area 1 + Area 2 ⊕ Area 3
- * Area 4 ⊕ Area 5 + Area 6
- - Area 7

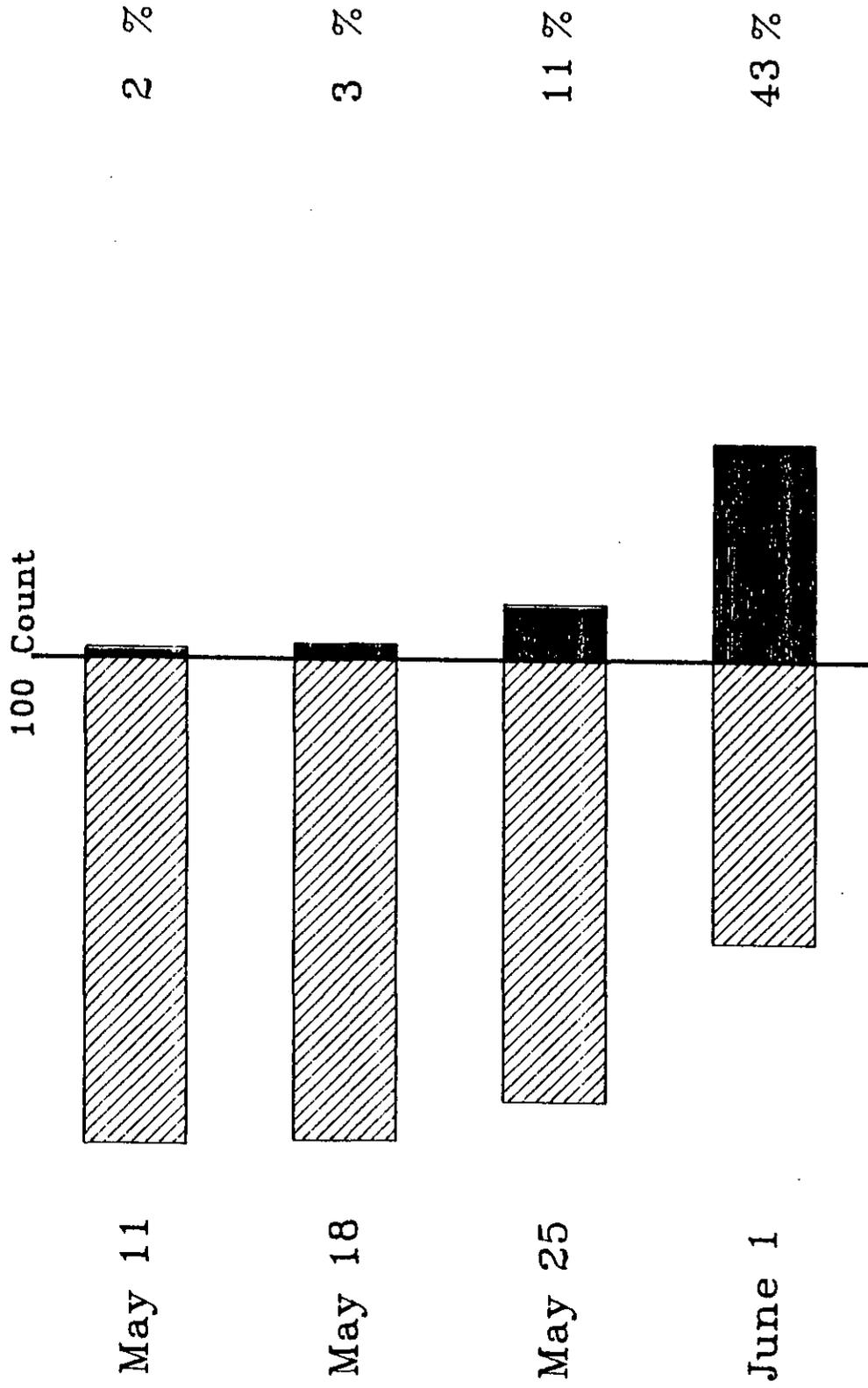
AREA 3 = 51 MM
 AREA 4 = 51 MM
 AREA 2 = 44 MM
 AREA 5 = 43 MM
 AREA 1 = 37 MM
 AREA 7 = 36 MM
 + AREA 6 = 31 MM



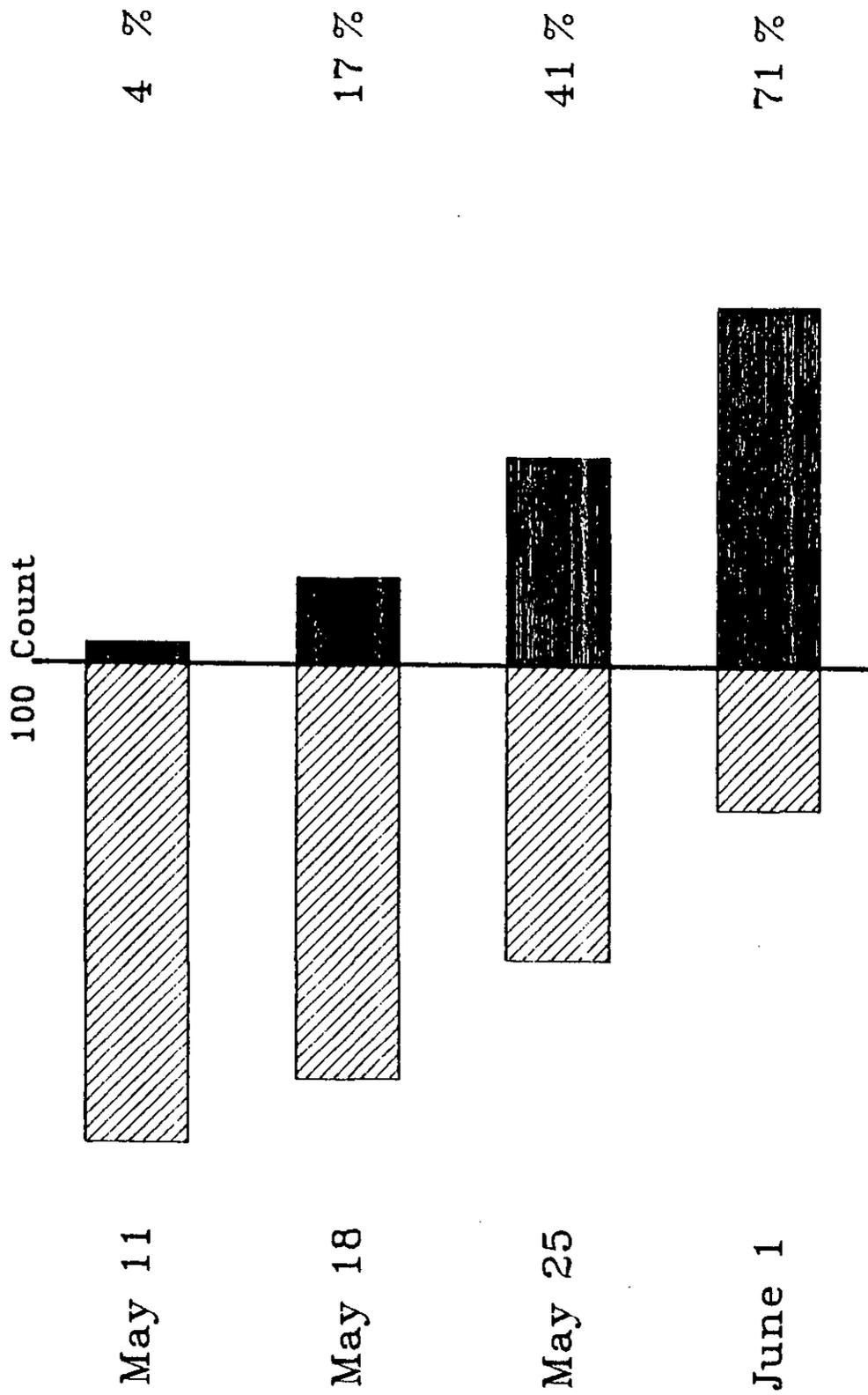
April

Work Weeks

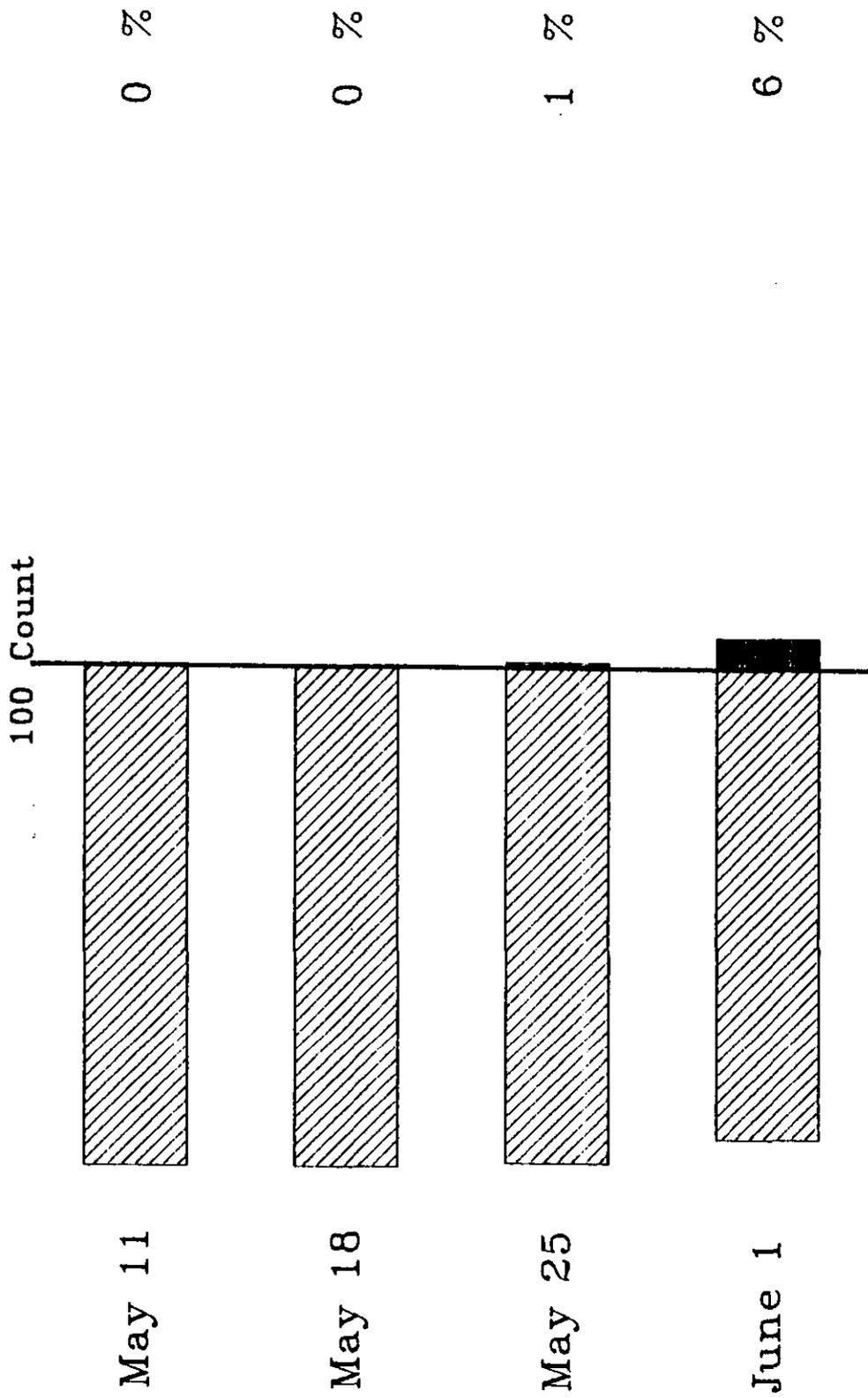
Zone 1 1987



Zone 2 1987



Zone 3 1987



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