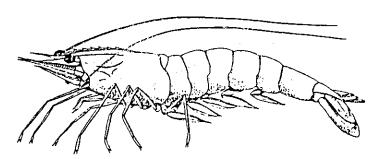


May 3, 1994 Volume 18, No. 5 Jefferson Parish Office 1825 Bonnie Ann Drive Marrero, LA 70072 (504) 349-5644 Fax (504) 838-1175

SEA GRANT PROGRAM



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SAFETY DRILL INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

After September 1, 1994, Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Act requirements that the master of documented vessels that operate beyond 12 miles offshore provide monthly safety drills and instructions will be in place. These drills must be done by certified drill instructors. An instructor can only be certified by completing an approved training program.

The Cooperative Extension Service provided such a program on April 12 in Belle Chasse, LA. Fishermen who missed this program will have to get certified on their own. Listed below are the three Coast Guard certified drill conductor schools in Louisiana.

LaFourche Mmt Services, Larose, (504) 798-7757, Penny Adams

McMillian Offshore, Youngsville, (318) 837-1900, John McMillian

Young Memorial School, Morgan City, (504) 380-2436, Mike White

FINFISH MANAGEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

In October of 1993, the Natural Resources Committee of the Louisiana House of Representatives prepared a public questionnaire on finfish resource management. A total of 553 people responded to the questionnaire with 416 identifying themselves as recreational fishermen and 73 as commercial fishermen. The rest either identified themselves as interested parties, others, or didn't identify their affiliation.

Not surprisingly, recreational fishermen voted very strongly to restrict the right of commercial fishermen to use gill nets in their business. Commercial fishermen voted strongly to maintain their current use of gill nets.

Unexpectedly, commercial fishermen voted "No" 75% of the time when asked if recreational fishermen should have to give up some of their creel limit on speckled trout and redfish to allow more for commercials. Recreational fishermen also voted "No" by a 95% margin.

Recreational and commercial fishermen agreed that there should not be a recreational fishing season and that the senior age exemption that allows older people to fish for free should not be increased.

On the subject of limited entry for commercial fishermen, 85% of the recreational fishermen and 39% of the commercial agreed with the idea. Both recreational and commercial fishermen preferred limiting the number of licenses over limited individual quotas.

One subject that commercial and recreational fishermen disagreed on was the use of rods and reels instead of nets for commercial fishing. Seventy-eight percent of the recreationals approved of the idea and 79% of the commercials disapproved.

Finally, both commercials (93%) and recreational (55%) agree that they want to see speckled trout and redfish be provided to the nonfishing consumer. Of the people that agree that the public should be supplied with fish, 75% overall agreed that they supported a commercial fishery for this purpose.

SHRIMP MANAGEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

During February and March, the governor's Task Force on Shrimp Management held a series of public scoping meetings across south Louisiana to get public input on shrimp sanctuaries and other shrimp management measures. A total of 936 shrimpers answered the questionnaires at the meetings. The results of the shrimp management questions on the questionnaire are shown below.

- 1) Should night shrimping be legal during white shrimp season in inshore waters? Yes 50%, No 44%, No opinion 6%.
- 2) Should night shrimping be legal during white shrimp season on the beaches (state outside waters)? Yes 47%, No 42%, No opinion 11%.
- 3) Should night shrimping be legal during <u>brown shrimp</u> season in <u>inshore waters?</u> Yes 68%, No 28%, No opinion 4%.

- 4) Should night shrimping be legal during <u>brown shrimp</u> season on the <u>beaches</u> (state outside waters)? Yes 65%, No 26%, No opinion 8%.
- 5) Should bottom trawls be legal shrimping gear? Yes 93%, No 4%, No opinion 3%.
- 6) Should butterfly nets be legal shrimping gear? Yes 62%, No 35%, No opinion 3%.
- 7) Should skimmers be legal shrimping gear? Yes 52%, No 43%, No opinion 5%.
- 8) Should cast nets be legal shrimping gear? Yes 61%, No 28%, No opinion 11%.
- 9) Should pontoon barge or wharf nets be legal shrimping gear? Yes 25%, No 67%, No opinion 8%.
- What should be the minimum mesh size on nets during the white shrimp season? 1-inch 1%, 1 1/8-inches 2%, 1 1/4-inches 20%, 1 3/8-inches 22%, 1 1/2-inches 48%, 1 5/8-inches 4%, 1 3/4-inches 3%, 2-inches less than 1%.
- What should be the minimum mesh size on nets during the brown shrimp season? 1-inch 1%, 1 1/8inches 4%, 1 1/4-inches 51%, 1 3/8-inches 26%, 1 1/2-inches 13%, 1 5/8-inches 2%, 1 3/4-inches 2%, 2-inches 0%.
- 12) What should be the minimum count size (head-on) on white shrimp? No count 9%, 100 count 58%, 68 count 23%, larger than 68 count 6%, No opinion 5%.
- 13) Should double rig bottom trawls be legal in inshore waters? Yes 44%, No 49%, No opinion 7%.
- 14) Should the use of four rigs (quad-trawls) be legal on the beaches (state outside waters)? Yes 28%, No 62%, No opinion 9%.
- When should <u>brown shrimp</u> season open on the beaches? Before inside waters 25%, Same as inside waters 68%, No opinion 7%.

16) What is your opinion of the opening date of <u>brown shrimp</u> season? About right 33%, Too early 8%, Too late 54%, No opinion 5%.

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- 17) What is your opinion of the opening date of white season? About right 75%, Too early 7%, Too late 16%, No opinion 3%.
- 18) What is your opinion about the number of shrimpers in the fishery at this time? About right 27%, Too many 54%, Too few 3%, No opinion 16%.
- 19) Should "limited entry" be used to manage the number of shrimpers? Yes 41%, No 48%, No opinion 12%.
- 20) Should license fees be <u>increased</u> to manage the number of shrimpers? Yes 14%, No 82%, No opinion 4%.
- Do you support the establishment of shrimp sanctuaries for the protection of small white shrimp? Yes 34%, No 66%.

THE GUMBO POT

Canned Shrimp-Noodle Bake

1	cup chopped onion	1	cup water
1/2	cup chopped bell pepper	3	cups uncooked egg
1/4	cup margarine		noodles
1	can (10-oz) tomatoes	1	teaspoon salt
1	can (10-oz) tomatoes and green chiles.	2	cans shrimp

In large saucepan, saute onions and bell pepper in margarine over low heat, about 5 minutes. Add tomatoes, water and noodles. Stir in salt. Bring to a boil, then pour into a greased 2 quart casserole dish. Arrange shrimp on top. Cover and bake at 350°F about 50 minutes, until noodles are done. Serves 6.

Sincerely,

Jerald Hórst Área Agent (Fisheries)

Jefferson, St. Charles, St. John