

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Mississippi State University. United States Department of Agriculture. Counties Cooperating



Sea Grant NEWSLETTER

No. 7

ALABAMA ESTABLISHES MARINE ADVISORY OFFICE IN MOBILE

Dr. Billy Powell recently accepted the position as Marine Advisory Specialist located at 800 Downtowner Boulevard in Mobile. Dr. Powell's responsibility is to interpret and disseminate useful marine information to marine audiences in Alabama. Powell and the Mississippi Advisory Agents will cooperate in planning and conducting the Advisory program for the two-state area.

Powell was state Extension Specialist in Food Science at Auburn before transferring to Marine Advisory Specialist. He is married to the former Beth Crawford of Montgomery.



Powell encourages anyone with questions, comments, or problems to call him or visit the office. The telephone number is (205) 342 - 4900.

McILWAIN ADDED TO SEA GRANT STAFF

Coastal Zone Management activities. McIlwain is responsible for activities designed to secure public participation in Coastal Zone Management. The Mississippi Marine Resources Council contracted with the Sea Grant Consortium for this work.

The Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium recently employed J. Baron McIlwain as coordinator of

The Sea Grant Advisory Service is conducted by the Cooperative Extension Service for the Sea Grant Consortium composed of the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Mississippi State University, University of Mississippi and the University of Southern Mississippi. Send correspondence to Sea Grant, c/o Leon Paulette, Box 4557, Biloxi, Mississippi 39531.

McIlwain is a native of the Gulf Coast. He received a degree in Biology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1968. He married Jane Murray of Laurel and they reside in Pascagoula.

MISSISSIPPI-ALABAMA SEA
GRANT ACTIVE IN COASTAL
ZONE MANAGEMENT
CONFERENCES

The Mississippi Marine Resources Council contracted with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium for assistance in planning and conducting conferences on Coastal Zone Manage-

ment for the general public. Barry McIlwain was employed to implement this program.

The first conference was the Mississippi Governor's Conference on Coastal Zone Management in July. The goal of this conference was to acquaint governmental agency representatives with the Coastal Zone Management Program and to secure their cooperation and advice.

In September Sea Grant planned and conducted a Gulf States Conference on Coastal Zone Management for the Mississippi Marine Resources Council. The purposes were to exchange information and ideas, to encourage interstate cooperation, and to identify interstate problems. Over a hundred leaders attended each of these conferences.

Sea Grant also sponsored for the Alabama Coastal Area Board the Alabama Governor's Conference on Coastal Zone Management.

SPORT FISHING ECONOMIC
IMPACT STUDY REVEALING

A Sea Grant sponsored study of sports fishing in the Biloxi-Ocean Springs area shows the average fisherman

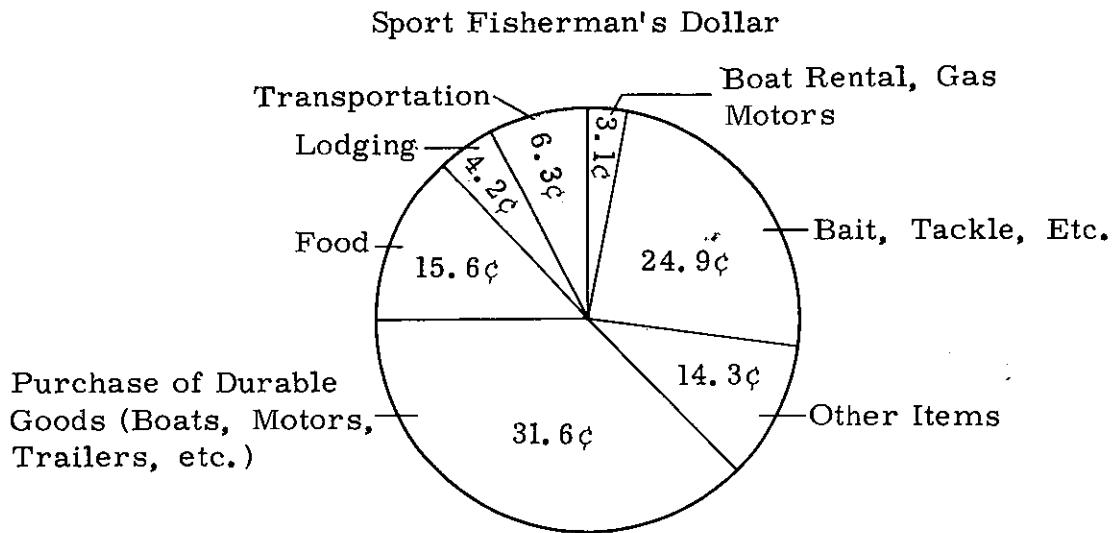
spends \$22 per fishing day. The study was conducted by the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory and the University of Southern Mississippi's Bureau of Business Research to gain needed information on sport fishing in the Gulf waters of Mississippi.

The study estimates there were 23,265 fisherman days in the study area during 1973. (The study area included that area of the Sound north of Horn and Ship Islands. The eastern boundary runs from the eastern tip of Horn Island to and including Graveline Bayou. The western boundary runs from the eastern part of Ship Island to a point midway between Gulfport and Biloxi. The area included inland bays in this area.)

The 23,265 fishing days resulted in a total expenditure of \$515,553. The survey indicates 47.2% or \$243,341 was spent in Biloxi, 23.5% or \$121,155

in Ocean Springs, 8.9% or \$45,884 in Pascagoula. The remaining 20.4% or \$105,173 was divided between several cities.

The expenditure of the sports fisherman is divided into seven categories. They are: food, lodging, transportation, bait and tackle, purchase of (boats, motors, trailers, etc.), other (beer, ice, etc.) and boat and motor rentals.



Summary: Briefly, the Survey of Sport Fishing related expenditures reveal:

- .. Average fisherman in the selected area spent slightly more than \$22 per fishing day.
- .. That over 87% of those fishing were local fisherman.
- .. That only 12.5% of those fishing were non-residents whose expenditures result in new income for the area.
- .. None of the fisherman sampled were attracted to the area because of T. V., radio, newspaper, or magazine advertisements designed to attract fisherman to the area.
- .. Over 95% indicated they chose the area because previous fishing trips.
- .. The economic impact of sport fishing on the economic base is probably under-estimated.

Recommendations:

- (1) A serious attempt to determine the local economic impact of the sport fishing industry should concentrate on securing information on the charter boat business.
- (2) A program to attract more non-resident fisherman is needed to increase the impact of the fishing industry on the local economy.
- (3) The area advertise available sports fishing opportunities much more than it currently does.
- (4) Future studies of sport fishing encompass either the entire Mississippi coastal area, a complete county or municipal area.
- (5) Study should include all sports fishing including charter boat, shore, pier, and bridge fishing.

(The above synopsis of the sports fishing study was compiled by the Advisory Service from the report prepared by Dr. Donnie L. Daniel of the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Southern Mississippi.)

ADVISORY SERVICE
PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Advisory Service has completed inventorying and mapping most inland sport fishing waters along the Gulf Coast. These guides include by name the streams and bays, launching ramps, fishing camps, oyster reefs, bouys, fishing tips, safety precautions and some likely fishing areas are noted.

The purposes of the guides are to give an authentic map of complicated water ways, identify bench marks and likely fishing areas. The ultimate goal is to help sport fishermen have a more satisfying fishing experience resulting in an increase in the sport fishing economy in the area.

SITE TEAM EVALUATES
PROPOSED MISSISSIPPI-
ALABAMA SEA GRANT PROGRAM

The Site Team, under the leadership of Robert D. Wildman and Dr. Richard Kolf, Director and Associate Director of the Project Support Program of the National Sea Grant Program, evaluated twenty six program proposals during their visit on October 2-3, at Gulf Shores, Alabama. Other members of the team were: George Allen, Dr. Joseph Angelovic, Dr. Theodore Chamberlain, Dr. Richard Kolf, Dr. Jack R. van Lopik, Ranzell Nickelson, Richard Raulerson, Carol Sondheimer, Dr. Lyle St. Amant, Marvin Stevenson, and M. Harvey Weil.

COAST RODEOS A MILLION
DOLLAR BUSINESS

A study of three Gulf Coast fishing rodeos reveals 6,830 fishermen participated spending a total of \$924,101

in their quest for trophy fish. Deep sea fishing rodeo's included in this study were: Biloxi Rodeo, Mississippi Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo, and the Ocean Springs Rodeo.

The Mississippi Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo held in Gulfport was the biggest in terms of number of fishermen, average number of days fished, expenditures per item, and total expenditures. An estimated 5,400 people fished in this rodeo. The Mississippi Deep Sea Rodeo contributed \$824,040 of the total, Biloxi \$91,801 and Ocean Springs \$8,260.

RODEO STATISTICS

Item	Ocean Springs	Biloxi Rodeo	Mississippi Deep
	Rodeo	Rodeo	Sea Fishing Rodeo
	Avg. Per	Avg. Per	Avg. Per
	Fisherman	Fisherman	Fisherman
Food	\$ 9.02	\$20.67	\$ 36.15
Lodging	. 16	4.34	7.60
Transportation	2.18	6.76	11.48
Boat Rental, Gas etc.	14.97	28.48	61.64
Bait, Tackle, etc.	9.11	11.21	21.91
Other	2.11	4.41	13.82
Total Per Rodeo	\$37.55	\$75.87	\$152.60
Avg. Days Fished	2.2	2.3	3.5
Estimated No. of Fishermen	220 ^c	1,210 ^c	5,400 ^d
Non-Coastal Residents	2%	11%	22%

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SHRIMP PROMOTION WEEK
ANNOUNCED BY VEAL

Dr. David Veal, Sea Grant Advisory
Specialist, announces the five Gulf and
three Atlantic Coast states are sponsor-

ing shrimp week, December 1 - 8. The Sea Grant Advisory Service, the
National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Cooperative Extension Service
are cooperating in this endeavor to emphasize the abundance, the nutritional
values, the high quality and the versatility of shrimp to housewives in the
Coastal states.

The goal of this program is to increase the consumption of shrimp, reduce
inventories and to increase exvessel price received by fishermen.

This program will be conducted by Extension Home Economists in the eight
states. Educational and promotional materials will be prepared and presented
to the 860 Home Economists for their use during the campaign.

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