

# Southeastern Fisheries Association, Inc.

# Hotlines



# Web Edition

## September 1999

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This newsletter is published by Southeastern Fisheries Association. Please pass it along and encourage others to be added to our mailing list.

If you want to be removed from the list, please contact us.

SFA is a non-profit association founded in 1952, charged with maintaining a viable seafood industry in the Southeast.

Robert P. Jones, Editor

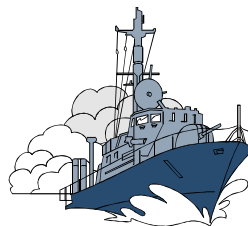
### **PORPOISE PLUCKING**

The Georgia Marine Extension Service has video capability to view how Ted's and Brd's work under commercial situations. During a recent test off Texas in about 25 fathoms of water, the researchers were surprised to see porpoises plucking each fish that swam through the Ted or Brd as they left the net. The film shows the fish, robust and anxious looking out the hole in the net and when ready scoot through the hole to what they believe to be the safety of the open waters. However, it is a fish eat fish world and the porpoises in the area have a very easy time of swimming along side the cod end of the otter trawl to fill their daily nutritional needs. SFA is requesting the researchers to insert narration over the film describing the types of Ted's and Brd's and to burn their logo into the film so that it doesn't end up in some anti-commercial fishing documentary.



### **COAST GUARD LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT PRESENTED TO COUNCIL AT KEY WEST**

USCG cutters spent 265 patrol days in support of fisheries enforcement in the Gulf of Mexico during an 8 month period 10/1/98 through 4/4/99. There were 620 aircraft sorties amounting to 1200 hours in the air. There were 1,424 US fishing vessels boardings and 6 foreign boardings (Mexican). There were 1,001 TED Boardings with 27 violations. This equals a 97% compliance rate for the Gulf shrimpers. There were 499 BRD Boardings with 24 violations. This equals a 95% compliance rate for Gulf shrimpers. There were 30 MSFCMA violations during this entire period equating to approximately a 99% compliance by the domestic commercial fishermen. Chances are most people will never see just how law abiding the domestic commercial fishermen are unless they have ac-



cess a Briefing Book prepared for the Council Members and can find Attachment 11. Southeastern Fisheries Association will request the USCG report related to recreational fishing enforcement.

### **NFI CONVENTION IN MIAMI TO BE VERY IMPORTANT**

The National Fisheries Institute organized the Southeastern Fisheries Association in 1952 in Jacksonville, Florida, when their longtime executive director Charlie Jackson came down with a sample set of by-laws. NFI was born in 1950 and their golden anniversary happens September 28-October 2 in Miami, Florida. There are many important matters NFI will be discussing affecting every fishing business in the country. SFA encourages everyone to attend this important meeting and if you are not a member of NFI, you should consider joining.

### **HJ HEINZ FOUNDATION HOSTS STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP**

The HJ Heinz charitable foundation hosted a meeting in New Orleans in July to discuss the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Only 14 persons from throughout the Gulf of Mexico were selected. Bob Jones and Kay Williams were selected for their commercial fishing background and Bob Zales and Bob

*(Continued on page 2)*

### **GENE RAFFIELD RECOVERING**

Past President Gene Raffield is up and gently walking around following very tough cancer surgery. Gene is home getting his strength back. You can send him a card at 110 21st Street, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456. Hearing from his fellow members of SFA will have a very positive medicinal effect on the healing process. Send him a card if you get the chance and pray for his speedy recovery.



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Shipp were selected for their recreational back-ground. It was a very interesting meeting and focused on overfishing/re-building, bycatch, essential fish habitat, fishing communities, problem solving and management implementation. It was noteworthy that both the commercial view and the recreational view were the same in opposing the lifting of the moratorium on Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ) and opposing the establishment of marine preserves in areas that have historically been commercial or recreational areas. SFA's policy towards Marine Protected Areas is to support building two in the Gulf of Mexico in areas covering different depths and in areas agreed to by the fishing communities, both recreational and commercial. Under this plan, all user groups could come together and support funding to build world class habitats for scientific research.

### GULF COUNCIL TO MEET IN GULF SHORES, ALABAMA

The Gulf Council will meet September 13-16 at the Gulf State Park Resort Hotel in Gulf Shores and will take public testimony on the Shrimp Bycatch Reduction Device Certification Standard among other important items. There will be discussion of Vessel Monitoring Devices (VMD's) on Tuesday beginning at 10:00 AM. There will be meetings concerning the recreational red snapper fishery, marine preserves and the presentation of an options paper on Dolphin and Wahoo.

### MEETING HELD WITH NMFS'S DR, HOGARTH CONCERNING BRD'S AND SOFT TEDS

SFA President Dennis Henderson led a delegation of industry leaders at a meeting with Dr. Hogarth in St. Petersburg. A recap of the industry's strong desire to use soft Teds in certain areas and at certain times was presented. Captain

Dave Harrington of the Georgia Marine Extension Service provided information showing soft Teds can exclude up to 76% of juvenile red snapper (0 to 1 Year Class) and work should be continued on perfecting these conservation devices. The industry has always felt the perceived difficulty in measuring soft Ted's by law enforcement was the root cause for non-certification. A soft Ted is harder to measure than a rigid frame but the reduction of non-targeted fish is worth the extra law enforcement effort. Dr. Hogarth pledged to work towards a solution and has scheduled more soft Ted tests during the Y 2000 research cycle. The industry is not completely happy with the delay and is looking for other protocols for testing but is pleased with the cooperative spirit of NMFS Regional office and staff.

### CATCH AND VALUE DROP FOR DOMESTIC HARVEST

According to NFI the catch of fish and shellfish fell 6% while the value fell 10.1%. According to the motto given by the lobbyist for the Coastal Conservation Association in Florida, "You eat an elephant one bite at a time." Can it be a big bite has been taken? Will the elephant bite back?

### HACCP CLASSES TO BE OFFERED

SFA will conduct HACCP Training in Miami on Friday, October 1st and at Oak Hill on October 4th. At present there are 3 persons signed up for Miami and we need at least 10 to rent a room at a convenient hotel. If you are interested in sending another person from your firm or in retaking the HACCP Training yourself, please respond by fax 850/222-3663 by September 20 in order for us to get the material and certificates ready. Continuing education workshops are being considered that will concentrate primarily on Sanitation requirements. HACCP is here to stay so be prepared.

new millennium's first SFA annual meeting. Convention Chairman Gary Graves has promised the best convention ever. We are arranging for an overnight shrimp trawling trip, golf and a world of business and regulatory presentations. You will hear more about this starting in 2000.

### PERSONALIZED COOLERS AVAILABLE THROUGH SFA

SFA can provide member businesses with insulated coolers in two sizes (6 pack and 12 pack size) bearing the logo of the business and SFA seal for a lower than average price. These soft coolers come in a variety of colors and make great gifts for customers or good profit maker for your retail shops. If you want to find out if they sell, give Rich Polvinal, Delaware Chicken & Seafood Market, a call at 954/983-6831. Call the SFA office 850/224-0612 for more information or clip and fax the below form to SFA at 850/222-3663

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## Magna Cum, huh?

SFA Executive Director, Bob Jones, received his Bachelor of Independent Studies from the University of South Florida on August 7, 1999.

Bob is currently enrolled in the Masters program at the University of Fla. WAY TO GO BOB!!!



### KEY WEST TO HOST 2000 CONVENTION

The beautiful Holiday Inn on the beach in Key West has been selected as the site for the





## FLOATSAM

**LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST MANAGEMENT COUNCILS** - Ted Danson's militant American Oceans Campaign along with two commercial fishing groups, Florida Wildlife Federation, ReefKeeper International, Audubon, Environmental Defense Fund, Center for Marine Conservation and Institute for Fisheries Resources have filed suit against the US Department of Commerce and 5 of the 8 Fishery Management Councils for not minimizing the adverse effects of fishing on ESSENTIAL FISH HABITATS (EFH). At the core of the suit is the alleged adverse impact of bottom trawls on the habitat. Many industry observers believe this lawsuit is another example of "The Law of Unintended Consequences" in the making. Otter trawling over rocks is different from trawling on the smooth ocean floors of the South Atlantic Ocean or in muds of the Gulf of Mexico. The rule of law will not allow militant anglers to throw darts at shrimpers who use bottom gear and at the same time ignore 100 million to 200 million anchorings by recreational anglers per year on top of outcroppings and among coral growth. When a shrimp boat trawls on smooth bottom that has been used for 50 or more years, it is hard to understand that this is killing an area. By the same token, when an angler punches in his Loran numbers to find his favorite spot and then drops the metal anchor and chain on the bottom he hopes the anchor hooks on some rock so the boat will stay put instead of drifting off. It

might be okay to ignore the damage of one anchor on the bottom but it will be impossible to ignore millions of anchorings per year for example in the Tortugas Shrimp Nursery area and throughout the waters of the Southeast.

### SHRIMP PANEL AT WORKBOAT SHOW IN NEW ORLEANS

**DECEMBER 1 - 2 , 1999 E4 Shrimp Summit: Imports, Regulations, Markets and Price THURS. DEC. 2 11:00 AM-12:30 PM** - The shrimp industry is constantly changing. This seminar will bring fishermen up to speed on where we are and where we are going. Find out the status of turtle populations in the Gulf. Hear about the latest round of litigation by some environmental groups to set aside areas where shrimp trawling will be banned. Learn about the impacts positive and negative that imported shrimp has on your business. Find out the latest on shrimp viruses and the potential threats aquacultured shrimp pose to wild stocks. On the program will be: Bob Jones, Executive Director, Southeastern Fisheries Association; Bill Chauvin, President, Shrimp World; Julius Collins, Texas Shrimper; Wilma Anderson, Executive Director, Texas Shrimp Association; David Harrington, Marine Fisheries Specialist, Marine Extension Program, University of Georgia. For further information and full listing of events go to:

<http://www.workboatshow.com/>

**ILLEGAL FISHING OFF FLORIDA** - On July 25, 1999, personnel from the Coast Guard Cutter Marlin boarded 2 vessels illegally fishing in the reef fish stressed area 35 miles west of Tarpon Springs, FL. A total of 80 fish traps and 880 pounds of fish were seized. On Aug. 2, 1999, personnel from the Coast Guard

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## INVEST IN THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

Southeastern Fisheries Association has been publishing their "Hotlines" newsletter monthly for 34 years. We are expanding the format of the newsletter to include photos, guest editorials, technical information, marketing trends, member information and many articles each month pertinent to the seafood industry both in the southeast and around the world. Our readership consists of members, government agencies, elected officials, prospective members and anyone who requests such publication.

**Complete the form below and return to the SFA office with your black and white business card and a check for \$200 and we will give you an ad spot in 4 issues of the "Hotlines"**

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### COUNT ME IN AS A SUPPORTER OF THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY IN FLORIDA

Enclosed is our check for \$200 payable to Southeastern Fisheries Association  
Enclosed is our business card - to be duplicated in the next 4 issues of "Hotlines".

\_\_\_\_\_



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Cutter Marlin boarded and seized the catch from a US fishing vessel illegally fishing in a restricted area off the coast of Fort Myers. The vessel was escorted to Fort Myers, where NMFS assumed responsibility for the case and auctioned the seized catch.

**MANATEES** - On July 28, 1999, the journal New Scientist published the results of a study concluding that manatees are the victims of vessel collisions because the animals cannot hear the sound frequency of vessel motors. On Aug. 8, 1999, a team of veterinarians and neurosurgeons in Miami, FL, implanted a rod-and-pin system to fuse a manatee's spinal cord that had been injured by a boat propeller on July 16, 1999, near Fort Lauderdale. This was the first time such an operation had been attempted on a manatee. On Aug. 16, 1999, the manatee whose spine had been fused died of complications. [Los Angeles Times, Naples Daily News, Assoc. Press, Reuters]

**Welcome to SFA New Members:** SFA is proud to welcome the following new members into its growing family of successful seafood companies. we encourage each member to support one another for the overall good of maintaining an economic and cultural presence for commercial fishing in America as well as providing marine protein to the people.

**Special HACCP Membership:**

**New Members:**

- ◆ Seafood & Lobster Depot,  
Pembroke Pines, FL,  
Alice Negrete

- ◆ C & C Fisheries, Ft. Myers, FL  
Mary Ann Calvert
- ◆ Golden Fish, Miami, FL  
Marco Rodriguez

**Start Making plans now for the  
Annual Meeting in 2000 which  
will be held in Key West, FL**

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We invite anyone receiving this newsletter, who is not already a member of SFA to join us and become an activist for your business. We are here to respond to your business needs in the state capital and around the Southeast Region. We can help you only if we know you and correspond with you regularly..... We would look forward to serving you and your company!

