



Marine Resources Education Program - Southeast Update 2015

Partners:

Gulf of Maine Research Institute

NOAA Fisheries

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

Caribbean Fishery Management Council

March 6, 2015

Marine Resources Education Program (MREP)

- Gulf of Maine Research Institute
 - Administrative partner and facilitator
- Workshop-based Program
 - Originated in New England
- Designed to foster new relationships and increase knowledge and understanding of:
 - **Fisheries Science**
 - **Fisheries Management**

“A program developed by fishermen for fishermen”



MREP Goals

- *To bring fishermen, scientists and managers together in a neutral setting outside the regulatory process.*
- *To increase the number of people at work in the region's fisheries who are comfortable working with the fishery data and management systems.*
- *To help policy makers and scientists become more familiar with the inner working of the fishing community.*
- *To increase the number of fishermen involved in collaborative research and pursuit of best available science.*
- *To develop leadership and promote trust.*



MREP Southeast

- **Program Funding Began in 2012**
 - Start up funding secured by GMRI through NMFS, NFWF
- **Steering Committee**
 - Provides ongoing program direction and evaluation
- **Workshops in 2013, 2014 and scheduled for 2015**



2014 MREP Southeast Workshops

- **Science Workshop**

- St. Petersburg, FL – FWC FWRI
- April 22-24, 2014

- **Management Workshop**

- Tampa, FL
- September 30 – October 2, 2014



MREP Southeast 2014:

Participants

- Publicized in early 2014 by GMRI via:
 - Steering Committee
 - Post card mailings to permit holders
 - Councils
- Good response
 - 58 total applications



Intro to Fishery Science Workshop

- **Held April 22-24, 2014**
- **FWC – Fish and Wildlife Resources Institute**
- **28 participants from Gulf, South Atlantic and Caribbean:**
 - Recreational fishermen
 - Charter/for-hire
 - Commercial fishermen
 - Industry representatives
 - Media



Science Workshop Participants 2014



Science Workshop Curriculum

- **Sampling and Survey Methods**
Fishery Dependent
and Independent
Data
 - Data Collection
 - Data Sources



Science Workshop Curriculum

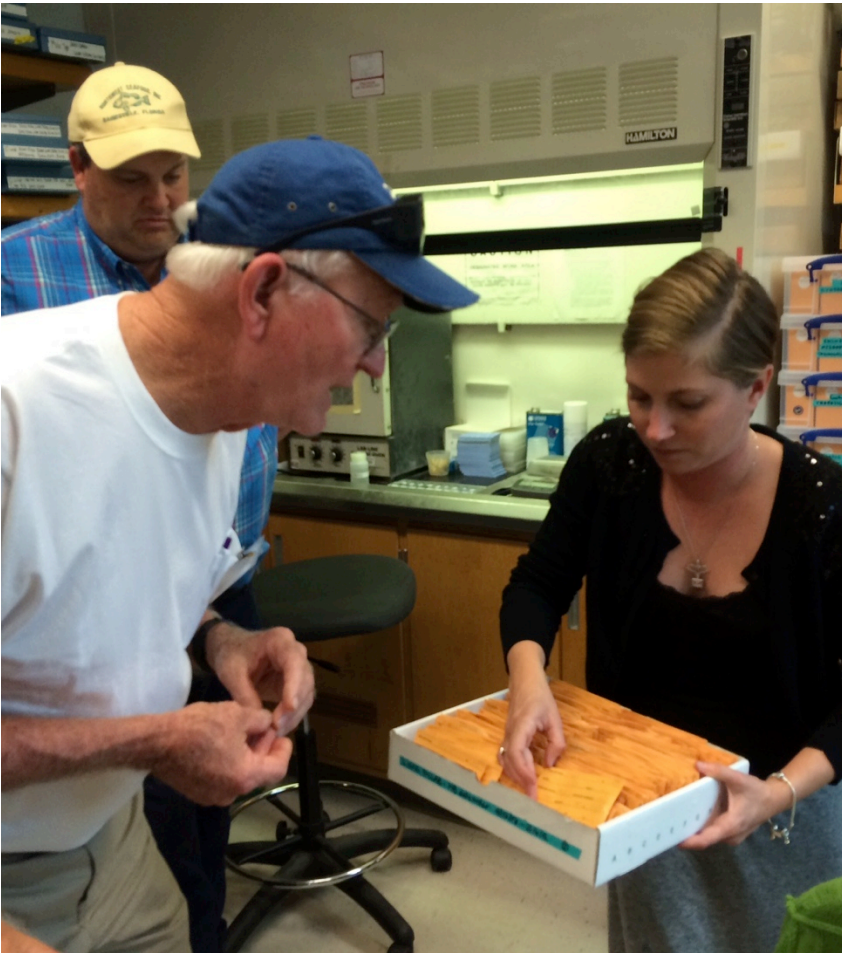
- **Population Biology**

Rotate Stations at FWRI

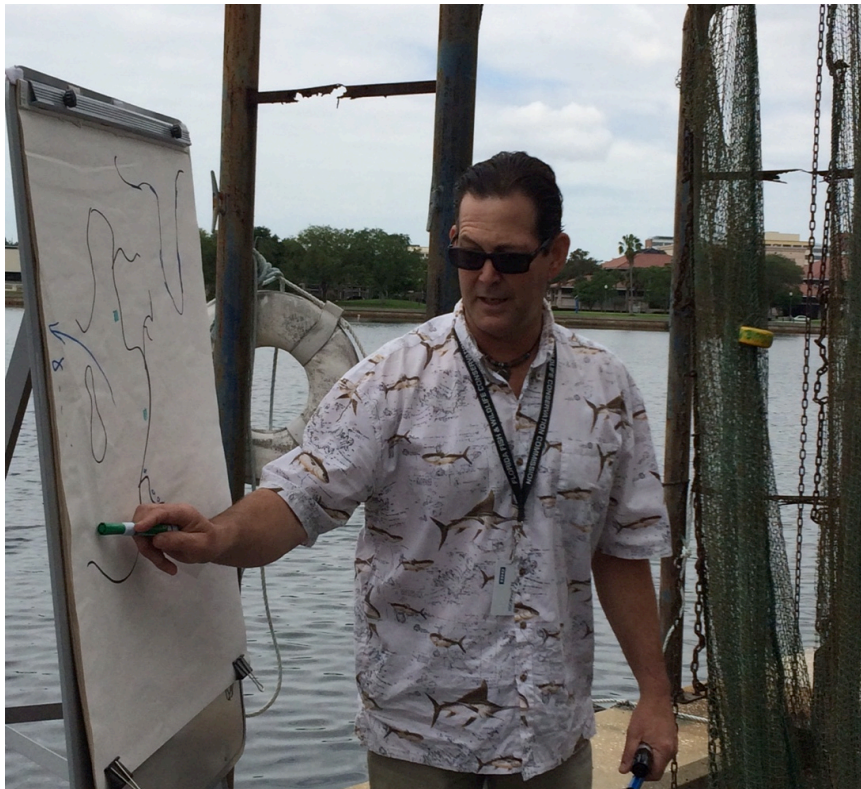
- **Wet Lab**
- **Age and Growth**
- **Sampling Gear**



Wet Lab – Aging and Otoliths



Sampling Gear and Techniques



Otolith and Gonad Collection, Tagging and Acoustical Monitoring



New Activity – Growth Modeling

- Workgroups read otoliths and age each
- Plug data into simple growth model
- Develop growth curve and good discussion!



Intro to Management Workshop

- Held Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2014
- 25 participants from Gulf, South Atlantic and Caribbean
- Improved agenda to increase role playing exercises







Evaluations

- Evaluations were distributed at the end of the workshop
- Evaluations continue to be positive
 - Instructors ranked highly
 - Majority found workshop “Valuable or Very Valuable”

Marine Resource Education Program
St. Petersburg, Florida
April 2 – 4, 2013



Evaluation Questionnaire



Please take a few moments to provide feedback on the Science Workshop. Your comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated and will help to ensure that we can continue to improve and evolve the program.

1. Please rate how valuable the following portions of the program were in enhancing your overall understanding and knowledge of fisheries science, based on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = not valuable, 5 = very valuable). Circle your answer for both the content, and the presenter's ability to communicate the content.

	Part 1: Content Rating	Part 2: Presenter Rating
DAY 1 - Tuesday		
<i>Sampling and Survey Overview</i> (Lutz Barbieri)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Fishery Dependent Data Collection</i> (Gordon Colvin)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Population Biology Introduction</i> (John Carmichael)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
FWRI Labs/Stations 1. Reproductive Biology Lab	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
FWRI Labs/Stations 2. Age & Growth Lab	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
FWRI Labs/Stations 3. Sampling gear	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
FWRI Labs/Stations 4. Research vessel Tour	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
DAY 2 - Wednesday		
<i>Stock Assessment Overview - SEDAR</i> (John Carmichael)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Stock Assessment Modeling</i> (Clay Porch)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Bycatch Reduction Technology</i> (John Mitchell)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Conservation Engineering & Gear</i> (Steve Theberge)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Cooperative Research</i> (Frank Helles)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
DAY 3 - Thursday		
<i>Oceanography Overview</i> (Mandy Karnauskas)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>
<i>Ecosystem Based Management</i> (Steve Murawski)	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>	1 2 3 4 <u>5</u>



Notable Outcomes 2014-15

- **New! 3-Day MREP Workshop in Puerto Rico**
January 24-26, 2015
- **3 New SAFMC AP Members**
- **1 Cooperative Research Proposal**
- **Positive articles from media participants**
- **Program funding for next 2 years – but need more!**
- **New Steering Committee Members**



2015 MREP Workshops

- **Science Workshop**
 - **April 14 - 16, 2015**
 - To be held at FFWRI & Downtown Marriott Hotel, St. Petersburg
- **Management Workshop**
 - **September 22 - 24, 2015**
 - Tampa Grand Hyatt, Tampa
- **Steering Committee Meeting**
 - November 10 - 11, 2015
 - location TBD





Questions?

Additional Program Information

www.gmri.org



South Atlantic Fishery Management Council