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U S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southeast Fisheries Center  
P O Drawer 1207  
Pascagoula, Miss. 39568-1207

*NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 08-04 (282)  
06/10 – 7/18/2008

## INTRODUCTION

The *NOAA Ship Oregon II* departed Pascagoula, Mississippi on June 10, 2008 for the twenty-eighth annual Summer Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) shrimp and bottomfish survey in the northern and western U.S. Gulf of Mexico. SEAMAP is a state-Federal-university program for the collection, management and dissemination of fishery independent data.

The primary goal of this survey is to monitor size composition and spatial distribution of penaeid shrimp stocks across the northern Gulf of Mexico in 5 to 60 fathoms (fms) and to provide additional biological and catch rate information on demersal organisms occurring in the study area.

One and a half survey days were lost due to problems with the ship's electrical power system. Two port calls were made to exchange scientific personnel (both in Galveston, Tex June 24 to 25 and July 3 to 5). The ship returned to Pascagoula, Mississippi on July 16, 2008, 2 days earlier than scheduled, to terminate a very productive and successful survey (all primary objectives were accomplished).

## OBJECTIVES

- 1) Determine size distribution of penaeid shrimp by depth across the U.S. northern and western Gulf of Mexico. Transmitted information weekly for real time reports of catch rates of penaeid species.
- 2) Obtain samples of brown, pink and white shrimp to determine length-weight relationships.
- 3) Sample the northern Gulf of Mexico with Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (SEAMAP) standard sampling gear to determine the abundance and distribution of benthic fauna.
- 4) Obtain length measurements to estimate size structure of sampled populations.

- 5) Conduct CTD casts to profile water temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen (DO), DO percent saturation, fluorescence, transmittance, and density.
- 6) Collect bottom DO measurements in near real time and transmit the data to the NOAA National Coastal Data Development Center at Stennis Space Center, Mississippi and other researchers to map the hypoxic zone .
- 7) Collect ichthyoplankton samples to determine the relative abundance and distribution of eggs and larvae of commercially and recreationally important fish species.
- 8) Collect *Lutjanus campechanus* and *Scomberomorus cavalla* for Dr. Will Patterson of the University of West Florida for age and growth analysis.
- 9) Collect shark and ray specimens, including *Raja texana* and *Dipturus olseni* for Dr. James Sulikowski of the University of New England for age, growth, and distribution analysis.
- 10) Collect sharks and rays for Shoals Marine Laboratory, New Hampshire for dissection and identification.
- 11) Collect *Raja texana*, *Squatina dumeril*, *Rhomboplites aurorubens*, *Epinephelus* and *Mycteroperca* sp., for the NMFS laboratory at Panama City, Florida for age, growth, identification, gut analysis, and genetical purposes.
- 12) Collect *Caulolatilus* sp., *Lutjanus campechanus*, eels, and sharks for scientists of the Mississippi Laboratory for age, growth, identification and distribution purposes.
- 13) Save all *Rhinoptera* sp. for Christian Jones of the Mississippi Laboratory for identification purposes and confirmation of presence of *Rhinoptera brasiliensis*.
- 14) Collect *Balistes capriscus* for Eric Saillant, Graduate Student of the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs Mississippi.
- 15) Collect *Decodon puellaris* for Dr. Benjamin Victor of the Guy Harvey Research Institute of California for DNA purposes and to support the Barcode for Life project.
- 16) Collect *Etrumeus teres* for Larry Thomas, Graduate Student from Jackson State University, Alabama for age, growth, and distribution purposes.
- 17) Collect *Amusium papyracuem* for Jeanne Serb, Assistant Professor of Iowa State University for phylogenetic analysis.
- 18) Collect *Ludia* sp. and *Astropecten articulatus* for Dr. Christopher Pomory of the

University of West Florida for identification and growth analysis.

- 19) Collect *Brevoortia patronus* for Dr. James Simons of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Corpus Christi, Texas for identification and distribution purposes.
- 20) Collect invertebrate species, including but not limited to shrimp, crab, and jellyfish species for the University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The sampling gear consisted of 40-ft shrimp nets with 8-ft by 40-in chain bracketed wooden doors. A standard free tickler chain cut 42 inches shorter than the footrope was used to stimulate benthic organisms out of the substrate and into the path of the oncoming net. Towing speed was targeted at 2.50 knots. Sample sites were randomly selected within area, depth and diel strata. Area strata consisted of Gulf coast shrimp statistical zones 11-12 (88°00'-89°00' W long), 13-15 (89°00'-92°00' W long), 16-17 (92°00'-94°00' W long), 18-19 (west of 94°00' W long and north of 28°00' N lat), and 20-21 (26°00'-28°00' N lat). Depth strata consisted of 1-fm intervals from 5 to 20 fms, a 2-fm interval from 20 to 22 fms, a 3-fm interval from 22 to 25 fms, 5-fm intervals from 25 to 50 fms and a 10-fm interval from 50 to 60 fms. Diel strata consisted of day and night, and were delimited by astronomical sunrise and sunset. Minimum and maximum tow durations were 10 and 55 minutes respectively, depending on the time required to transect the respective depth strata. If a stratum was not completed in 55 minutes then additional tows were made until it was covered. Tow direction was determined as the shortest distance between strata boundaries (generally perpendicular to depth contours).

Trawl catch data were electronically recorded at-sea with the Fishery Scientific Computing System (FSCS), version 1.6, developed by NOAA's System Development Branch of the Office of Marine & Aviation Operations. For FSCS to be operational, Scientific Computing System (SCS) version 4.0 was used to collect station metadata, including position, depth, date and time. SCS was also used to collect metadata for ichthyoplankton stations and CTD stations. Catches were either processed in their entirety or subsampled, depending on the total catch weight. If catches exceeded 50 pounds, then at least 10% was taken as a subsample. Catches (or subsamples) were sorted by species with each group being numerated and weighed. Additional data taken for specimens identified down to species level, including length measurements, sex, and gonad condition. Specimens that could not be identified to species level were frozen and brought back to the laboratory for identification.

Ichthyoplankton samples (conducted with bongo and neuston samplers) were collected at half-degree intervals of latitude and longitude within the defined survey area. Plankton sampling sites were occasionally relocated to the nearest trawling sample site to optimize survey time. Bongo tows were made with two conical 61-centimeter nets with

0.333 mm mesh netting. General Oceanic flowmeters were suspended in each side of the frame to measure the amount of water filtered. Single oblique tows were made. Nets were towed at 1.5 to 2.0 knots to maintain a 45° wire angle of towing warp, and were fished to a maximum depth of 200 meters or within two meters of bottom in depths less than 200 meters. Neuston sampling gear consisted of a 0.947 mm mesh net mounted on a 1 by 2 meter frame. The net was towed for 10 minutes with the frame half submerged at the surface. Right bongo samples and neuston samples were initially preserved in 10% buffered formalin and transferred into 95% ethyl alcohol 36 hours later. The left bongo samples were initially preserved in 95% ethyl alcohol and transferred into 95% ethyl alcohol 24 hours later.

Vertical profiles of temperature, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, transmittance and fluorescence were recorded with a Seabird SBE 911+ environmental profiler. Fore-ule water color and percent cloud cover observations were also taken during daylight hours. Daily water samples (maximum depth) were taken at the first station after sunrise of each day in order to perform 3 replicate Winkler titrations to monitor the performance of the DO sensors on the environmental profiler. The values obtained from the Winkler titrations were recorded in the FSCS Access database.. Also, a Hach LDO<sup>TM</sup> HQ10 portable dissolved oxygen meter was used at these same stations to investigate the possibility of replacing the Winkler titrations as a method of field calibration.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

One hundred and ninety-seven strata (86%) were successfully sampled by *NOAA Ship Oregon II* (Table 1). An additional 30 strata were sampled by state vessels; 20 by *R/V Tommy Munro* of Mississippi and 10 by *R/V A. E. Verrill* of Alabama. Two strata were not sampled because a net was torn on bottom obstructions and one strata was towed in the wrong depth strata.

Two hundred sixty-two tows were required to sample the selected strata (Table 1, Figure 1). For summary purposes, data were grouped into three geographic areas: East Delta (88°00'-89°15' W long), West Delta (89°15'-94°00' W long), and Texas (94°00'-98°00' W long), and six depth intervals: 5-9, 10-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50-60 fms. Table 2 lists the five most numerous species caught, pink and white shrimp, and red snapper. The mean total catch rate for the entire survey was 88.4 kilograms per hour fished (kg/hr), a 22% decrease in relative abundance as compared to 2007 and a 3% increase relative to the five year mean for 2003-2007 (85.6 kg/hr). *Sciaenidae* was again the most abundant family caught with Atlantic croaker (*Micropogonias undulatus*) making the greatest contribution (Tables 2 and 3). Brown shrimp, *Farfantepenaeus aztecus*, was the most abundant commercial shrimp species, followed by pink shrimp, *Farfantepenaeus duorarum* and white shrimp, *Litopenaeus setiferus*.

Forty-six bongo and forty-five neuston stations were accomplished (Figure 2). Neuston and right side bongo samples were returned to Pascagoula for subsequent shipment to the Polish Sorting Center for sorting and identification according to standard

SEAMAP protocol. Left bongo samples were sent to the SEAMAP Plankton Archiving Center at the Institute of Marine Science's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

Two hundred and twenty-two CTD casts were collected, although two hundred and twenty-four were done. After completing the casts, 2 stations (Pascagoula station number 00033 and 00090) had the data corrupted and are not included in the database, thus noting the difference. One hundred and eleven cloud covers and one hundred and ten water colors were collected (Table 4). Figure 3 shows stations where hypoxic conditions (dissolved oxygen readings  $\leq$  2 milligrams per liter) were encountered during the survey. During processing of the CTD cast, the secondary sensor suite was used to obtain values. Early in the survey, a problem was noted with the primary suite (Dissolved Oxygen sensor, serial number 0084). Therefore, all the cast were reprocessed, using the secondary suite (DO sensor, serial number 00105). Although the primary side was replaced with a new sensor (DO sensor, serial number 1041) on June 14, 2008, after Pascagoula Station 00019, the secondary suite was used for data retrieval for consistency.

Thirty-four Winkler titrations were performed during the survey, and thirty-three Hach handheld dissolved oxygen readings were obtained (Table 5). The depth refers to the maximum depth sampled by the CTD profiler and is the depth from which water was collected for Winkler titrations and Hach meter readings. During Leg 3, there was a shortage of phenylarsine oxide; therefore only two replicate titrations were performed instead of three.

Specimen collections were shipped to the appropriate requesting scientists upon arrival in Pascagoula.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

On behalf of Mississippi Laboratory and the scientific party, I would like to thank the Master and crew of *NOAA Ship OREGON II* for a job well done.

## CRUISE PARTICIPANTS

June 10 – 24, 2008

| NAME             | TITLE                | ORGANIZATION             |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Alonzo Hamilton  | Field Party Chief    | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS     |
| Michael Felts    | Watch Leader         | IAP, Pascagoula, MS      |
| Paul Felts       | Watch Leader         | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS     |
| Carolyn Burks    | Res. Fish Biologist  | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS     |
| Zeb Schobernd    | Fish Biologist II    | IAP, Pascagoula, MS      |
| Butch Sutton     | Gear Specialist      | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS     |
| Cheryl Bough     | Grad. Student        | Univ. South Alabama, AL  |
| Kirk Clausen     | Grad. Student        | Florida State University |
| Bronson Nagareda | Cooperator, Aquarist | Hawaii                   |

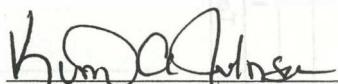
June 25 – July 3, 2008

| NAME               | TITLE                     | ORGANIZATION             |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Andre Debose       | Field Party Chief         | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS     |
| Alonzo Hamilton    | Watch Leader              | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS     |
| Michael Hendon     | Watch Leader              | IAP, Pascagoula, MS      |
| Nelson May         | Remote Sensing Specialist | NMFS, Stennis, MS        |
| Keith Bates        | Gear Specialist           | IAP, Pascagoula, MS      |
| Michael Felts      | Fisheries Biologist       | IAP, Mississippi         |
| Melissa Cook       | Res. Fish. Biologist      | NMFS, Panama City, FL    |
| Justin Lewandowski | Grad. Student             | Univ. South Carolina, SC |

July 5 – July 18, 2008

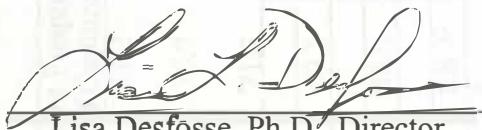
| NAME             | TITLE                | ORGANIZATION          |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Andre Debose     | Field Party Chief    | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS  |
| Alonzo Hamilton  | Watch Leader         | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS  |
| Michael Hendon   | Watch Leader         | IAP, Pascagoula, MS   |
| Rex Herron       | Ecologist            | NMFS, Stennis, MS     |
| Nick Hopkins     | Gear Specialist      | NMFS, Pascagoula, MS  |
| Beverly Barnett  | Res. Fish. Biologist | NMFS, Panama City, FL |
| Angela Cicia     | Intern               | IAP, Pascagoula, MS   |
| Christina Durham | Graduate Student     | NC State University   |

Submitted By:

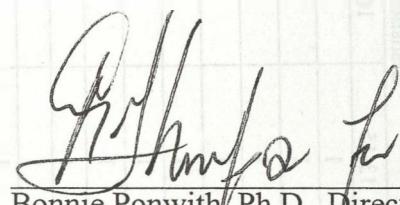


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Table 1. Distribution of sampling effort by strata for *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04). Numbers in table body indicate number of times strata were sampled. "Ala." and "Miss." indicate strata sampled by the respective states, and "Tore net" indicates strata which were unsuccessfully sampled due to bottom obstructions. "Wrong depth" indicates strata which were accidentally sampled in other depth zones

| Depth Strata<br>(fathoms) | Diel Strata       |       |       |       |             |                   |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                           | Day               |       |       |       |             | Night             |       |       |       |       |
|                           | Statistical Zones |       |       |       |             | Statistical Zones |       |       |       |       |
|                           | 11-12             | 13-15 | 16-17 | 18-19 | 20-21       | 11-12             | 13-15 | 16-17 | 18-19 | 20-21 |
| 5-6                       | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | Wrong depth | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 6-7                       | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 2           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 7-8                       | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 8-9                       | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 9-10                      | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 10-11                     | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 11-12                     | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 12-13                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 13-14                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 14-15                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | .                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 15-16                     | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 16-17                     | Ala.              | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 17-18                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 18-19                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 19-20                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 20-22                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 22-25                     | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 25-30                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 30-35                     | Miss.             | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 35-40                     | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 40-45                     | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 45-50                     | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |
| 50-60                     | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1           | 1                 | 1     | 1     | 1     | Torn  |

Table 2. Five most numerous organisms caught during *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04), plus pink and white shrimp, and red snapper (n = 262).

|   | Name   | Percent of Total Number Caught | Percent of Total Catch Weight | Percent Frequency Of Capture | Weight Per Individual (gms) |
|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Atlantic croaker<br>( <i>Micropogonias undulatus</i> ) | 33.7                           | 37.2                          | 57.2                         | 32                          |
| 2 | Brown shrimp<br>( <i>Farfantepenaeus aztecus</i> )     | 11.5                           | 5.6                           | 76.7                         | 14                          |
| 3 | Longspine porgy<br>( <i>Stenotomus caprinus</i> )      | 7.4                            | 8.7                           | 71.3                         | 34                          |
| 4 | Gulf butterfish<br>( <i>Peprilus burti</i> )           | 5.9                            | 6.8                           | 59.5                         | 33                          |
| 5 | Bigeye searobin<br>( <i>Prionotus longispinosus</i> )  | 3.1                            | 1.1                           | 48.0                         | 19                          |
| 6 | Pink shrimp<br>( <i>Farfantepenaeus duorarum</i> )     | 0.8                            | 0.5                           | 18.7                         | 18                          |
| 7 | White shrimp<br>( <i>Litopenaeus setiferus</i> )       | 0.4                            | 0.7                           | 13.3                         | 46                          |
| 8 | Red snapper<br>( <i>Lutjanus campechanus</i> )         | 0.1                            | 0.9                           | 42.7                         | 132                         |

Table 3. Mean catch rates (kg/hr) of five abundant species, pink and white shrimp, red snapper, and total live catch for *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04) by area, depth, and diel strata.

Atlantic croaker

| Area           | Depth |      |         |       |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |      |  |  |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|-------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|--|--|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |       | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |      |  |  |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean  | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean |       |      |  |  |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 45.6  | 6       | 41.7 | 3       | 63.6 | 4       | 8.7  | 2       | 18.4 | 7              | 0.1  | 12    | 57.9 | 19    | 36.6 |  |  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 3.0  | 46      | 108.0 | 25      | 52.4 | 21      | 15.9 | 9       | 5.6  | 5       | 0.9  | 65             | 18.4 | 60    | 92.1 | 125   | 53.8 |  |  |
| Texas          | 19    | 56.8 | 41      | 1.2   | 28      | 1.2  | 17      | 0.8  | 8       | 2.1  | 5       | 4.1  | 62             | 3.6  | 56    | 17.7 | 118   | 10.3 |  |  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 29.9 | 91      | 57.1  | 59      | 27.0 | 41      | 13.1 | 21      | 4.8  | 12      | 5.2  | 134            | 10.6 | 128   | 56.3 | 262   | 32.9 |  |  |

Brown Shrimp

| Area           | Depth |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |     |  |  |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|--|--|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |      | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |     |  |  |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean |       |     |  |  |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 0.0  | 6       | 0.0  | 3       | 2.7  | 4       | 2.9  | 2       | 3.2  | 7              | 0.9  | 12    | 1.7  | 19    | 1.4 |  |  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 0.0  | 46      | 1.3  | 25      | 10.5 | 21      | 3.9  | 9       | 3.9  | 5       | 1.7  | 65             | 2.8  | 60    | 4.5  | 125   | 3.6 |  |  |
| Texas          | 19    | 0.6  | 41      | 12.1 | 28      | 6.7  | 17      | 5.5  | 8       | 4.0  | 5       | 2.5  | 62             | 1.6  | 56    | 13.2 | 118   | 7.1 |  |  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 0.3  | 91      | 6.1  | 59      | 7.6  | 41      | 4.5  | 21      | 3.8  | 12      | 2.3  | 134            | 2.1  | 128   | 8.0  | 262   | 5.0 |  |  |

Longspine porgy

| Area           | Depth |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |      |  |  |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|--|--|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |      | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |      |  |  |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean |       |      |  |  |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 29.3 | 6       | 65.7 | 3       | 64.8 | 4       | 30.3 | 2       | 13.8 | 7              | 30.6 | 12    | 53.4 | 19    | 45.0 |  |  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 0.0  | 46      | 3.9  | 25      | 11.1 | 21      | 6.4  | 9       | 4.8  | 5       | 6.4  | 65             | 4.9  | 60    | 5.7  | 125   | 5.3  |  |  |
| Texas          | 19    | 0.1  | 41      | 2.8  | 28      | 8.3  | 17      | 5.4  | 8       | 4.6  | 5       | 7.5  | 62             | 5.8  | 56    | 2.7  | 118   | 4.3  |  |  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 0.0  | 91      | 4.5  | 59      | 15.3 | 41      | 10.2 | 21      | 9.5  | 12      | 8.1  | 134            | 6.7  | 128   | 8.9  | 262   | 7.7  |  |  |

Gulf butterfish

| Area           | Depth |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |     |  |  |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|--|--|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |      | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |     |  |  |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean |       |     |  |  |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 0.0  | 6       | 1.6  | 3       | 0.4  | 4       | 0.1  | 2       | 0.0  | 7              | 1.6  | 12    | 0.0  | 19    | 0.6 |  |  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 0.0  | 46      | 8.8  | 25      | 19.4 | 21      | 4.2  | 9       | 3.8  | 5       | 0.4  | 65             | 13.0 | 60    | 2.8  | 125   | 8.1 |  |  |
| Texas          | 19    | 0.3  | 41      | 3.5  | 28      | 7.7  | 17      | 3.1  | 8       | 5.3  | 5       | 19.2 | 62             | 8.3  | 56    | 0.8  | 118   | 4.7 |  |  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 0.2  | 91      | 6.0  | 59      | 12.0 | 41      | 3.4  | 21      | 3.7  | 12      | 8.2  | 134            | 10.2 | 128   | 1.7  | 262   | 6.0 |  |  |

Table 3 continued.

## Pink shrimp

| Area           | Depth |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |      |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |      | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |      |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean | N     | Mean |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 7.7  | 6       | 0.1  | 3       | 0.0  | 4       | 0.0  | 2       | 0.0  | 7              | 0.0  | 12    | 2.6  | 19    | 1.7  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 0.0  | 46      | 0.1  | 25      | 0.0  | 21      | 0.0  | 9       | 0.0  | 5       | 0.0  | 65             | 0.0  | 60    | 0.0  | 125   | 0.0  |
| Texas          | 19    | 1.1  | 41      | 1.9  | 28      | 0.0  | 17      | 0.0  | 8       | 0.0  | 5       | 0.0  | 62             | 0.0  | 56    | 1.7  | 118   | 0.8  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 0.5  | 91      | 1.2  | 59      | 0.0  | 41      | 0.0  | 21      | 0.0  | 12      | 0.0  | 134            | 0.0  | 128   | 1.0  | 262   | 0.5  |

## White shrimp

| Area           | Depth |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |      |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |      | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |      |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean | N     | Mean |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 0.0  | 6       | 0.0  | 3       | 0.0  | 4       | 0.0  | 2       | 0.0  | 7              | 0.0  | 12    | 0.0  | 19    | 0.0  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 0.0  | 46      | 0.4  | 25      | 0.2  | 21      | 0.0  | 9       | 0.0  | 5       | 0.0  | 65             | 0.0  | 60    | 0.3  | 125   | 0.2  |
| Texas          | 19    | 7.3  | 41      | 0.1  | 28      | 0.0  | 17      | 0.0  | 8       | 0.0  | 5       | 0.0  | 62             | 1.8  | 56    | 0.6  | 118   | 1.2  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 3.7  | 91      | 0.2  | 59      | 0.1  | 41      | 0.0  | 21      | 0.0  | 12      | 0.0  | 134            | 0.8  | 128   | 0.4  | 262   | 0.6  |

## Red snapper

| Area           | Depth |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |      | Total |      |
|----------------|-------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
|                | 5 - 9 |      | 10 - 19 |      | 20 - 29 |      | 30 - 39 |      | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |      |       |      |
|                | N     | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean | N     | Mean |
| East Delta     | .     | .    | 4       | 2.3  | 6       | 2.4  | 3       | 5.6  | 4       | 1.5  | 2       | 0.0  | 7              | 2.0  | 12    | 2.7  | 19    | 2.5  |
| West Delta     | 19    | 0.0  | 46      | 0.2  | 25      | 0.4  | 21      | 2.9  | 9       | 0.0  | 5       | 0.0  | 65             | 0.3  | 60    | 1.1  | 125   | 0.7  |
| Texas          | 19    | 0.1  | 41      | 0.5  | 28      | 1.2  | 17      | 1.1  | 8       | 0.3  | 5       | 0.2  | 62             | 0.9  | 56    | 0.4  | 118   | 0.7  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 0.1  | 91      | 0.5  | 59      | 1.0  | 41      | 2.4  | 21      | 0.4  | 12      | 0.1  | 134            | 0.7  | 128   | 0.9  | 262   | 0.8  |

## Total catch

| Area           | Depth |       |         |       |         |       |         |       |         |      |         |      | Diurnal Period |      |       |       | Total |       |
|----------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|------|---------|------|----------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                | 5 - 9 |       | 10 - 19 |       | 20 - 29 |       | 30 - 39 |       | 40 - 49 |      | 50 - 60 |      | Day            |      | Night |       |       |       |
|                | N     | Mean  | N       | Mean  | N       | Mean  | N       | Mean  | N       | Mean | N       | Mean | N              | Mean | N     | Mean  | N     | Mean  |
| East Delta     | .     | .     | 4       | 122.6 | 6       | 196.8 | 3       | 169.7 | 4       | 75.4 | 2       | 70.9 | 7              | 61.7 | 12    | 182.6 | 19    | 138.1 |
| West Delta     | 19    | 10.0  | 46      | 176.9 | 25      | 130.4 | 21      | 47.7  | 9       | 40.5 | 5       | 34.0 | 65             | 63.0 | 60    | 150.5 | 125   | 105.0 |
| Texas          | 19    | 152.8 | 41      | 50.1  | 28      | 44.5  | 17      | 30.2  | 8       | 42.1 | 5       | 73.1 | 62             | 55.7 | 56    | 70.8  | 118   | 62.9  |
| Areas Combined | 38    | 81.4  | 91      | 117.4 | 59      | 96.4  | 41      | 49.3  | 21      | 47.8 | 12      | 56.4 | 134            | 59.5 | 128   | 118.7 | 262   | 88.4  |

Table 4. Summary of environmental samples and data collected during *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04)

|                    | Surface | Mid-depth | Maximum Depth | Total |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| Temperature        | 222     | 222       | 222           | 666   |
| Salinity           | 222     | 222       | 222           | 666   |
| Dissolved Oxygen   | 222     | 222       | 222           | 666   |
| Light Transmission | 222     | 222       | 222           | 666   |
| Water color        | --      | --        | --            | 110   |
| Cloud cover        | --      | --        | --            | 111   |
| *CTD               | --      | --        | --            | 224   |
| Winkler Titrations | --      | --        |               | 35    |
| HACH DO            | --      | --        |               | 34    |
| **Shrimp trawl     | --      | --        | --            | 264   |
| Bongo              | --      | --        | --            | 45    |
| Neuston            | --      | --        | --            | 46    |

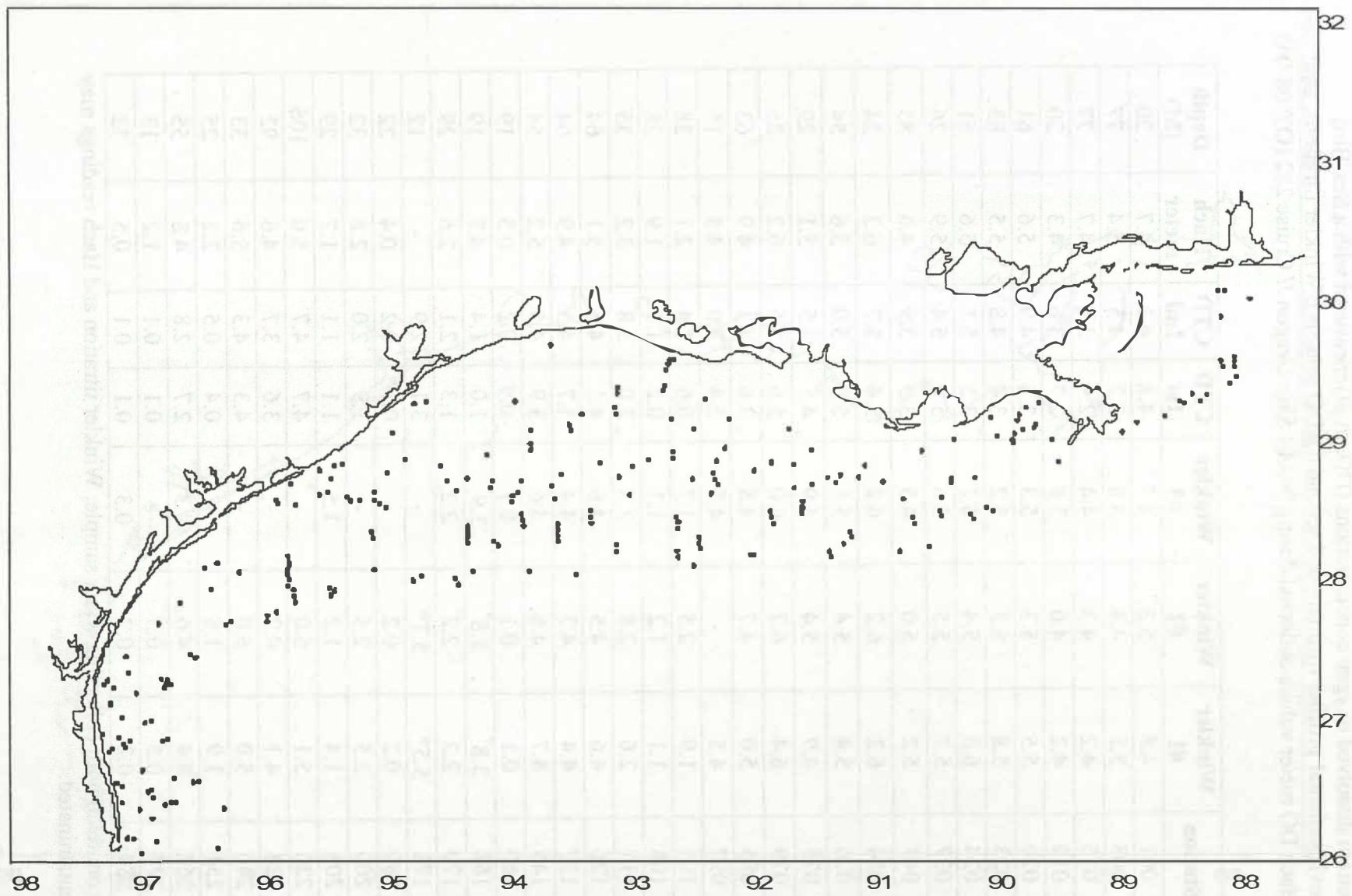
\* Data corrupted on two stations after the CTD cast was completed, thus the data is not included in the database.

\*\* Includes two stations where nets were torn.

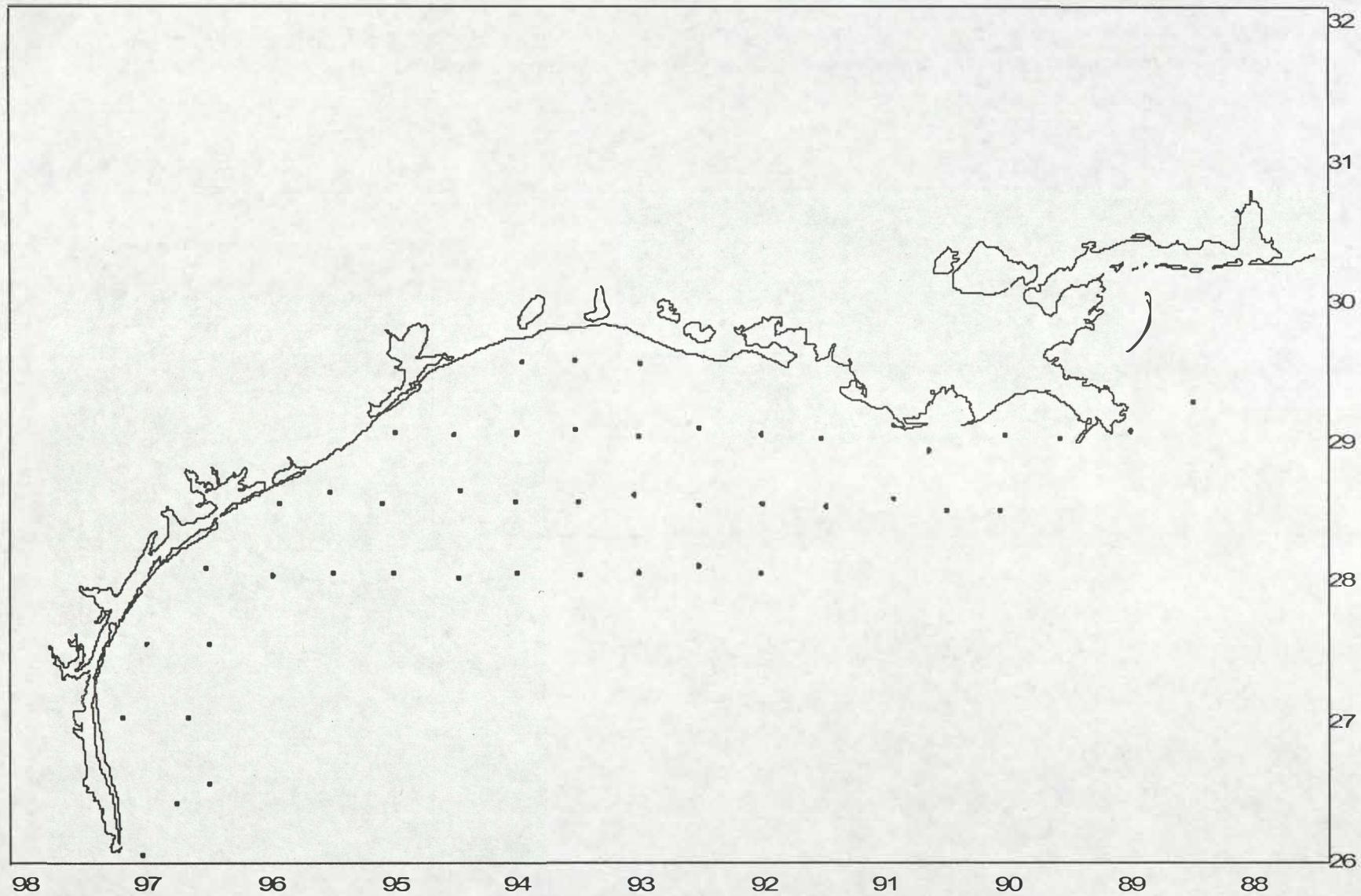
Table 5. Bottom dissolved oxygen concentrations (DO, mg/l) measured with a Sea-Bird model 9+ environmental profiler (primary and secondary DO sensors), Winkler titrations, and hand held Hach DO meter values collected during *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04)

| Date    | Station | Winkler #1 | Winkler #2 | Winkler #3 | CTD 1st | CTD 2nd | Hach meter | Depth (M) |
|---------|---------|------------|------------|------------|---------|---------|------------|-----------|
| 10 June | 001     | 4.8        | 5.3        | 4.7        | 4.8     | 4.1     | 4.7        | 20        |
| 11 June | 008     | 3.5        | 4.4        | 3.8        | 3.2     | 4.5     | 5.4        | 77        |
| 13 June | 015     | 4.2        | 4.3        | 4.4        | 2.9     | 3.8     | 4.7        | 77        |
| 14 June | 019     | 4.2        | 4.0        | 3.8        | 2.7     | 3.6     | 4.3        | 20        |
| 16 June | 020     | 5.5        | 5.3        | 5.3        | 3.5     | 4.9     | 5.6        | 61        |
| 16 June | 023     | 5.8        | 5.2        | 5.2        | 3.4     | 4.8     | 5.5        | 83        |
| 16 June | 024     | 6.6        | 5.4        | 5.2        | 3.5     | 5.1     | 5.6        | 61        |
| 17 June | 037     | 5.7        | 5.5        | 5.6        | 5.0     | 5.4     | 5.9        | 26        |
| 18 June | 047     | 5.2        | 5.0        | 4.5        | 3.3     | 3.9     | 4.6        | 85        |
| 19 June | 054     | 6.2        | 6.2        | 6.2        | 5.4     | 5.7     | 6.3        | 24        |
| 20 June | 070     | 5.4        | 5.4        | 5.5        | 5.0     | 5.0     | 5.6        | 54        |
| 21 June | 075     | 4.9        | 5.4        | 4.9        | 4.5     | 4.5     | 5.1        | 29        |
| 21 June | 079     | 6.4        | 6.2        | 6.0        | 5.6     | 5.6     | 6.2        | 25        |
| 22 June | 085     | 5.0        | 4.7        | 4.5        | 3.6     | 4.3     | 4.9        | 63        |
| 23 June | 097     | 4.5        | -          | 4.5        | 2.4     | 3.0     | 4.5        | 15        |
| 23 June | 101     | 1.9        | 2.5        | 1.7        | 0.6     | 1.4     | 2.1        | 28        |
| 26 June | 108     | 1.1        | 1.2        | 1.1        | 0.2     | 1.1     | 1.9        | 28        |
| 27 June | 117     | 2.6        | 2.8        | 2.8        | 2.0     | 2.8     | 3.2        | 35        |
| 28 June | 126     | 4.6        | 4.5        | 4.6        | 4.1     | 4.5     | 5.1        | 64        |
| 29 June | 137     | 4.4        | 4.3        | 4.4        | 3.7     | 4.3     | 4.9        | 64        |
| 30 June | 145     | 4.7        | 4.6        | 4.6        | 3.9     | 4.5     | 5.2        | 54        |
| 01 July | 160     | 0.1        | 0.1        | 0.1        | -0.9    | 0.2     | 0.5        | 19        |
| 02 July | 168     | 3.8*       | 3.8*       | 3.9*       | 1.0     | 1.4     | 4.7        | 19        |
| 02 July | 170     | 2.2        | 2.2        | 2.2        | 1.3     | 2.1     | 2.6        | 29        |
| 06 July | 178     | 5.5*       | 5.7*       | -          | 3.1     | 2.9     | -          | 12        |
| 07 July | 189     | 0.2        | 0.2        | -          | 0.1     | 0.2     | 0.4        | 22        |
| 08 July | 200     | 2.5        | 2.5        | -          | 1.9     | 2.0     | 2.8        | 32        |
| 09 July | 208     | 1.4        | 1.2        | 1.5        | 1.1     | 1.1     | 1.7        | 29        |
| 10 July | 220     | 5.1        | 5.0        | -          | 4.7     | 4.7     | 5.6        | 106       |
| 11 July | 228     | 4.1        | 4.2        | -          | 3.6     | 3.7     | 4.6        | 92        |
| 12 July | 240     | 5.0        | 5.0        | -          | 4.3     | 4.3     | 5.6        | 33        |
| 13 July | 251     | 1.9        | 1.8        | -          | 0.4     | 0.5     | 2.2        | 25        |
| 14 July | 262     | 4.4        | 4.6        | 4.3        | 2.7     | 2.8     | 4.8        | 55        |
| 15 July | 273     | 0.3        | 0.5        | -          | 0.1     | 0.1     | 1.2        | 13        |
| 16 July | 284     | 0.2        | 0.2        | 0.3        | 0.1     | 0.1     | 0.5        | 32        |

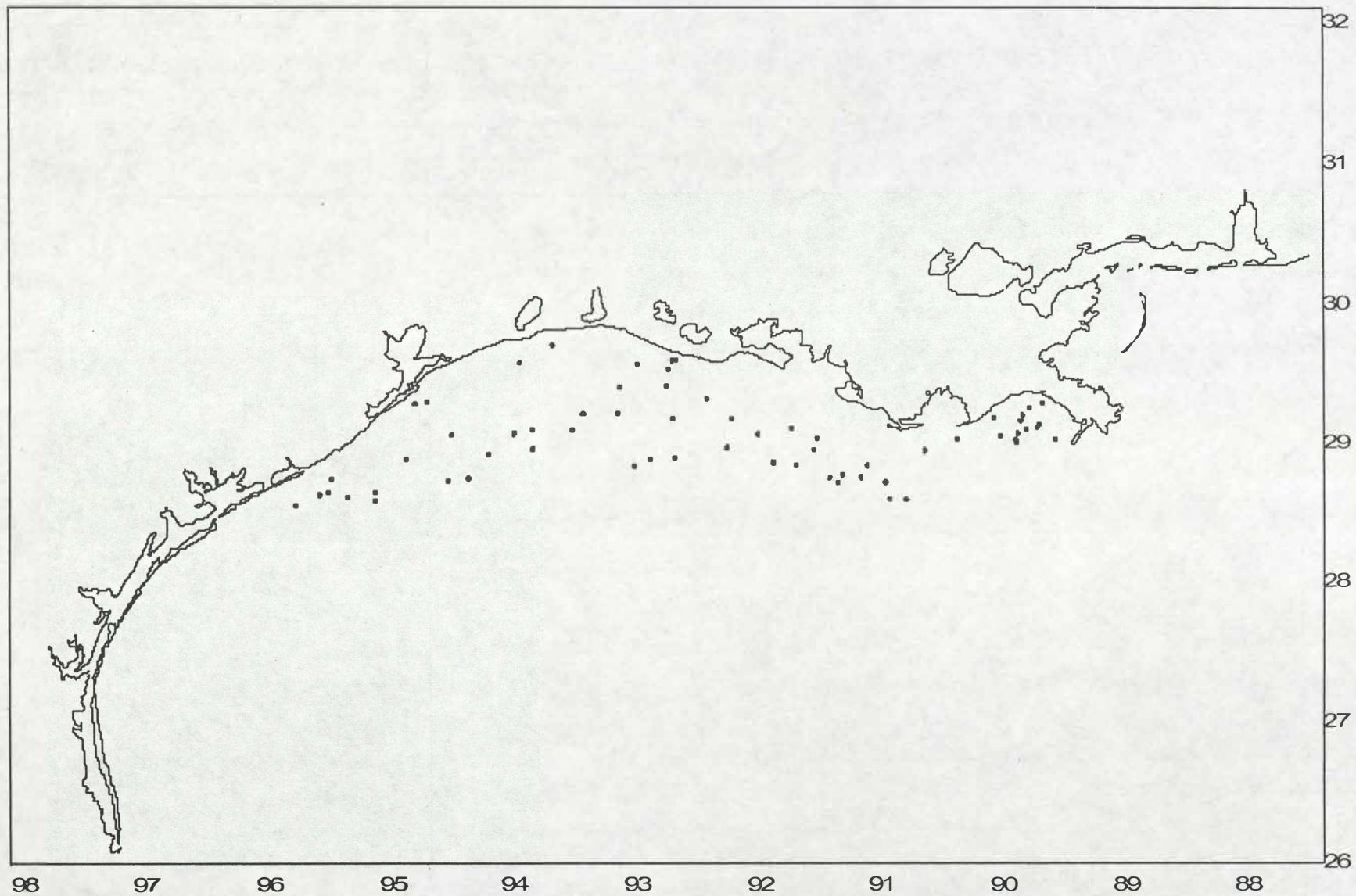
\*Problem encountered with collecting water sample, Winkler titration and Hach readings may have been contaminated.



**Figure 1.** Shrimp trawl stations accomplished during *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04).



**Figure 2.** Ichthyoplankton sampling stations completed during *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04).



**Figure 3.** Locations where hypoxic conditions (bottom dissolved oxygen measurement  $\leq 2.0$  milligrams per liter) were encountered during *NOAA Ship Oregon II* Cruise 282 (OT-08-04).