

Gulf of Mexico Fisheries

Keynote Presenter: Harriet M. Perry
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Welcome to the lecture on Gulf of Mexico Fisheries. The materials with this lecture include the following: 1) powerpoint presentation, 2) classroom activity, 3) homework assignment, 4) additional reading material, and 5) glossary of selected terms used in fishery science.

Additional information on issues covered in this powerpoint presentation can be found at the Pew Oceans Commission website: <http://www.pewoceans.org/oceanfacts/> (You will need to review the Pew Commission documents and the supplied articles to complete the homework assignment).

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Harriet Perry is the Director of the Center for Fisheries Research and Development at The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL). She began her career at the GCRL in 1968 working on a study of the distribution and abundance of zooplankton in coastal waters of Mississippi. Her research interests center on studies of brachyuran crabs with emphasis on the blue crab, *Callinectes sapidus*. She and her colleagues at Louisiana State University were instrumental in establishing design criteria and operational parameters for soft crab shedding systems in the Gulf of Mexico. She completed the first life history study of blue crabs in Mississippi waters and has been a major contributor to regional management plans for this species. Recent blue crab research has focused on the role of climate and ocean circulation processes in recruitment of blue crab larvae to estuaries in the Mississippi Bight. Her research on deepsea geryonid crabs defined limits of geographic and bathymetric distribution for the species *Chaceon quinquedens* and *C. fenneri* in the eastern and central Gulf of Mexico and provided estimates of harvest potential for *C. quinquedens*. With GCRL researcher, Dr. Ken Stuck, she established life history characteristics for a newly described species of stone crab in the western Gulf. Harriet serves on numerous regional and state committees including the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. She is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Regional Panel on aquatic invasive species and is chairman of the research workgroup. In 2003, she received the University's Excellence in Professional

Service Award for her activities in support of marine fisheries.