



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

Technical Announcement

September 2003

***Deepwater Program: Bluewater Fishing and OCS Activity: Interactions  
Between the Fishing and Petroleum Industries in Deepwaters of the Gulf of  
Mexico, Final Report***

[OCS Study MMS 2002-078](#)

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Deepwater Program: Bluewater Fishing and OCS Activity: Interactions Between the Fishing and Petroleum Industries in Deepwaters of the Gulf of Mexico, Final Report*.

This report presents results of a study that describe the activities of two industries simultaneously occurring in deepwater areas of the Gulf of Mexico: bluewater fishing and energy development. Objectives included the description of these activities and how they interact in the Gulf. Examples of relevant worldwide interactions are also presented. Commercial deepwater fishing activities that are addressed include trapping for golden crab, trawling for royal red shrimp, bottom-longlining for groupers and tilefishes, and surface-longlining for sharks and tunas. The primary deepwater commercial fishery in the Gulf of Mexico is pelagic-longlining for tunas. All phases of the deepwater offshore energy industry, including geophysical surveys, exploratory drilling, development/production, and decommissioning of facilities, could conflict with current deepwater fishing practices. Information about how the majority of interactions occur is discussed, and measures to help avert or lessen the severity of future conflicts between the fishing and energy industry are presented.

This report is available only in compact disc format. The discs are available from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$15.00 by referencing OCS Study MMS 2002-078. You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region  
Public Information Office (MS 5034)  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394  
Telephone requests may be placed at  
(504) 736-2519 or 1-800-200-GULF  
or FAX: (504) 736-2620

U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22161  
(703) 487-4650 or FAX: (703) 321-8547  
Rush Orders: 1-800-336-4700

MMS is the Federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas, and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf in Federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for, and disburses mineral revenues from Federal and American Indian leases. These revenues totaled over \$6 billion in 2002 and nearly \$127 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Annually, nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the acquisition and development of state and Federal park and recreation lands.

**-MMS-GOM-**

MMS's Website Address: <http://www.mms.gov>

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