

Technical Announcement

MMS

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

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***Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) Use of the Ship/Trinity/Tiger Shoal Complex
as a Nationally Important Spawning/Hatching/Foraging Ground:
Discovery, Elevation, and Sand Mining Recommendations Based on
Blue Crab, Shrimp, and Spotted Seatrout Finding***

OCS Study MMS 2009-043

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) Use of the Ship/Trinity/Tiger Shoal Complex as a Nationally Important Spawning/Hatching/Foraging Ground: Discovery, Elevation, and Sand Mining Recommendations Based on Blue Crab, Shrimp, and Spotted Seatrout Finding*.

In this project we developed and tested a series statistical/analytical approaches to (1) compare the condition factor, fecundity, and abundance of reproductively active female blue crabs found on the Ship/Trinity/Tiger Shoal Complex (STTSC) with those from other nationally recognized blue-crab spawning grounds and (2) monitor potential sand-mining impacts on STTSC crabs.

This report is available only in compact disc format from the Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$15.00, by referencing OCS Study MMS 2009-043. The report may be downloaded from the MMS website through the [Environmental Studies Program Information System \(ESPIS\)](#). 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.

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Telephone requests may be placed at
(504) 736-2519, 1-800-200-GULF, or
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Gulf of Mexico Website: www.gomr.mms.gov