The damages to the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) natural resources due to the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill (GOMOS) will take some time to be fully cleaned up, and the restoration period to get the resources back to their original pre-GOMOS status is still indefinite. In the meantime, the production of goods and services by economic sectors located in the GOM states will be adversely affected, leading to possible reduction in the levels of economic activity, employment and personal income, and tax revenues.

In order to understand the magnitude of the potential economic impacts of the GOMOS to commercial fishing in the coastal counties, multi-year baseline economic information about the sector is compiled from various secondary sources.

Commercial finfish fishing corresponds to economic sector 114111 in the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Finfish fishing comprises establishments primarily engaged in the commercial catching or taking of finfish (e.g., bluefish, salmon, trout, tuna) from their natural habitat.

The annual speckled trout commercial landings and landing values which are shown in the following figures were compiled from NOAA Fisheries Service.

The scientific name of speckled trout or sea trout is *Cynoscion nebulosus*. Texas Parks and Wildlife report that speckled trout are most common in the shallow bays during spring and summer. As water temperatures decline during fall, fish move into deeper bay waters and the Gulf of Mexico.

The suppliers of seafood products registered in Mississippi MarketMaker can be found by clicking this link - [http://webapps.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/marketmaker/#MS/food/productsearch/22695;2772/28](http://webapps.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/marketmaker/#MS/food/productsearch/22695;2772/28). By expanding the search area into other Gulf states and other sectors, more suppliers will be listed.
Fig. 1

Annual Commercial Speckled Trout Landings and Landing Values in the Gulf of Mexico States

Fig. 2

Average Ex-vessel Prices of Commercial Speckled Trout in the Gulf of Mexico States

Dollars


Dollars per pound

1.83 1.98 1.90 1.94 1.97 1.95 2.07 1.98 1.99 2.21 2.23 2.43 2.44