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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISH AND SHELLFISH LANDINGS AT GULF PORTS DURING MARCH

During March, 3,203 barrels of shrimp were landed at the principal production points in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, according to figures supplied to the New Orleans Fishery Market News office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, and released today in their monthly summary report.

Of this total, 230 barrels were reported for canning, while the remainder--2,973 barrels--was either frozen or used fresh.

Total shrimp production for the first three months of 1941 amounts to 42,168 barrels.

A total of 182,537 barrels of oysters were harvested during March. When compared with the February figure of 152,055 barrels this represents an increase of 30,482 barrels, or 20 percent. Of the March total, 150,854 barrels were utilized for canning and the remainder of 31,683 barrels was sold fresh. For the first three months of 1941, production of oysters now totals 506,119 barrels.

Oysters are listed in State barrels of the respective States, capacities of which are: Alabama and Mississippi, 8,478.6 cubic inches; Louisiana, 6,445.4 cubic

inches; and Texas, 8,100.0 cubic inches. Shrimp, according to the summary, are listed with heads on in 210-lb. barrels, the equivalent of 125 pounds with heads off.

Additional fishery products landed include hard crabs (729,600 pounds); crab meat (69,330 pounds); other shellfish (including crayfish, frogs, sea turtles, squid, and turtles) 25,170 pounds.

Salt-water fish landings, mainly red snapper, mullet, grouper, and red drum, amounted to 306,300 pounds--a decrease of 133,830 pounds when compared with the landings for February.

Fresh-water fish landings, mainly catfish and buffalofish, totaled 109,610 pounds--an increase of 39,450 pounds over the February figure.