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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SCIENTISTS REPORT ON GULF OF MEXICO

The Gulf of Mexico as seen through the eyes of scientists is described in a 604-page bulletin titled Gulf of Mexico--Its Origin, Waters, and Marine Life, released today by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

This exhaustive treatise was prepared primarily as a guide for scientific research projects, a number of which are now being conducted in the Gulf by Federal, State, and private organizations.

Written by 55 American scientists concerned with the physical and biological aspects of the Gulf, and coordinated by fishery research biologist Dr. Paul S. Galtsoff of the Fish and Wildlife Service, the publication is the result of three years' cooperative effort. The original idea came from Dr. Lionel A. Walford, chief of the Service's fishery biology branch, and Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, head curator of the National Museum's zoology department. The idea was approved by delegates to a meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute in Miami in 1949 and preliminary work on the publication was begun shortly thereafter.

The bulletin discusses early explorations in the Gulf and summarizes all available information on its shorelines, geology, meteorology, physics, chemistry, and communities of plants and animals ranging from the bacteria through the marine mammals.

Copies of Gulf of Mexico--Its Origin, Waters, and Marine Life, designated as Fishery Bulletin 89, may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. The price is \$3.25 per copy.

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