

logbook data. The two series of measurements will be compared to determine if they indicate the same conclusions.

Compilation and analyses of these basic data have been partially completed for the south Atlantic and Chesapeake Bay areas. Progress on this phase of the program has been slow because of the great bulk of material; however, we hope to complete the analysis of the historical data during the coming fiscal year.

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## **Studies on the Life History of the Spotted Sea Trout, *Cynoscion nebulosus* (C. & V.)**

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### ABSTRACT

Apparent declines in inshore fish population have been reported for a number of years. These declines, particularly since 1945, in Florida have been attributed to such factors as the increasing number of tourists, new residents, land drainage, pollution, etc. The spotted sea trout is fairly well represented along the coastline from Virginia to Mexico. This study limits itself to the area between Stuart and Titusville on the Florida east coast. Studies of spawning, age, growth, food habits and abundance are being carried out.

Information is being obtained to establish the relative percentage of the total catch provided by each segment of the fishery—sport hook and line, commercial hook and line and commercial gill netters.

Studies as to seasonal trends in availability and seasonal migrations are also being conducted.

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## **Field and Laboratory Observations on the Growth of some Bermuda Reef Fisheries\***

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MOST TROPICAL AND SUB-TROPICAL FISHERIES have as yet not been under sufficient scrutiny to allow an estimate of the rates of fish production, or even, for that matter, of the numbers of fish present at any one time. Bermuda waters can, with some license, be called sub-tropical. Here the fishery pursued relies primarily on reef-bound species rather than on pelagic fish (Mowbray, 1947). The fishing area is relatively small and clearly defined and lends itself well to field observations. Fishery research in Bermuda might, therefore,

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