


**THESES**


**VIDEOS:**

Warmwater finfish: Harvesting, handling and transportation. Southern Regional Aquaculture Center Video, 1992, 30 minutes.

**C. PREPARATION OF EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS ON AVIAN PREDATOR CONTROL IN AQUACULTURE FACILITIES**

Termination Report
For the Period
April 1, 1990 to December 31, 1992

**FUNDING LEVEL:**

$15,000 for duration

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Texas Agricultural Extension Service (Lead Institution) - J. T. Davis

Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service - M. W. Brunson

Georgia Cooperative Extension Service - G. W. Lewis

Alabama APHIS/ADC/USDA - Frank Boyd

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Mississippi S&T Field Station APHIS/ADC/USDA - Alvin Stickley, Jr.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR:

Milo Shult
Vice President for Agriculture
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PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

1. Produce a 20-minute educational video that describes the major avian predators, discusses their economic importance, effective control measures and their cost/benefit ratio.

2. Develop fact sheets to supplement the video which describe bird identification procedures, probable damage, seasonality of occurrence, recommended control measures and sources of technical assistance.

3. Ensure the widest possible distribution of these materials to producers, fish and game organizations and ornithological societies.

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS:

Wide distribution of these educational materials has served to awaken organizations dedicated to the protection of avian predators to the dilemma of the fish and shellfish producer. For many of these people, the documentation of depredations has served to change their attitude about the need to alleviate the problem. The compilation of the possible methods for control has helped producers make intelligent choices about what methods to use. Finally, many producers have been awakened to the fact that though some birds, such as the cattle egret, are a nuisance, they do very little actual crop damage.

PROGRESS:

Fact sheets and a video were prepared as contemplated and distributed throughout the U.S. Many organizations requested additional copies for use in their educational efforts. In addition, the information presented increased federal and state research agencies' endeavors to find better protection methods, and furnished a basis to give enforcement personnel a standard to judge the level of effort a producer was providing. In at least a few instances, the cost of avian depredations are now an integral part of budgets and cost analyses being prepared by aquaculture producers and financial institutions.

PUBLICATIONS:

SRAC #400. Avian Predators on Southern Aquaculture. Alvin Stickley.


VIDEOS:

Avian Depredation of Southern Aquaculture

IMPACTS:

From the producers' standpoint, this project did not directly reduce expenditures for avian predator control, however, it did provide information that helped many producers make informed decisions about expected costs of the various legal deterrent measures available. In addition, it provided information about products that were of doubtful benefit.

One of the most easily seen benefits of this project was the bringing together of scientists from Animal Damage Control, USDA, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service into a joint project of benefit to both agencies. As a result of the initial funding provided by SRAC, these two agencies provided additional funding to assist with publication and dissemination of the information. This also legitimized the publications from the standpoint of State Fish and Game Agencies and private wildlife organizations.