

RACE/REFM Seminar

February 10, 2015, 10–11 a.m.

NMML Conference Room

Bldg 4, Rm 2039



NOAA
FISHERIES

David Somerton

Untrawlable Habitat Strategic Initiative: the 2014 Gulf of Mexico Experiment

The Untrawlable Habitat Strategic Initiative is a new addition to the Advanced Sampling Technologies program run by the NMFS Office Science and Technology with a focus on developing remote sampling methods appropriate for sampling fish in rock and reef habitats. The approach for doing this is to conduct collaborative field experiments involving federal, state and academic partners. The first experiment was conducted in the eastern Gulf of Mexico on a coral-sponge reef supporting snapper and grouper fisheries. The experiment examined methods for measuring fish reactions to various moving camera systems (ROV, AUV, towed body) currently being considered for fishery independent surveys. The methods for detecting and measuring fish behavior in response to the camera systems and the types of behavior detected will be discussed.

