

**THE CENTER FOR ORAL HISTORY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE  
of  
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**

**Recording Log**

**Interviewee:** Joseph Gregory Ladnier, resident of Alabama, owner of Sea Pearl Seafood Processing Plant, Bayou La Batre, Alabama

**Interviewer:** Louis Kyriakoudes

**Date of recording:** January 25, 2012.

**Recording format/notes:** Recorded digitally in one file.

**Recording length:** Fifty-eight minutes.

**Location:** Mr. Ladnier's seafood processing plant, Sea Pearl.

**Subjects/Topics:** Fishing, family, Sea Pearl Seafood Processing Plant, oysters, shrimp, wild-caught shrimp, imported shrimp, BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster, income losses, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Fredrick, costs of business, Vessels of Opportunity, lost-wages claims to BP, challenges and opportunities in seafood business, seafood-processing machinery, regulations, Asian economy, crabs, finfish, catfish, crawfish, label-of-origins on seafood products, American Shrimp Processors, branding wild-caught shrimp as premium product

<b>Time/ Counter</b>	<b>Topic</b>
0:00:47.0	Personal history
0:02:03.1	Family
0:04:58.7	Learning to fish as a child
0:05:40.4	Sea Pearl oyster business
0:06:41.0	Marketing oysters, circa 1960s, military contracts
0:07:20.3	Shrimp at the Sea Pearl
0:09:01.9	Where shrimp are caught
0:09:47.7	Distribution of wild-caught, East-Coast shrimp, supplier/buyer networks
0:11:53.5	Changes in the seafood industry during his career
0:14:09.9	Health of shrimp fishery

0:14:16.0	BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster
0:14:44.2	Kinds of shrimp, populations driven by climate
0:16:33.8	Hurricane Katrina
0:19:09.3	Dominick's Seafood workers in Sea Pearl plant
0:20:16.1	Employees of Sea Pearl
0:24:55.1	Costs of seafood businesses
0:25:45.6	BP Deepwater Horizon oil disaster, Sea Pearl's 80% production loss
0:29:09.7	BP's Vessels of Opportunity
0:29:28.0	Sea Pearl's employees' meeting with BP, BP remunerations
0:31:08.4	Owning both seafood processing plants and fishing boats problematic
0:31:47.6	Challenges and opportunities in seafood business
0:34:25.1	Promotion of wild-caught shrimp as premium product, imported shrimp
0:37:35.3	"Dumping" of imported seafood
0:37:49.0	Fun and vacations
0:39:32.9	Typical day at Sea Pearl Seafood Processing Plant
0:40:43.1	Seafood-processing machinery
0:42:47.0	Regulations
0:44:47.1	Staggering amount of shrimp processed yearly, jobs that depend on it
0:45:53.2	Cycles of business, Asian economy
00:47:04.4	Oysters, crabs, fish, catfish, crawfish
0:48:40.0	Label of product's origin, restaurant exemption
0:52:36.7	American Shrimp Processors

0:55:34.9	700% sales increase
0:57:32.4	Three important pieces of information for consumers