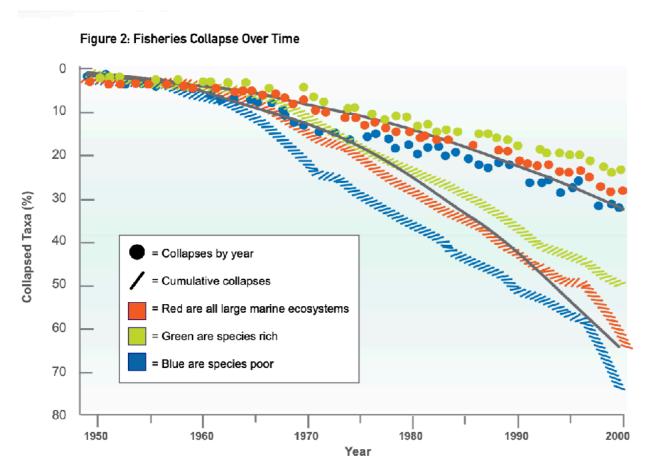
# LOSING OYSTERS AND LOVING SHRIMP

a case study in the culinary response to an ecological catastrophe

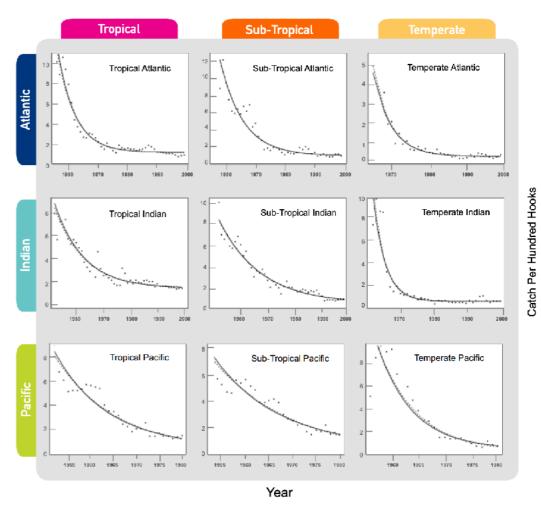


# FISHERY DECLINE & COLLAPSE

"According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), more than 75 percent of the world commercial fish populations are depleted, recovering, fully exploited, or overexploited." — State of the World's Fisheries, Oceana (2007)

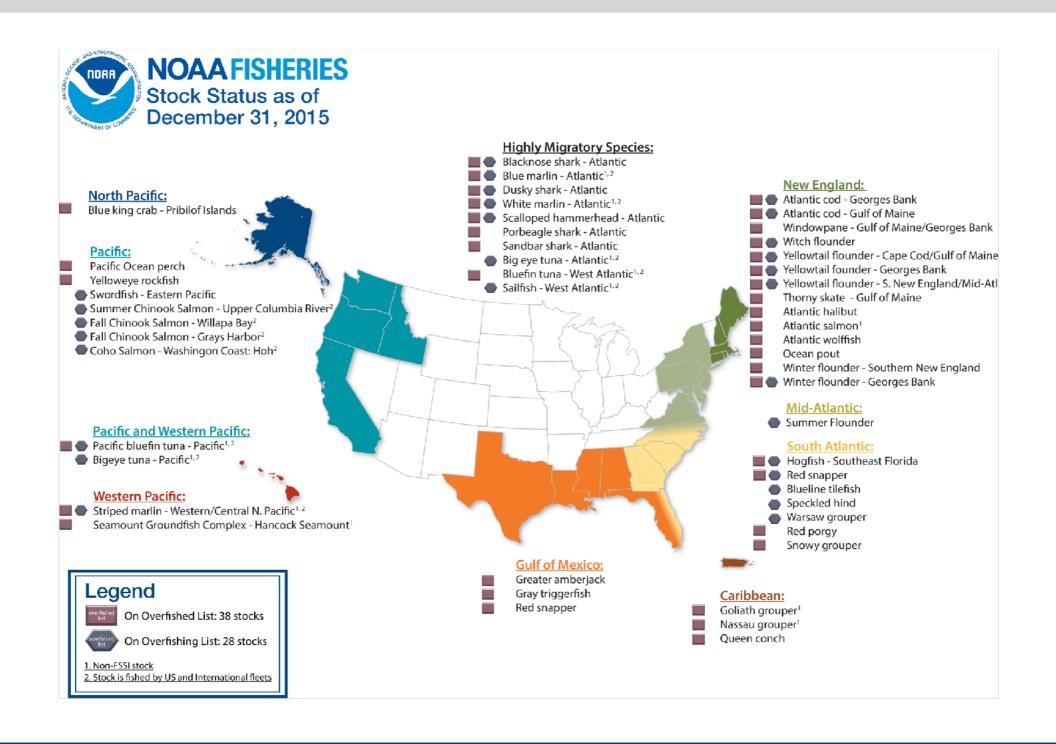


Source: Boris Worm, et al, Science, 2006 "Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on Ocean Ecosystem Services"



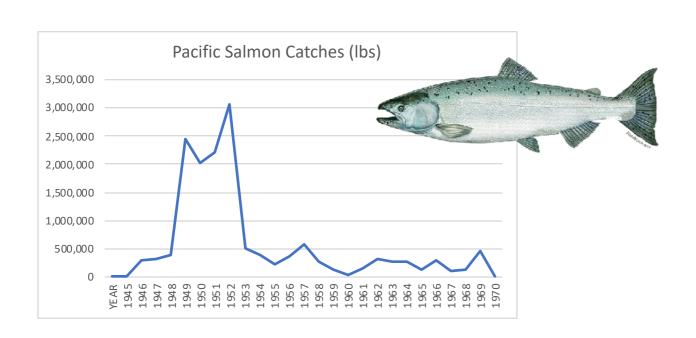
Source: Myers, R.A., and B. Worm, Nature. 2003

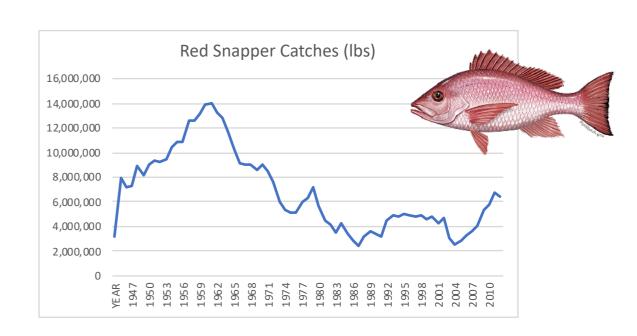
### FISHERY DECLINE & COLLAPSE

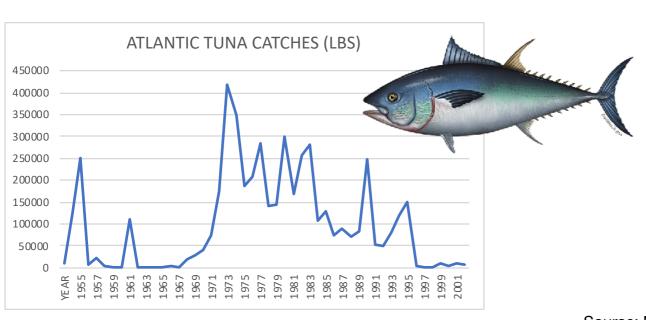


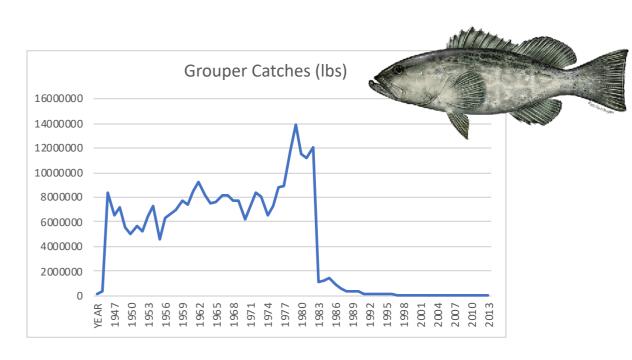


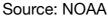
# FISHERY DECLINE & COLLAPSE











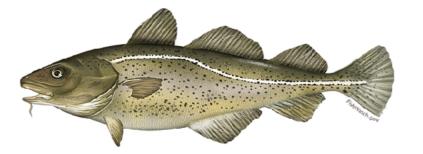


# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

HOW CAN WE SEE ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN THE FOOD SYSTEM?

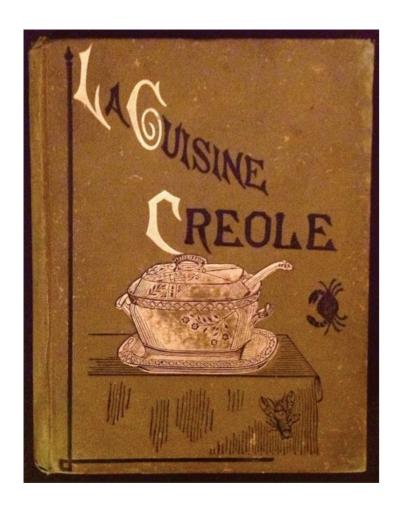
# HOW ARE EATING HABITS AND AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IMPACTED BY THE LOSS OF HEALTHY FISHERIES?

WHO DO FISH STOCK COLLAPSES MATTER TO AND WHY?





# **CREOLE COOKERY**



Lafcadio Hearn, 1885



The French Market circa 1900-1910, Times-Picayune



### THE PO-BOY





Appetizers Poboys Specialty Burgers Salads Sides Kids Menu Drinks

All Poboys are dressed with Mayo, Lettuce, Tomato & Pickles - Served on local fresh baked Leidenheimer French Bread

#### POBOYS

Roast Beef	\$14.99	Hot Sausage	\$10.99	1/2 Oyster & 1/2 Shrimp	\$17.99
Fresh, slowly cooked roast beef that we thinly slice & soak in our homemade au jus gravy. Roest Beef - Regular or Bun 1199		Seasoned patties cooked to Juley perfection. Assurance Sup 849	, - 00	Surf n Turf Golden Fried Shrimp with Roast Reef Debris	\$15.99
BBQ Beef	\$15.99	Smoked Pork Sausage Regular or Buo Agg	\$11.49	Regular 13.49	
Our famous Roast Beef covered & smothered in our Bear's Signature BBO Sauce. BBO Beef Reguler or Bun 12.99	ı	Alligator & Pork Sausage Locally produced alligator sausage links Regular of But 948	\$12.49	Chicken Tender Hagman or Aun 7.95 Grilled Chicken	\$9.99 <b>\$11.</b> 49
The Ferdie	\$13.99	Regular or bun 9.43		Maui marinated sliced grilled chicken.	
Our famous Roast Beef topped with grilled Ham & Swiss Cheese. The Ferdi - Regular or Bun 11.49		Shrimp & Pork Sausage Locally produced shrimp sausage links Regular or Bun 9.45	\$12.49	Regular or Bun 9 49 Tuna Fish Salad	\$9.49
Grilled Ham Fresh, thinly sliced ham, grilled to perfection.	\$11.49	Grilled Shrimp Regular or Shrimp 11.99	\$14.49	Made with mayo, cheddar cheese, red onion, jalapeno, creole mustard.  Raguiar or Bun 7.49	
Griffed Ham - Regular or Bun g 49  Bear Burger	\$11.99	Fried Shrimp Regular or Buo 31.49	\$14.49	Fried Fish Fish lightly dusted & fried to golden brown.	\$12.49
Bear Burger - Regular or Bun 9.49		Fried Oyster Regular 14 99	\$18.99	Regular or Bun 9.99	
				French Fry Regular or Bun 7,99	\$9.99



Open 10am - 6:30pm Monday thru Friday and 10:30am-7pm on Saturday

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR ALMOST 100 YEARS!

VOTED ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO GET A PO-BOY FOR OVER 10+ YEARS!



Sandwiches	small	large
MEATBALL	8.50	11.50
Hot Smoked Sausage	8.50	10.50
Pork Sausage	8.50	10.50
Ham	8.50	10.50
Ham + Cheese	9.50	11.50
Hamburger	8.50	10.50
Cheeseburger	9.50	11.50
Wiener	5.50	7.50
REST IN PEACE PEPPER WEINER		
Roast Beef	10.5 0	12.50
Roast Beef + Swiss	11.50	13.50
FRESH TURKEY BREAST	8.50	11.50
American Cheese	5.50	7.50
Swiss Cheese	5. 50	7.50
ROAST BEEF & HAM	9.50	12.50
TURKEY & HAM	9.00	12.00
Shrimp	12.00	15.00
FRESH CATFISH	11.50	14.50
Oyster	15.00	18.00
HALF & HALF SEAFOOD LARGE ONLY		17.00
BBQ BEEF	8.50	10.50
Surf & Turf (Roast Beef w/Shrimp)	13.00	17.00

Additional Charges: Cheese \$.75 (Small) 1.00 (Large); Tartar Sauce, Horseradish & Parmesan Cheese 2.5



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### LA MEDIATRICE

26

GULF CITY COOK-BOOK.

#### OYSTERS.

#### FRIED OYSTERS .- No. 1.

Select large oysters, drain and spread on a cloth to absorb all moisture. Beat well two or three eggs, and season them with pepper and salt. Roll some crackers, and dip the oysters in the egg and then in the crumbs, then again in the egg and cracker crumbs. Drop into boiling lard, sufficient to cover them, and cook till of a light brown.

#### FRIED OYSTERS .- No. 2.

Drain large oysters and lay on a napkin. Beat well two eggs, and season with pepper and salt. Dip one oyster at a time first in the egg and then in corn-meal. Drop in boiling lard and fry a light brown.

#### OYSTER LOAVES.

Cut off carefully the end of a loaf of baker's bread, reserving the end; scoop out the crumb inside the loaf, leaving the crust entire. Fill the loaf with hot oysters, fried as in No. 1, leaving room for slices of pickle. Carefully replace the end cut off. If the oysters are hot, and the loaf well covered, they can be carried quite a distance, or eaten some time atter being prepared, without getting cold. This is nice for a hasty lunch or a late supper. One dozen oysters will fill an ordinary sized loaf,

#### FRENCH STEWED OYSTERS.

Drain fifty large oysters, and strain the liquor into a stew-

Gulf City Cookbook, 1878

#### OYSTER LOAF (The Peace Maker)

Nothing in New Orleans is better known than the "Peace Maker" and it is a foolish husband who does not rely on it in case of need. In the old days when a man told his wife he was detained on business, the peace maker was a good thing; and even now, when Santa Clause and these excuses have been laid on the shelf, at one o'clock in the morning "La Mediatrice" remains a good thing.

The top crust of a loaf of French bread is cut off and the inside taken out, leaving a long, boat-like affair. This is buttered and slipped into the oven to toast. It is then filled with about two dozen fried oysters, and the top which has been buttered and toasted, replaced.

It keeps hot a long time and is fine.

New Orleans Recipes, 1932





#### OYSTER GUMBO.

Cut up a chicken, sprinkle with flour, and fry in the vessel in which the gumbo is made. When the chicken is nearly done, chop an onion and fry with it. Pour on this three quarts of boiling water and let it boil slowly till the flesh leaves the bones; then add the liquor from the oysters, salt and pepper to taste, two table-spoonfuls of tomato catchup; let this boil a short time, then add one hundred oysters, and allow them to boil only five minutes. When taken from the fire, and before pouring into the tureen, sprinkle in two table-spoonfuls of file' or sassafras powder.

Gulf City Cookbook, 1878

THE PICAYUNE CREOLE COOK BOOK

25

chicken.

#### CHAPTER VII



Gombo à la Créole

Gumbo, of all unique dishes of the New Orleans cuisine, represents a most distinctive type of the evolution of good cookery under the hands of the famous Creole cuisinières of old New Orleans. Indeed, the word "evolution" fails to apply when speaking of Gumbo, for it is an original conception, a something "sui generis" in cooking, peculiar to this ancient Creole city alone, and to the manor born. With equal ability the older Creole cooks saw the possibilities of original and delicious combinations in making Gumbo, and hence we have many varieties, till the occult science of making a good "Gombo à la Créole" seems too fine an inheritance of gastronomic lore to remain forever hidden away in the cuisines of this old Southern metropolis. The following recipes, gathered with care from the best housekeepers of New Orleans, have been handed down from generation to generation. They need only to be tried to prove their perfect claim to the admiration of the many distinguished visitors and epicures who have paid tribute to our Creole Gumbo.

#### Gumbo Filé.

First, it will be necessary to explain here, for the benefit of many, that "File" is a powder, first manufactured by tribes of Choctaw Indians in Louisiana, from the young and tender leaves of the sassafras. The Indian squaws gathered the leaves and spread them on a stone mortar to dry When thoroughly dried, they pounded them into a fine powder, passed them through a hair sieve, and then brought the File to New Orleans to sell, coming twice a week to the famous French Market, from the reservation set aside for their home on Bayou Lacombe, near Mandeville, La. The Indians used sassafras leaves and the sassafras for many medicinal purposes, and the Creoles, quick to discover and apply, found the possibilities of the powdered sassafras, or "File," and originated the well-known "Gumbo Filé."

To make a good "Gumbo Filé," use the following ingredients:

- 1 Large Tender Chicken.
  2 Large Slices or ½ Pound Lean Ham.
  2 Tablespoonfuls of Butter or 1 of Lard.
  1 Bay Leaf. 3 Sprigs of Parsley.
  2 Dozen Oysters.
  1 Large Onion. 1 Sprig of Thyme.
  2 Quarts of Oyster Water.
  2 Quarts of Boiling Water.
  Half Pod of Red Pepper, without the Seeds.
  Salt and Pepper and Cayenne to Trate.

Salt and Pepper and Cayenne to Taste.

Clean and cut up the chicken as for a fricassé. Dredge with salt and black pepper, judging according to taste. Cut the ham into dice shapes and chop the onion, parsley and thyme very fine. Put the lard or butter into the soup kettle or deep stewing pot, and when hot, put in the ham and chicken. Cover closely and fry for about five or ten minutes. Then add the onion and parsley and thyme, stirring occasionally to prevent burning. When nicely browned add the boiling water and throw in the the oyster stock, which has been thoroughly heated. Add the bay leaf chopped very fine, and the pepper pod, cut in two, and set the Gumbo back to simmer for about an hour longer. When nearly ready to serve dinner, and while the Gumbo is boiling add the fresh oysters. Let the Gumbo remain on the stove for about three minutes longer, and then remove the pot from the fire. Have ready the tureens, set in a "bainmarie," or hot water bath, for once the File is added the Gumbo must never be warmed over. Take two tablespoonfuls of the File and drop gradually into the pot of boiling hot Gumbo, stirring slowly to mix thoroughly; pour into the tureen, or tureens, if there should be a second

THE PICAYUNE CREOLE COOK BOOK

boiling water (about three quarts)

boiled rice. This quantity will allow two soft-shell crabs or two bodies of hard-shell crabs to each person.

and set on a very slow fire, letting it simmer gently for about an hour longer. Serve hot, with nicely boiled rice. The remains of turkey may be utilized in the gumbo, instead of using

In families where it is not possible to procure a fowl, use a round steak of beef or veal, instead of the chicken, and chop fine. But it must always be borne in mind that the Chicken Gumbo has the best flavor. Much, however, depends upon the seasoning, which is always high, and thus cooked the Meat Gumbo makes a most nutritious and excellent dish.

Crab Gumbo.

- Crab Gumbo.

  Gombo aux Crabes

  1 Dozen Hard-Shell or Soft-Shell Crabs.
  1 Onion.
  5 Large Fresh Tomatoes.
  2 Pints of Okra, or Fifty Counted.
  Seeds.
  1 Bay Leaf. 1 Sprig of Thyme or
  Pareley.
  1 Tablespoonful of Lard or Two Level
  Spoons of Butter.
  Salt and Cayenna to Taste.
  This is a great fast-day or "maigre"

This is a great fast-day or "maigre" dish with the Creoles. Hard or softshell crabs may be used, though more frequently the former, as they are always procurable and far cheaper than the latter article, which is considered a luxury. Crabs are always sold alive. Scald the hard-shell crabs and clean according to recipe already given, "taking off the dead man's fingers" and the spongy substances, and being careful to see that the sandbags on the under part are removed. Then cut off the claws, crack and cut the body of the crab in quarters. Season nicely with salt and pepper. Put the lard into the pot, and when hot throw in the bodies and claws. Cover closely, and, after five or ten minutes. add the skinned tomatoes, chopped onions, thyme and parsley, stirring occasionally to prevent scorching. After five minutes add the okra, sliced fine, and when well browned, without the semblance of scorching, add the bay leaf, chopped fine, and the juice of the tomatoes. Pour over about two quarts and a half of boiling water, set on a slow fire and let it simmer well for about an hour, having thrown in the pepper pod. When nearly ready to serve, season according to taste with Cayenne and added salt; pour into a tureen and serve with

Picayune Creole Cookbook, 1922 edition

#### Oyster Gumbo.

Gombo aux Huttres 4 Dozen Oysters.
2 Quarts of Oyster Liquor.
Teaspoonful of Lard or Butter.
1 Quart of Hot Water.
2 Tablespoonfuls of Flour. 1 Large White Onion.
Parsley, Thyme and Bay Leaf,
Salt and Pepper to Taste.

Put the lard into a kettle, and when hot add the flour, making a brown roux. When quite brown without burning, add the chopped onions and parsley. Fry these, and when brown, add the chopped bay leaf; pour in the hot oyster liquor and then add the hot water. When it comes to a good boil, just before serving, add the oysters which have been well drained, without pouring water over them, however. Cook for about three minutes longer and take off the stove and stir gradually two tablespoonfuls of File into the boiling hot gumbo. Have the tureen ready in a "bain-marie," or hot water bath, and pour in the gumbo and cover. Bring to the table immediately and serve with boiled rice, allowing about six or eight oysters to each person.

Shrimp Gumbo Filé. Shrimp Gumbo File.

Gombo File aux Chevrettes
50 Fine Lake Shrimp.
2 Quarts of Oyster Liquor.
1 Quart of Hot Water.
1 Large White Onion. 1 Bay Leaf.
Sprigs of Parsley. 1 Sprig of Thyme.
1 Tablespoonful of Lard or Butter.
1 Tablespoonful of Flour.
Dash of Cayenne.
Sait and Black Pepper to Taste.

Shell the shrimp, season highly and scald in boiling water. Put the lard into a kettle, and, when hot, add the flour, making a brown roux. When quite brown, without a semblance of burning, add the chopped onion andthe parsley. Fry these, and when brown, add the chopped bay leaf; pour in the hot oyster liquor and the hot water, or use the carefully strained liquor in which the shrimp have been boiled. When it comes to a good boil and about five minutes before serving. add the shrimp to the gumbo and take off the stove. Then add to the boiling hot liquid about two tablespoonfuls of the "File," thickening just as de-



### **GUMBO**

#### Main Menu Items

#### SEAFOOD OKRA GUMBO - 10.99

Okra, onion, bell peppers, celery and a tiny bit of tomato sautéed and blended with shrimp and crabs into a thick brown Creole soup - served over rice

#### CHICKEN ANDOUILLE GUMBO - 10.99

Boneless chicken, Andouille (a Cajun Sausage), okra and seasonings simmered in chicken stock - Selected by locals as the best Gumbo in the city!

#### JAMBALAYA - 13.99

Smoked sausage, shrimp, and chicken in a seasoned sauce, and cooked with rice

#### SHRIMP CREOLE - 17.99

Shrimp cooked in a spicy Creole tomato sauce - served over rice

#### RED BEANS AND RICE with SMOKED SAUSAGE - 11.99

A New Orleans tradition

#### **CREOLE COMBINATION PLATTER - 16.99**

A large platter of Shrimp Creole, Jambalaya and Red Beans and Rice (To substitute Crawfish Etouffee for Red Beans, add \$2.00)

#### VEGETARIAN DISH of the DAY, CREOLE STYLE - 10.99

Meatless beans and rice with plenty of seasoning and lots of local flavor, ask your server for today's selection

#### CRAWFISH ETOUFFEE - 19.99

Pealed crawfish tails simmered in a spicy sauce of onion, bell peppers, celery, garlic, cayenne pepper and more - served over rice

#### CRAWFISH and PASTA in TASSO CREAM - 18.99

Penne pasta, crawfish tails and tasso (a spicy Cajun bacon), tossed in a reduced cream sauce

#### FRESH FISH FLORENTINE - 20.99

Fresh catfish on a bed of seasoned spinach, topped with hollandaise sauce

The Gumbo Shop

# **Dooky Chase's Authentic Creole Dishes**

:30nm to 9:00nm

Soups/Salads			
Bowl Cup			
irimp salad\$14.95 n, red onions, grape tomatoes, e, pepper jelly vinaigrette			
\$10.95 crumble, boiled eggs, red onions,			
aigrette 5 add Fried Shrimp\$5.95			
\$9.95 5 add Fried Shrimp\$5.95			
_			

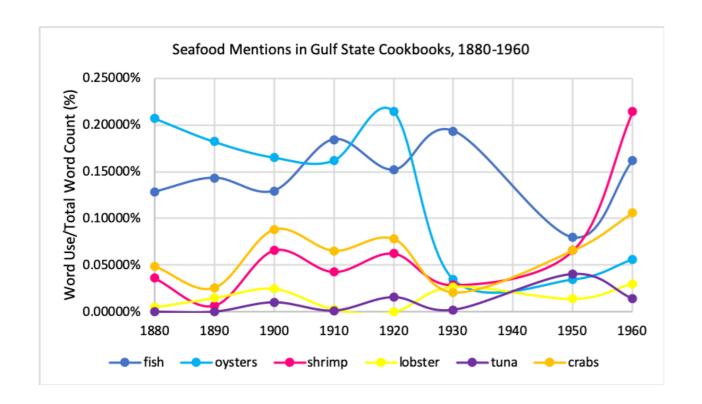
Seafood	
Shrimp Clemenceau.	18.95
shrimp sautéed in garlic butter, mixed gently with garden peas, potatoes, and mushrooms,	
Recommended Wine: Joel Gott Sauvignon Blanc	
Shrimp Creole	17.95
shrimp simmered in creole sauce and served with steamed rice	
Recommended Wine: Borgo Conventi Pinot Grigio	
Louisiana Redfish	t24 Q5
pan seared red fish, served with succotash, lump crab meat and creole sauce Recommended Wine: Mer Soleil Santa Maria Chardonnay Reserve	,24.55
Pompano	\$27.95
Court Bouillon	f23.95
Crawfish Etouffee	
Dooky's Seafood Platter.  batter fried selections of shrimp, oysters, fish, and stuffed crab  Recommended Wine by the Bottle: Piper Sonoma Brut	t25.95
Stuffed Jumbo Shrimp	17.95

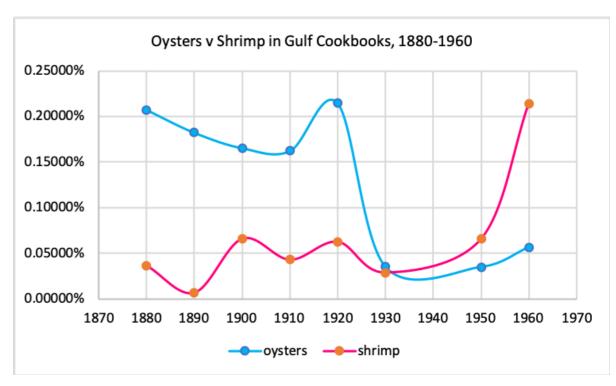
Fried Shrimp\$17.95	Fried Catfish \$18.95
Fried Oyster\$18.95	Stuffed Crabs\$18.95

Drink responsibly. 2644519



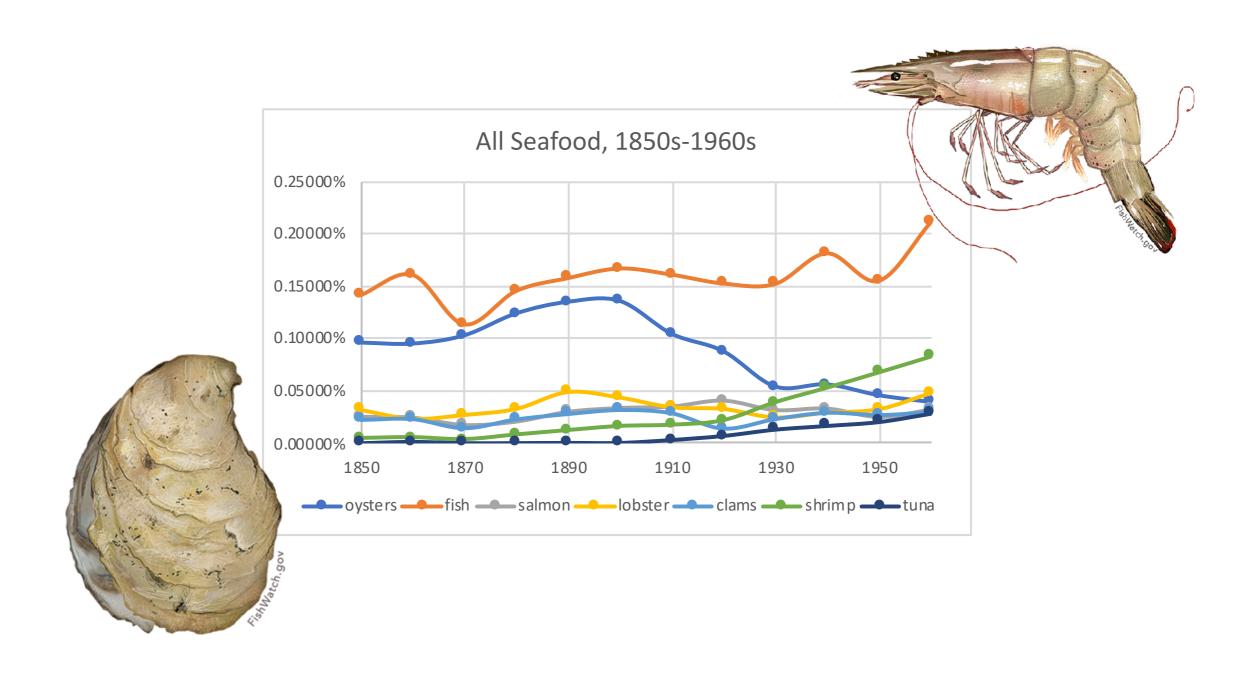
# **CREOLE COOKERY**



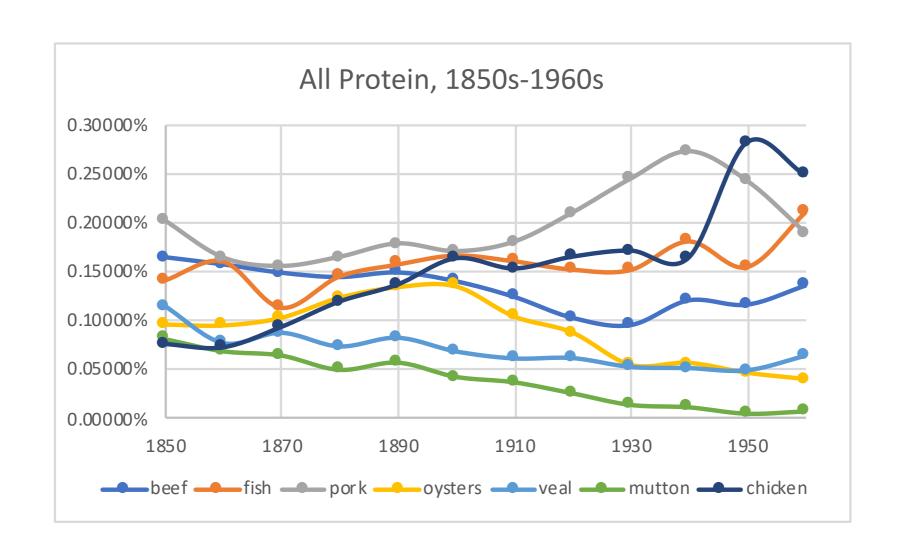




# **COOKBOOK RESULTS**



# **COOKBOOK RESULTS**





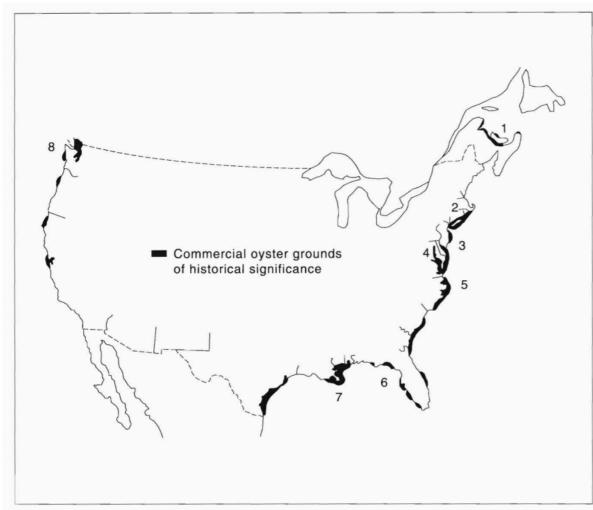


Figure 2.—General distribution of oysters in the continental United States and eastern Canada, with the locations of the eight greatest oyster estuaries: 1) Bedeque Bay, Prince Edward Island; 2) New Haven Harbor, Conn.; 3) Delaware Bay, N.J. and Del.; 4) Upper Chesapeake Bay, Md.; 5) James River, Va.; 6) Apalachicola Bay, Fla.; 7) Louisiana Estuaries; and 8) Puget Sound and Willapa Bay, Wash.

Source: Clyde L. MacKenzie, Jr., "History of Oystering in the United States and Canada, Featuring the Eight Greatest Oyster Estuaries," *Marine Fisheries Review* 58(4), 1996, p. 2.

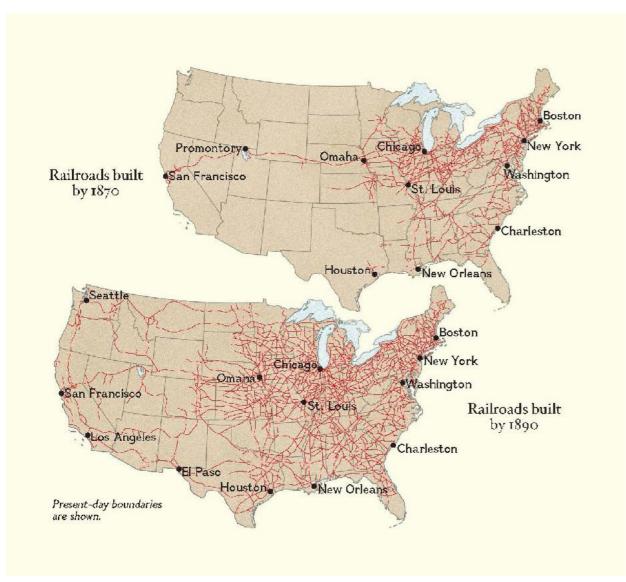


The Evening Argus; Rock Island, Illinois; January 26, 1866



Eureka Daily Sentinel, Eureka, Nevada, 7 November 1876





Courtesy of National Geographic



Freie Presse für Texas, San Antonio, Texas, 23 October 1885



Pre-19th century: localized, non-farmed harvest

1830s-1880s: expansion of canned oyster market via railways + loss of New England oyster beds

1880-1905: expansion of fresh oysters through refrigeration + emergence of mass oyster cultivation

**1906:** "Pure Food Hysteria"

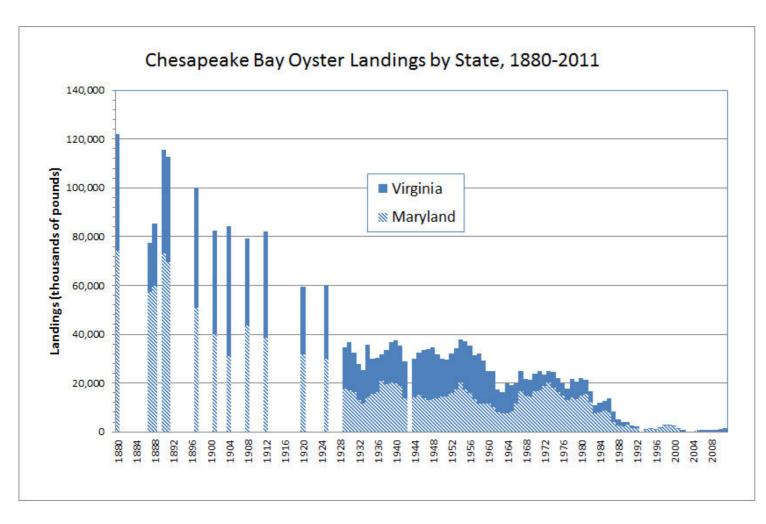
1910s: Oyster market recovers but Chesapeake harvests decline; cultivated harvests increase

1920s-1930s: Reefs deteriorate in Gulf, widespread oyster disease decimate populations

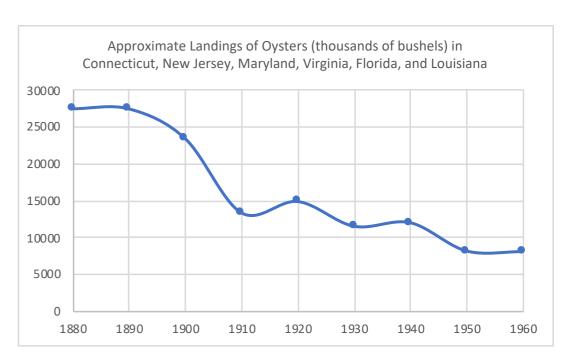
World War II: "the golden age of oystering"

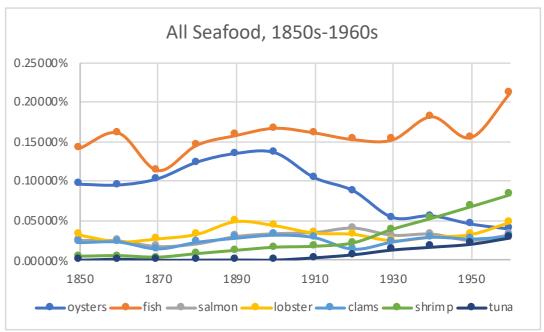
1950s: Widespread disease decimates remaining oyster populations





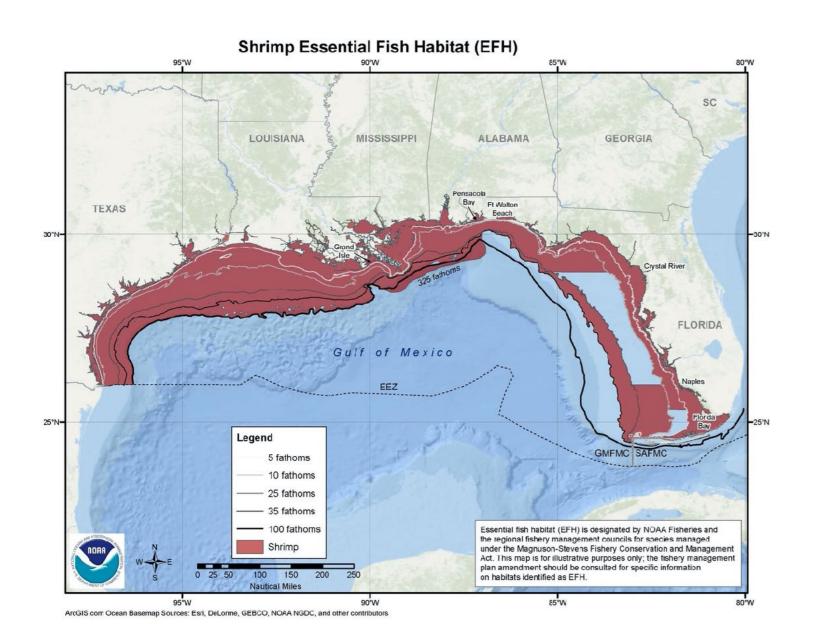
Source: NOAA







### THE SHRIMP FISHERY



# "THE PIONEER HOUSE." BILOXI CANNING CO., Biloxi, Miss.,

-PACKERS OF-

# Prawns, Shrimp, Figs and Oysters.

Our Shrimp are the **best** packed and are known and sold everywhere. We guarantee every can. When ordering, mention our name in full—the "BILOXI CANNING CO."

### T. T. WHITE & GORDON, Agents,

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

FOR SALE BY THURBER, WHYLAND & CO., NEW YORK.



# THE SHRIMP FISHERY



Shrimp-pickers at Gorenflo Canning Company in Biloxi.

Photograph taken at 7 a.m., March 1911,

by Lewis Wickes Hine, Courtesy of the Library of Congress



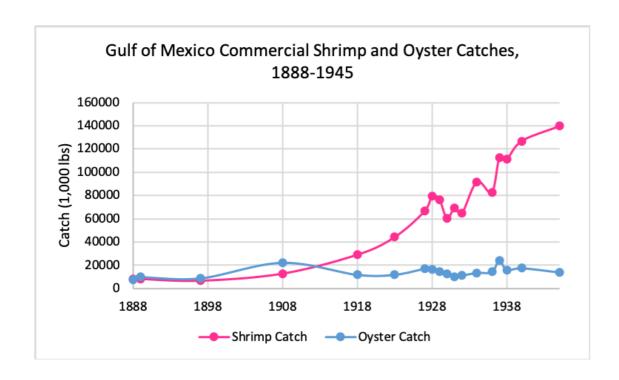
# THE SHRIMP FISHERY



Oyster-shuckers in Barataria Canning Company in Biloxi. February 1911 by Lewis Wickes Hine, Courtesy of the Library of Congress



# **SHRIMP V OYSTERS**



Sources: W.W. Anderson, M.J. Lindner, and J.E. King, "The Shrimp Fishery of the Southern United States,"

\*Commercial Fisheries Review Vol. 11, No. 2 (Washington, D,C, February 1949) and

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, "The Oyster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico Unites States:

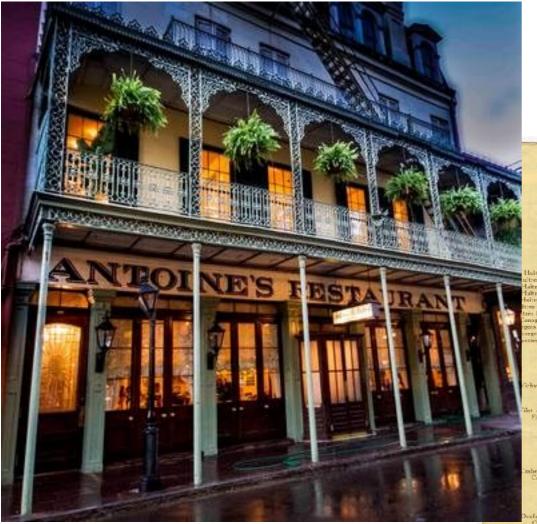
a Regional Management Plan,"2012.



SOURCE: Louisiana Folk Life



### **CREOLE COOKERY**









### **SELLING SHRIMP**



### IN THE OLD FRENCH MARKET

Every woman is interested in new good things for her table; whole-ione and deficious foods that may be economi-ally served in many ways, without waste—new ideas or "meathess days."

For generations the women of New Orleans have bought their food at the old French Market. It is there that the French restaurants, world-famous for their deficious stocking, buy so many good things to eat.

Shrimp, the great New Orleans delicacy, may be served in fifty different ways. Fresh shrimp resemble very small lobsters and when boiled become

rink in color and have a deli-ious flavor that is approached by no other sea-food.



Caught with nets in the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, the fresh shrimp are packed in sanitary cans in the big, clean packing houses right at the water's edge. The shrimp are first shelled and the firm, sweet meats are then carefully boiled and packed in air-tight cans.

Send us a post card today and we'll mail you your copy of a beautifully illustrated book containing "Fifty Southern Recipes for Serving Canned Shrimp." It's free.

> Buy a can of shrimp from your grocer today







Good Housekeeping, Volume 65, Number 5 - November 1917, page 187

#### TABLE VI - 11. -- RETAILER RANKING OF CONSUMER PREFERENCE FOR SHRIMP PRODUCTS, 1955

Product	Ranked 1	Ranked 2	Ranked 3	Ranked 4	Ranked 5	Ranked 6	Ranked. 7	Ranked 8
	(	Percer	nt of re	etailers	ranki	ng produ	uet	
Fresh	24.8	2.6	4.3	3.6	1.1	1.5	0.4	-
Frozen	18.7	36.5	15.4	12.3	3.2	-	-	-
Cooked breaded	22.6	17.1	11.2	3.4	-	-	-	-
Uncooked breaded	27.1	19.3	9.8	3.4	3.0	1.3	-	-
Sticks	2.4	0.9	3.2	2.7	1.8	2.2	1.9	-
Creole	-	1.5	0.6	2.0	2.4	3.1	3.1	1.5
Cocktail	3.1	8.9	12.1	4.9	3.5	2.2	2.3	-
Canned	1.3	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
No rank given	_	11.4	43.4	67.7	85.0	89.7	92.3	98.5

Survey of the Shrimp Fishery of the United States, Volume 2 - Special Scientific Report, Fisheries No. 308 U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, June 1959, page 44



# SELLING SHRIMP



"In all the country there is no first course as popular as a cocktail of shrimp with a large serving of cocktail sauce."

- James Beard, American Cookery, 1972



