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Gary Mills oral history interview by Robert Cardin, July 20, 2010

Gary L. Mills (Interviewee)

Robert Cardin (Interviewer)

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Robert Cardin: This is Robert Cardin. Today is July 20, 2010. I’m at the residence of Gary Mills conducting an oral history interview with Mr. Gary Mills for the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation project with the Fort Pierce fishermen on the Oculina Bank. Welcome, Gary. Would you please state your name and spell it for us, and your place of birth and birth date, and all that stuff?

RC: Where were you born at, Gary? Here, in Fort Pierce?

GM: I was born in Fort Pierce, Florida.

RC: All right. Well, thank you. Are you married, Gary?

GM: Yes, I am.

RC: How old were you when you got married?

GM: Twenty-nine.

RC: Did you ever have any children, Gary?

GM: Never had any children.

RC: How ’bout your schooling? Did you go to high school?

GM: I graduated from high school.

RC: Okay. Gary, I guess we’ll start back in your younger life here. Did you have any other jobs besides fishing?

GM: I was in construction right out of high school, and also, I worked at Piper Aircraft right out of high school. So, between the two of those, I worked maybe five years in the two of those businesses before I started fishing.

RC: Have you had any other jobs besides fishing, in the recent past?

RC: Gary, do you currently own a boat?

GM: Mm-hm.

RC: What kind is it, and how big is it?

GM: Right now I just have a pleasure boat and a little shark boat: a twenty-two foot shark boat, and a seventeen-foot play around boat for the river.

RC: Now, I’d like to ask you some questions about the Oculina Bank. Seriously, I want to know how familiar are you with the Oculina Bank?

GM: Well, that was my favorite fishing place. I mean, when I left the Fort Pierce Inlet to go fishing, there was no other place to go. That’s where all the fish were.

RC: Well, Gary, do you know why they designated it as an area to protect and closed it?

GM: Well, I think it was because they felt it was a breeding ground, and they have exotic coral in there and they just wanted to preserve it, but they just couldn’t preserve it. They didn’t have the resources to preserve it. So, they just picked on the people that they could catch, mostly the commercial people. They left the sport people alone. They still fish it all the time.

RC: Well, is there anything else you can tell me about the Oculina Bank, like, you know, what kind of fish does it hold?

GM: Well, we started out bandit reel fishing, and we were catching snowy grouper to genuine red snappers and tilefish, and it was just the place to go, my favorite area. When they cut me off from that, it just brought tears to my eyes.

RC: Sorry to hear that. What do you think about the closures to bottom fishing and anchoring?

GM: Well, I don’t feel that we hurt anything by anchoring up one or two times a day in there, the few boats that commercially fished it. The shrimp boats were the ones that really made us mad from dragging out there, and really messed it up. Plus, they caught all the juvenile fish that came inshore that were breeding there. We’d watch ‘em dump thousands and thousands of pounds of
by-catch overboard every day. So naturally, we decided, “Well, we’ll shark fish around these boys when they’re dumping,” and we did quite well shark fishing; but we were laying the cable on the bottom, then they said that you can’t bottom fish in there anymore. So, that put me out of business again.

RC: I’d like to back up a little bit. You talked about you’d only anchor on two or three spots. I’ve heard some fishermen talk about that they wouldn’t place their anchor in the corals, that they were trying to fish the corals, not anchoring ’em.

GM: We did very little anchoring. Like, if we spent the night, we would anchor it, on a hump. But during fishing times, it was deep enough to where we just kept the boat in gear and fished by the LORAN numbers, and hold the boat right there, and send up to ten pounds of weight down and catch our porgies and stuff like that in that method. We didn’t anchor unless we spent the night.

RC: So, you’d call that power fishing? I believe that’s the term that’s used, power fishing?

GM: Yeah, power fishing.

RC: And then you said you’d anchor up at nighttime so you could turn her off and go to sleep or something?

GM: Yeah, because there was such a long run back in. We’d find a hump out there, maybe a twenty mile run back in to anchor up in eighty, ninety foot of water. When you’d find a hump out there to anchor on, it’d save you fuel. My boat didn’t hold much fuel, and I didn’t have enough fuel to stay two or three days running all the way in and all the way back out.

RC: Oh, really? So, you’d anchor on the hump just because it was a shorter distance?

GM: Way shorter distance, and many hours of sleep you’d lose.

RC: Right. Has the closure of the Oculina Bank affected your fishing, and how?

GM: Well, it almost shut it down completely, because that’s where I learned how to fish, out there, and I was one of the few that was good at it. When they said, “You can’t fish out of there
anymore,” I didn’t know where to go fishing. I could not—I had a smaller boat. It would not travel like the bigger boats would. So, I had to just about quit fishing.

RC: You just about quit fishing?

GM: Well, I started tilefishing outside of the Bank, but that was only seasonal. So, a lot of times of the year you’d go kingfishing. My type of fishing was out there in the Oculina Bank. They took what I like to do and that’s what I did. When they closed it, it just broke my heart where I could not pull the kingfish in. My body was getting old and it was hurting me.

RC: Without your bottom fishin’. So, when did your fishing career end—or has it?

GM: Well, right now, my body—I had a titanium knee put in, and that kind of shut me out of fishing totally, as of right now. Five years ago, I had that put in. I’m still not fully recovered from that, and I don’t know if I ever will be. But, if you were out there doing the captain’s job, sitting in the chair, power fishing the Oculina Bank, it wasn’t very hard on me.

RC: (laughs) Put you in a whole new world, huh?

GM: I could probably still be doing that right now, if it was open.

RC: Right. If anchoring and bottom fishing in the Oculina Bank was not prohibited, would you be fishing there? And you just said you probably would be.

GM: I would definitely be.

RC: So, I guess that was in ninety-four [1994]—so, for the past sixteen years, would you have been doing it for the whole time, you think?

GM: Probably.

RC: How would you fish, and for what? I think you’ve already said you power fished bandits.
GM: Bandit reel fishing was my favorite, and I did a lot of shark fishing with the cable on bottom.

RC: It’s longlining you’re referring to?

GM: Longlining. I had five miles of cable that I put down, and sometimes you’d be in the Bank and sometimes you wouldn’t. It just depended on where you felt the fish were. But when they came out with this new law way back then, it was instant. You didn’t go there anymore.

RC: It just changed the picture overnight.

GM: I had to go find something else to fish for.

RC: (coughs) Oh, excuse me. Have you had any experience with law enforcement within or regarding the Oculina Bank? Like, were you checked out there, or have you been fined out there or anything?

GM: I was never stopped. They came by me a few times, the Coast Guard. Never stopped me or anything. I abided by the law because they have such stiff penalties. I didn’t want to take the chance of losing my permits or getting a huge fine.

RC: So, I guess you mean you were never in the Oculina Bank?

GM: After they passed the laws, we would go across it to go tilefishing outside of the Bank.

RC: But you haven’t been trouble within it?

GM: I was never inside it, ever, in the Oculina Bank.

RC: Okay. Well, now I want to talk to you about your fishing history, specifically. (laughs) What is your earliest memory of fishing and how old were you?

GM: Well, I got back from Alaska and worked on the pipeline (telephone rings) and my buddy called me up on a twenty-one foot Mako and we caught a 400 pound swordfish back in seventy-five.
seven [1977]. And a couple of years later, we got a mackerel boat, a fifty-two footer, and put a longline reel on it and was one of the first ones to longline swordfish off the coast of South Florida here. Then they outlawed that, so we had to find something else to do, which ended up being bandit fishing and kingfishing.

RC: So that’s after that, swordfishing was closed? That’s when you turned to the Oculina Bank?

GM: Correct.

RC: Was there ever any swordfishing in the Oculina Bank?

GM: We would start our gear under 600 foot and the Gulf Stream would pull it out of it. So, in some instances, we would be in 550 foot, which, I guess, would be in the Bank now.

RC: Yeah, just towards outside of it.

GM: But by the end of the set, or the end of the night, the Gulf Stream had pulled the longline out of it. We would be out 800 or 900 feet by then. But there was instances that the swordfish line was in the Oculina Bank.

RC: Well, I’ll be darned. If we can go back a little further, like, did you start fishing in a lake with your grandpa?

GM: Earliest I can remember, I was probably about fourteen. My brother-in-law bandit reel fished in eighty, ninety foot of water, and me and my brother would go with him. His name was James Gibbons, and he was one of the few that did that back in those days. We would come in with a variety of catch of snapper and grouper. We’d spend the night every now and then, and dip net up squid and put ’em right on the hook, and set ’em right on back down, back when fishing was really good.

RC: How did you decide to become a fisherman? I mean, can you remember a point in time when you said, “I’m gonna be a commercial fisherman for a living”?
GM: I have no idea how I ended up with—when I caught that swordfish on a twenty-one foot Mako, we decided that maybe we should look into longlining (RC laughs) these so swordfish out here. And we did very well at it.

RC: So, that would have put you in the early seventies, [1970s] or mid-seventies [1970s]?

GM: That would have been, like, in seventy-six [1976].

RC: So you just, quick as you could, turn around and got your big boat going there?

GM: We got a big boat—just as soon as we caught that big one, we went home. (RC laughs) We talked to a boy from Montauk, and he had longlined the Outer Banks up there, north of the New York area, and he gave us some tips on what to do, and we followed his tips and started longlining. Started out with five miles of longline, and ended up with thirty over the years.

RC: You kind of just self-taught yourself to go get ’em, just adapted to it?

GM: We taught ourselves and everybody around us. Wayne Mullinix was my captain back then and he was an expert sailfisherman, and he was a good fisherman, and he introduced new ideas that we tried and they worked—or they didn’t work. But we were one of the pioneers of the starting of swordfishing. When they banned that, then we took our ideas to other types of fishing.

RC: Diversified. Well, Gary, I guess you might have already answered this. You said when you was fourteen, you started bandit fishing with your brother. What did you fish for? You said the snappers and groupers. How were you fishing for ’em them? You said it was bandit fishing. Was that day trips?

GM: Rod and reel and bandits.

RC: And you were using your squid and stuff. Now, who did you fish with? Who owned the boat? I know you said your brother did. Your brother—

RC: He owned the boat. Okay.

GM: He married my sister.

RC: What kind of boat was that?

GM: It was like a twenty-four foot Great White.

RC: All right. You said that was like ninety foot, you said, on the bar?

GM: Yeah, we’d go out on the bar.

RC: On the map here, what is that? ’Cause you’re pointing at the Northeast Grounds, is that—

GM: Yeah, Northeast Grounds, right off Fort Pierce, just straight north up to Bethel buoy.

RC: Okay.

GM: I fished so much around Bethel buoy, that’s how the name of my last boat was named.

RC: I thought it was ’cause your wife’s name was Beth?

GM: That also.

RC: Oh! (laughs)

GM: My ashes will be spread around Bethel buoy, because I caught so many of ’em they need to eat me back. (both laugh)

RC: During what months of the year did you all go out there bandit fishing?
GM: Well, the summertime was the favorable time, because it wasn’t so rough. The wintertime was always rough.

RC: Now, this was when you were fourteen fishing with your brother-in-law?

GM: I mean, the only time that it didn’t matter was swordfishing. We had such big boats; they were all fifty footers, forty, fifty footers. We’d go out there in any type of weather all year long swordfishing. But tilefishing, we had to kind of pick our days because of the weather and the current. If the current was over four knots, you couldn’t tilefish or bandit fish.

RC: Let me break this up a little bit. So, when you were on the bandit boat as a young man, how long did those fishing trips last? They were day trips?

GM: They were just one—

RC: One day?

GM: One day, mostly. We’d spent the night. If we didn’t—if we had a terrible night, we’d go ahead and spend the night and fish the day. We probably didn’t have enough fuel to stay another night. So, we’d come in.

RC: And then when you were fishing the big swordfish boats, were those also night trips, daily night trips?

GM: Well, we started out with the forty foot boats, one-nighters. And then we got into four to five nights. The bigger the boat, the more we stayed. We had bigger fish holds on the boat—carry more poundage.

RC: So, to say an average trip’s catch, that would vary between how many days you fished?

GM: Well, like swordfishing in the early days, we’d average a thousand pounds a set. How big was your boat was how many days you could stay. Tilefishing, I’d fill the boat up in one day, 2,000 pounds, 2500 pounds: that was taking real good care of ’em with ice and stuff.

RC: Now, is that on your boat, the Bethel?
GM: The *Bethel* was a two-day boat, maximum, because of the fuel.

RC: Where did you sell your catch throughout the years here? Can you kind of break that down for a little bit?

GM: Well, Inlet Fisheries was my favorite fish house that I fished mostly for. I fished for MMM Fish House a little bit, and Hudgens Fish Company some.

RC: So, all these were around all the way around from seventy-six [1976] till during the present?

GM: Yep, I only fished for those three companies the whole time, and they were all Fort Pierce located.

RC: Can you remember back when you were a young man fishing with your brother-in-law? What kind of catches were y’all catching then— you know, poundage, average?

GM: We’d do 300 pounds of mixed snapper and grouper and porg—not porgies, but grunts. Stuff like that, just junk fish. But we were doing 300 pounds a night.

RC: Here’s another thing: we’re getting a couple things both done at once. So, let’s say this: When you were fishing with your brother-in-law, how many years did you fish for the grouper and snapper with him?

GM: Only a couple. He did it all the time; I just got to go when my parents would let me. I was young. I was, like, fourteen, fifteen. Schooling and stuff like that; I was an athlete in school. So, I didn’t get to go with him all the time. But that’s basically where I learned how to do it.

RC: Why did you stop fishing with him? Because you just moved to the bigger swordfish boats?

GM: Well, I don’t remember if he—I think I quit fishing with him when I graduated from high school. I had to go looking for a job, which I went to Piper Aircraft in Vero Beach and worked there for a couple of years, and then was offered a job working on the pipeline in Alaska and learned a lot about fishing when I went up there, and really fell in love with it.
RC: Did you fish up there, too?

GM: No, I didn’t, but I talked to a bunch of guys, like the *Deadliest Catch* boats, and was tempted to do that, but it was little cold for a South Florida guy. Brought that knowledge back to Florida with me and used it to my advantage. These guys had been doing that kind of fishing for a long time. I did a little bit of fish trapping over in the Bahamas, which, experiencing Alaska, (inaudible).

RC: Did you learn about hydraulics and stuff in Alaska, or something?

GM: Well, it was just the traps, how to build the traps, how to set ’em and how to read the contoured bottom where the fish would be. We were catching snappers and groupers in the fish traps in the Bahamas.

RC: Okay. So, we talked about swordfishing a little bit, and you said you stopped that because it became illegal.

GM: They outlawed it, and I did not possess a swordfish permit. So the boat owner, if he got any compensation, he didn’t give me any. So, I lost out totally to (inaudible). They would go offshore that far.

RC: Who was the boat owner on the forty-five and fifty footers?

GM: Well, we had—Herman Summerlin¹ owned one of the boats. Richard Shearer owned one of ’em. Most of these guys are dead, that I ran their boats, have died off. Leland Curry was one of ’em. I’m trying to remember—there was a boat called the *Margie Tee* I ran. This guy was out of Illinois. I just can’t recollect his name right off the top of my head right this minute. But that was thirty-something years ago. Boo McCulley owned one of ’em, the swordfish boats.

RC: So, are you actually naming boats that you actually fished, like you cap—went from boat to boat or something?

GM: I had, basically, a brand new boat every other year, or every year.

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¹ Herman Summerlin was also interviewed for the Oculina Bank Marine Protected Area Oral History Project. The DOI for his interview is O6-00031.
RC: So, people would build a boat and come to you and want you to run it?

GM: They wanted me to build the boat. They bought the bare hull out of Key West and bring it to Fort Pierce and we’d build it. We’d take six months to build it, then we’d fish it; and then I’d get a better offer and a newer boat the next year, so we’d build another one. This went on for eight years.

RC: Man!

GM: We put some nice boats out there.

RC: Let’s move up to fishing the Oculina Bank and the tilefishing. Well, let’s talk about the tilefishing. What stopped you from tilefishing?

GM: Well, part of it was they made me go around the Oculina Bank to come home. I’m fishing out of Fort Pierce, so I have to go all the way down south, make a big huge U [turn] just to come home. I wasn’t allowed to go across the Bank.

RC: You were talking earlier about fuel, how much fuel—

GM: And I didn’t have enough fuel to do it. I was putting a fifty-five gallon drum on the boat and then the boat got so heavy, it just wasn’t worth it. So, we’re looking at each other like, “What are we gonna do?” We just had to quit. So, that’s when I went kingfishing.

RC: So, I guess I’m making up my own mind here, but it sounds—like, you built the Bethel to do the—

GM: Well, I built it to tilefish. And I had to cross the Oculina Bank to go tilefishing, and then they said, “You can’t cross it with fish on the boat.”

RC: Okay. I understand. You’re set up to fish one way—
GM: “What do you mean I can’t cross it? I’m not fishing the Oculina Bank.” Well, we can’t prove that you weren’t. I said, “Well, you got to prove that I did!” This was at the dock. I was never stopped in the ocean or anything. I would ask ’em when I got in. I said, “Look, I have to go around Oculina Bank?” This is what, ninety-four [1994], ninety-three [1993], something?

RC: Right, right. Well, we had meetings in town for a couple years and all that.

GM: Well, finally they said, “Well, we won’t bother you, long as you—don’t stop, ’cause we got you on radar.” And I was in good standards with the Coast Guard here. I mean, there wasn’t that many commercial boats anyway, and I grew up with some of the guys that worked at the Coast Guard. So, I would talk to ’em, and never, ever had a violation.

RC: Okay. And then the snapper grouper fishing in the Oculina Bank—I mean, you stopped your bandit snapper grouper fishing because of the closure of the Oculina Bank. So, that brings us up to ninety-four [1994]. What did you do next, Gary?

GM: Well, I started kingfishing and tilefishing. We just had to do one-day trips. Couldn’t ever spend the night, I’d be so low on fuel. Caught a lot of kingfish, but it started wearing my back and arms out. So, then we just started—we did a little night fishing with rod and reels in eighty-foot and under, just trying to make ends meet. And finally, it just got to where we went from $80,000 a year down to $20,000. So, it was time to sell the boat, go back to work. That’s how it played out. (phone rings)

RC: So—(phone rings again) we’re gonna stop this for now.

*Pause in recording*

RC: All right. Back here again with Gary Mills. Let’s see, we were at—you said you were from making $80,000 to $20,000 a year. I think we were tying that in with the Oculina Bank closing?

GM: Right. They also banned swordfishing, then they banned net fishing, and there wasn’t a whole lot left to go try to catch. Then they banned the Oculina Bank, and that really put a hurting on the old timers like me. There was only a handful of us anyway that knew what we were doing out there. We would hide from the other fellows, ’cause we didn’t want to teach ’em nothing.

RC: Well, one thing we missed: What was your average catch when you were fishing with the bandit fishing rod at the Oculina Bank?
GM: Two thousand pounds a day.

RC: Whoa! And that would be groupers?

GM: Snappers and groupers.

RC: Any other bottom fishes?

GM: We’d catch occasional cobias that would come up around the boat, and dolphin.

RC: I guess some people pink porgy fished it or something?

GM: I caught a lot of porgies. We’d find ’em out there, a red blob on the bottom, didn’t know what it was, sent a bandit reel down on it, power fish it, and just catch five at a time. Then they said you couldn’t do that anymore.

RC: How ’bout the amberjacks? Did you do much of that out there?

GM: That’s where all the amberjack were, in the Oculina Bank. You could go out there and fill your box up—2,000 pounds in two hours. That was a biggie catch. They didn’t pay a whole lot for them back then, but you could go out there in two hours and fill the boat up. And then they said you can’t do that.

RC: One thing we haven’t talked about here: You mentioned the net fishing; how did the net fishing tie in with your other fishing activities? Was that just like a part-time thing or something?

GM: Well, it started out net fishing with big boats for Spanish mackerel and you’d haul in 40,000 pounds when the season was in. And everybody’d make—you know, I think the smallest crew share would be over two grand, and the captain’s share would be ten grand per catch. And then they outlawed that. So, then we had to make a decision on, well, what are we gonna do now? So, everybody put a longline reel on these mackerel boats and went swordfishing. Then they—ten years down the road—said, “No more swordfishing.”
RC: So, you all were darting and dallying back and forth.

GM: There’s a bunch of boats sitting around that decayed because of the laws made, and the fishermen did not get compensated, in my opinion, for any of it. The owners of boats got a little bit of money.

RC: Jobs lost; people didn’t get nothing.

GM: The crews—people were just out of luck, and bad luck, too.

RC: All right, Gary. Well, I think we’d covered a lot of her questions here. Finally, I would like to talk to you about how your fishing changed over time in regards to the Oculina Bank. Since 1984, there’s been several changes made in the regulations of the Bank. I’d like to know if these affected you, and if so, how? Now, here, this original Oculina Bank here on the map—in eighty-four [1984], that became illegal for bottom longlining fishing and trawling and shrimping, this area here. Did that affect you?

GM: Well, that was—from Fort Pierce, it was straight out of Fort Pierce, all the way north. And that was where I fished, 100 percent.

RC: That was the ninety-four [1994] closure that did in the bottom fishing; in eighty-four [1984], it was no dredge, or no shrimp dredging, trawl, and no bottom longline. Did the bottom longline affect you in eighty-four [1984]?

GM: Well, yeah, because that’s when everybody went to shark fishing, where we had the best catches of our sandbar sharks, which were our money making sharks, was like 400 feet out. And that’s right there in the Bank.

RC: So, you got your legs clipped on the sharks in eighty-four [1984]?

GM: No doubt about that.

RC: Then in ninety-four [1994] is when it became no bottom fishing. Of course, you stated that really affected you.
GM: That put me totally out of business.

RC: Then in ninety-six [1996], this whole area to the north became illegal to trawling and all that. I guess that would have had no effect on you, would have it?

GM: North of what’s on—

RC: By ninety-six [1996], were you still fishing?

GM: I don’t think I was in ninety-six [1996]. I’d have to dig up some books to make sure; but I think ninety-eight [1998], for sure, I was 100 percent out of it.

RC: Well, Gary, you got six books, six log books sitting up there, right? (laughs) No sense in digging through them. But where’s the Bethel now, the boat you had rigged up?

GM: It sunk. One night, we just wasn’t paying attention. I dunno, I broke a shaft off and water was coming in, and we had a load of sharks on the engine box and couldn’t get ’em off quick enough, and it rolled over on the side and went to the bottom.

RC: That was, like, ninety-seven [1997], or something?

GM: I think it was in ninety-eight [1998], ninety-seven [1997] or ninety-eight [1998].

RC: So, is that what ended your fishing career, or was it the closing of the Bank?

GM: No, I got another boat after that. I kept my permits up. But we just couldn’t seem to make a living fishing out of the Oculina Bank. Just couldn’t make any money. I mean, that’s where the fish were. I targeted that area on purpose because that’s where the fish were.

RC: Okay. We’re almost done here. The designation of marine protected areas is being used more and more frequently as a management tool. You know, there’s more and more of these closed areas going in. What do you think of the use of that type of management versus, like, seasons or quotas or size limits?
GM: Well, I feel like there’s so few permits that these guys either grandfathered in, or earned, or bought—the commercial fish—that they should be allowed to fish out there all they want to. If they want to regulate something, they need to regulate the sport boats that are going out there killing these fish by the trillions, and nobody even knows about it. And if they’re doing studies, then that’s what they should study: how many recreational boats are out there pulling fish out of that area that are. If you have a commercial boat out there, they are calling the man on him. They’re pulling fish up every day, every single day out of this area. And there’s no commercial boats out there because the guys will call—the recreational boats will call and tell on ’em. It’s one-sided.

RC: Okay. So, I’m taking the assumption here that you’re—it sounds like you think closed areas don’t work, or they don’t work evenly or something.

GM: They’re not working at all because they’re not checking any sport boat, and they’re a trillion to one to the commercial boats. They should let the commercial boat, if he has a permit, go catch his fish.

RC: Thinking ahead to the future, what do you think commercial fishing will be like in ten years here in our area?

GM: I don’t believe there’ll be any, unless they help the commercial fishermen out in some type of way, which I don’t have an answer for that one. But the sport boats are still catching the fish in that area that we’ve been talking about, and nobody’s checking ’em. So, if there’s a decline in fish, in my opinion, it’s from the sport boats. It has nothing to do with the commercial boats.

RC: I’ve heard some talk. If you manage one, you cut one group back and the other group just picks up their effort.

GM: They’ve never cut back on the sport fish people, never. I haven’t even heard of anybody being arrested, fined, or anything in a sport boat, maybe but one a year out in the Oculina Bank being cited with a ticket for fishing illegally in the Oculina Bank. But I mean, it’s very rare, and the fine would be a fifth of what it would be for a commercial boat. It’s not fair at all.

RC: All right, Gary. I think that concludes the interview. Is there anything that you can think of that we should have added?
GM: I think we ought to let ’em know that if they’re gonna regulate, then they need to regulate everybody: commercial and sport. And if they can’t do that, then like Arizona, you’re gonna have people doing things that will—whenever they want to do it. If you don’t stop everybody, then you’re just picking on commercial fishermen for no reason at all.

RC: All right, Gary. Well, thank you. This concludes the interview.

*End of interview*