

Agenda Item C.2  
Attachment 2  
November 2015

## Client

### Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)

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## Key Facts

- Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
- Awarded August 2012
- 3 year contract
- Total value 1.2m USD
- 500+ ships monitored

## Client Overview

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is the state agency responsible for management of the state's renewable natural resources including all wildlife and aquatic life. As part of these responsibilities, LDWF monitors over 10,000 vessels within the Gulf of Mexico coastal Exclusive Economic Zones using a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

## Project Details

The LDWF Vessel Monitoring System covers more than 1.6m acres of public oyster beds, allowing the LDWF to manage fishing on public oyster seed grounds more efficiently. The Vessel Monitoring System program requires that all vessels fishing on the public oyster seed grounds install an onboard VMS terminal.

LDWF contracted Pole Star through a competitive bidding process to provide a complete VMS solution comprising two main components: the supply and installation of the onboard VMS terminal and the provision of the VMS software solution.

From the development of the intelligent hardware scripts, to the supply and installation of the IsatData Pro based VMS terminals, Pole Star and its sub-contractors coordinated the implementation of the Vessel Monitoring System program across the entire oyster fleet of 500+ vessels.

SmartTRAC 5.0, Pole Star's advanced Vessel Monitoring System provides web-based access to LDWF staff and oyster vessel owners to track their own vessels. SmartTRAC 5.0 offers an online registration process, access to VMS monitoring data and variable position reporting on entry into geozones such as EEZ's, oyster grounds and lease areas.

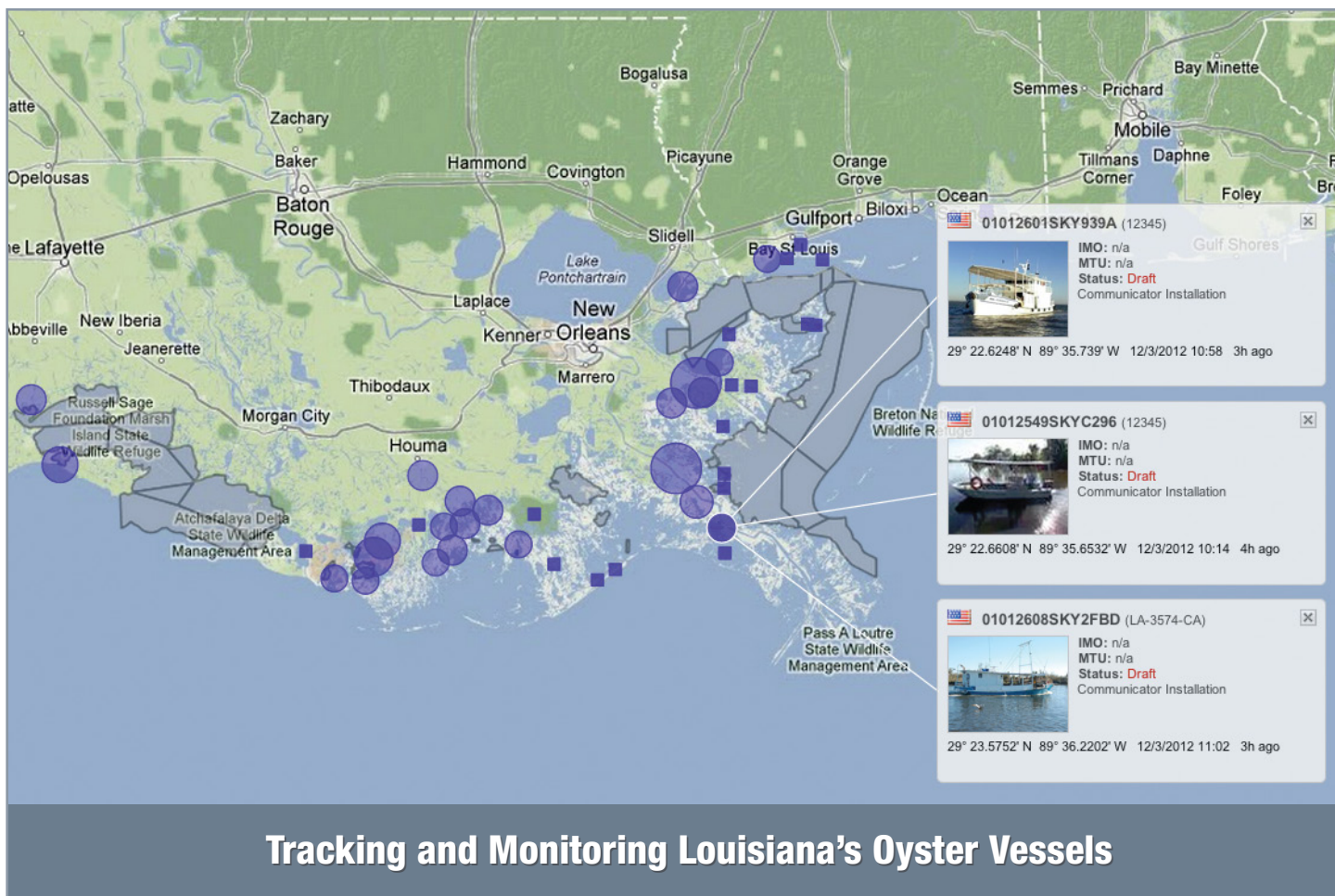
During the 2011 Legislative Session, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 266, giving LDWF the authority to require VMS devices onboard vessels that harvest oysters for commercial purposes on public seed grounds.

For more information, visit [www.wlf.louisiana.gov](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov) and [www.facebook.com/dwfffb](http://www.facebook.com/dwfffb) or follow @LDWF on Twitter.



## New Louisiana Vessel Monitoring System Designed to Manage Public Oyster Seed Grounds

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries are paving the way for other states, with their industry leading approach to maintaining a robust and sustainable coastal fishery in the Gulf of Mexico. Its best practices are being introduced around the Gulf and elsewhere in the US in an effort to promote world-class seafood.



### LDWF is a member of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) is an organization of the five states (Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida), whose coastal waters are the Gulf of Mexico. This was signed by the representatives of the Governors of the five Gulf States on July 16, 1949.



The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council prepares fishery management plans designed to manage fishery resources from where state waters end, out to the 200-mile limit of the Gulf of Mexico. These waters are also known as the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).



HDtrack (high density tracking) via Pole Star provides real time tracking of vessel activity. HDtrack activates automatically when vessels enter EEZ's, oyster seed grounds and lease areas.