

APPENDIX A. ALTERNATIVES ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED CONSIDERATION.

Issue #1. The 15,000 pound rock shrimp landing requirement.

Alternative 3. Extend the time allowed to meet the 15,000-pound rock shrimp landing requirement for not more than two years; this would allow a total of five or six consecutive years.

Each vessel is currently required to land 15,000 pounds of rock shrimp within at least one of four consecutive calendar years to meet the 15,000-pound landing requirement. This alternative would extend the four-year time period within which the 15,000-pound landing requirement could be met. The time period would be extended from four years to 5 years, or even 6 years, allowing fishermen who have not meet the landing requirement within the past four consecutive calendar years to have an extended amount of time to meet the 15,000-pound landing requirement. This would change the current time limit in the definition of inactive endorsements to either five or six calendar years, replacing the four calendar year provision. In the short-term, this action would benefit those vessels that would lose their endorsements this year. In the long-term, this action would benefit all rock shrimp fishery participants by giving them more time to land the 15,000 pound requirement. The pounds-landed component of the landing requirement would remain unchanged, but the time component would be extended, possibly allowing a higher level of fishery participation relative to the status-quo.

Rationale: [extract from minutes]

Old Alternative 4. Allow application for renewal as an inactive permit holder. This would keep the 15,000 pound requirement but allow those individuals that do not meet the requirement to renew as an inactive permit holder.

Rationale: This alternative was rejected because if they do not meet the 15,000 pound landing requirement they are then considered as an inactive permit holder.

New Alternative 4. Change the landing requirement to one pound of rock shrimp.

This alternative would reduce the pounds landed component of the landing requirement to one pound, while maintaining the current time limit component of the landing requirement. This would effectively change the current definition of an inactive endorsement to be one that is attached to a vessel having landed less than one pound of rock shrimp landings in a calendar year. Rock shrimp vessels that do not land at least one pound of rock shrimp in at least one of four consecutive calendar years would be eliminated from the fishery. Rock shrimp fishermen who have demonstrated at least some effort in the form of recorded landings of one pound or more in at least one of four consecutive years would be allowed to apply for renewal of their rock shrimp endorsement. This alternative could potentially benefit 14 vessels with active or renewable endorsements and 3 vessels linked to non-renewable endorsements if either Alternative 2 or Alternative 3 is chosen under Action 3. Landings taken from the limited access area and outside of the limited access area but within the Council's area of jurisdiction (EEZ) would continue to be able to be used to meet this annual landings condition.

Rationale: [extract from minutes]

Issue # 2. Endorsements lost due to not meeting the 15,000-pound rock shrimp landing requirement by 12/31/07.

Alternative 2. Reinstate endorsements lost due to not meeting the 15,000 pound rock shrimp landing requirement in one of four consecutive calendar years for those vessels that landed at least one pound of rock shrimp during the same time period.

Alternative 2 would reinstate endorsements lost due to not meeting the rock shrimp landing requirement of 15,000 pounds in one of four consecutive calendar years for those vessels that landed at least one pound of rock shrimp during one of four consecutive calendar years. This would eliminate rock shrimp vessels that have landed less than one pound (effectively having no landings at all) within four consecutive calendar years. Under this alternative, 10 vessels with active or renewable permits would have their endorsements reinstated. Rock shrimp fishermen who have demonstrated at least some effort in the form of recorded landings of one pound or more in one of four consecutive years would have their endorsement reinstated.

Rationale: [extract from minutes]