

We have 3 rock shrimp permits. We have not used the permits to rock shrimp, therefore we have not documented 15,000 pounds of rock shrimp in any one given year out of the 4 calendar years which is the requirement to retain our endorsements. The rock shrimp simply have not been there to catch so we had to diversify and do something else. In my opinion anyone who has a rock shrimp permit should be allowed to keep it with no strings attached. If a fisherman holding a permit decides not to rock shrimp nor catches the required amount it doesn't take a genius to know that should help the stock, and the fisherman should be patted on the back not penalized by losing his permit. The fishermen have had to many amendments to adhere to in the last few years. When modifying or amending any amendment it seems like the commercial fishermen always comes up on the short end of the stick. I hope that is not the case this time. I hope the council will use good judgment in making their decision on shrimp amendment 7 and allow everyone to keep their permits.

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