



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Trish Murphey, Chair | Jessica McCawley, Vice Chair  
John Carmichael, Executive Director

## AGENDA

### **Habitat & Ecosystem and Shrimp Committees**

Villas by the Sea  
1175 Beachview Drive  
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

**Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

Approval of Agenda

1. Coral Amendment 11/ Shrimp Amendment 12 (*Attachment I*)
  - a. Decision Document Review – Kathleen Howington, Allie Iberle
  - b. **Committee Action:** Provide feedback on the suite of actions and alternatives and future AP review.
2. Other Business

Adjourn

#### **Habitat Committee Members:**

Trish Murphey, Chair  
Tom Roller, Vice Chair  
Robert Beal  
Carolyn Belcher  
Gary Borland  
Amy Dukes  
Tim Griner  
Judy Helmey  
Jimmy Hull  
Kerry Marhefka  
Jessica McCawley  
Lt. Tom Pease  
Charlie Phillips  
Robert Spottswood, Jr.  
Andy Strelcheck

#### **Shrimp Committee Members:**

Carolyn Belcher, Chair  
Amy Dukes, Vice Chair  
Gary Borland  
Jimmy Hull  
Jessica McCawley  
Trish Murphey  
Lt. Tom Pease  
Charlie Phillips  
Andy Strelcheck

**Attachments:**

**Attachment 1:** Coral Amendment 11 Shrimp Amendment 12 Decision Document

**Staff Leads:** Kathleen Howington (Habitat Committee) ([kathleen.howington@safmc.net](mailto:kathleen.howington@safmc.net))  
Allie Iberle (Shrimp Committee) ([allie.iberle@safmc.net](mailto:allie.iberle@safmc.net))

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Joint Habitat and Shrimp Committees**

The Committees will approve the agenda for the March 2025 Joint Committee meeting.

**1. Oculina Shrimp Fishery Access Area (Coral Amendment 11/ Shrimp Amendment 12)**  
*(Attachment 1)*

**Description:** In 2021, the Council submitted Coral Amendment 10, which proposed establishing a shrimp fishery access area (SFAA) within the northern extension of the Oculina Habitat Area of Particular Concern (OHAPC) where trawling for rock shrimp is currently prohibited. In 2022, the Council received a letter of disapproval. Among the reasons for disapproval, NMFS stated that the amendment did not include adequate analysis to ensure that the proposed action would minimize adverse effects of fishing on essential fish habitat (EFH) and minimize bycatch. In 2023, the Council made a motion to resubmit the amendment incorporating updated information including a recent mapping study and possible additional alternatives. Staff were directed to execute a joint amendment to modify both the Coral and Shrimp FMPs. Staff will review a decision document including proposed additional alternatives.

**Committee Action:** Review the decision document and suite of alternatives, provide guidance on which alternative(s) to retain, the process for scoping, and holding relevant AP meetings.

**2. Other Business**