



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 4th, 2025, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the Minutes (June 2024 Shrimp)

1. Coral Amendment 11/ Shrimp Amendment 12 (*Attachment 1*)
 - 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)
Allie Iberle (Shrimp Committee) (allie.iberle@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

Joint Habitat and Shrimp Committees

The Committees will approve the agenda for the March 2025 Joint Committee meeting and approve the minutes from the June 2024 Shrimp 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 range of alternatives, provide guidance on which alternative(s) to retain, and holding relevant AP meetings.

2. Other Business