



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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George Geiger, Chairman  
Duane Harris, Vice-Chairman

Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director  
Gregg Waugh, Deputy Executive Director

## **AGENDA** **SHRIMP COMMITTEE**

Jekyll Island Club Hotel; 371 Riverview Drive  
Jekyll Island, Georgia

### **Thursday, March 6, 2008 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON**

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – David Cupka
2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER COMMITTEE MINUTES – David Cupka
3. OVERVIEW OF SCOPING COMMENTS (**Attachments 1-3**) – Gregg Waugh
  - A. Overview – Myra Brouwer/Gregg Waugh
  - B. Committee Discussion & Actions as Necessary – David Cupka
4. RESULTS OF ADVISORY PANEL MEETING (**Attachment 4**)
  - A. Overview – Myra Brouwer
  - B. Committee Discussion & Actions as Necessary – David Cupka
5. PRELIMINARY SHRIMP AMENDMENT 7 DOCUMENT (**Attachment 5**)
  - A. Overview – Gregg Waugh
  - B. Committee Discussion and Action – David Cupka
    - (i) Use-it or Lose-it Provision
    - (ii) Transit Provision
    - (iii) Other Provisions?
6. OTHER BUSINESS – David Cupka
7. ADJOURN – David Cupka

**Attachment 1. Scoping Document**

**Attachment 2. Scoping Written Comments**

**Attachment 3. Scoping Minutes**

**Attachment 4. Minutes of Advisory Panel Meeting (second briefing book on 2/25/08)**

**Attachment 5a. Draft Options Paper (second briefing book on 2/25/08)**

**Attachment 5b. Preliminary Analysis for Shrimp Amendment 7 (second briefing book on 2/25/08)**

**Committee Members:**

David Cupka, Chair  
Rita Merritt  
Susan Shipman

George Geiger  
Mark Robson  
John Wallace

DATE: 2/25/2008 FISHERY: Shrimp SUBJECT: Briefing Info STAFF: Waugh/Brouwer SOURCE: SAFMC
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# OVERVIEW

## Shrimp Committee Meeting

March 6, 2008

Jekyll Island Club Hotel

371 Riverview Drive

Jekyll Island, Georgia

The Shrimp Committee needs to: (A) review scoping input on Shrimp Amendment 7 and provide guidance to staff; (B) review results of Shrimp Advisory Panel meeting and take action as necessary; and (C) review the preliminary Shrimp Amendment 7 document and provide guidance to staff/Team.

### **A. Shrimp Amendment 7 Scoping**

The scoping document is included as **Attachment 1**. Written comments are included as **Attachment 2** and scoping meeting minutes as **Attachment 3**.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** The committee should address comments received as they provide guidance on options to be included in Shrimp Amendment 7 (see below).

### **B. Deepwater Shrimp AP Meeting**

The Deepwater Shrimp AP met January 28-29, 2008 in Port Canaveral, Florida. A summary of their recommendations is as follows:

#### **DEEPWATER SHRIMP ADVISORY PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS JANUARY 29, 2008**

The Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panel approved the following recommendations regarding the proposed Coral-HAPCs:

1. Move the west boundary of the proposed C-HAPC 6 nautical miles to the east between the following points: (a) 30 degrees 16 minutes 35.354 seconds N and (b) 26 degrees 12 minutes 56.273 seconds N. Moving the line eastward will exclude the fishing grounds from the C-HAPC based on VMS data analyzed and presented by the NMFS SEFSC. The AP pointed out that once the western boundary is corrected to track the 400 meter contour, the actual distance will be less than the 6 nautical miles.
2. Move the west boundary of the proposed C-HAPC eastward to exclude all VMS points from the C-HAPC. The location is based on a polygon drawn by Carlos Rivero of the NMFS SEFSC.
3. Move the west boundary of the proposed C-HAPC eastward 5 nautical miles from the eastern boundary of the polygon from Alternative 2.

4. Move the west boundary of the proposed C-HAPC eastward 6 nautical miles from the eastern boundary of the polygon from Alternative 2.
5. No Action.

The Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panel made the following requests:

1. The AP requested that Council staff distribute the information being presented to the Council for the March Council meeting to the AP as soon as possible.
2. The AP requested that Council staff request information from NMFS Law Enforcement on the number of cases made based on VMS data. This is to include the ultimate determination of the case (e.g., guilty of fishing in area, innocent due to drifting into the area, etc.).
3. The AP requested that Council staff explore expanding the VMS system to include sensors for the trawl winch, engine RPMs, and emergency notification.
4. Captain Woody Moore sold one of his vessels and did not do anything with the permit. He recently contacted the NMFS Permit Office and was told they have no record of there ever being a permit. Council staff was requested to investigate this situation.
5. The deepwater shrimp AP wants to discuss future Council action to open areas of the Oculina HAPC to their fishery. Evidence now exists that some portions of the HAPC are soft bottom areas that do not support coral habitat and could potentially be suitable for rock shrimp fishing.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** The committee should review the AP's recommendations and take action as necessary. Note: The Fishery Ecosystem Committee will have already taken action on the recommendations to modify the Coral HAPC.

**C. Preliminary Shrimp Amendment 7** (will be mailed on February 25<sup>th</sup> in the second briefing book)

The amendment document (**to be mailed on February 25<sup>th</sup>**) will provide analyses of the alternatives considered thus far. The committee should review the document and modify as appropriate. Preferred alternatives should be specified for all actions.

Actions included are as follows:

**Issue #1. The 15,000 pound landing requirement.**

Alternative 1. No Action.

This would retain the 15,000 pound landing requirement and could result in up to one-half of the permits not being renewed.

Alternative 2. Remove the 15,000 pound requirement.

The Rock Shrimp Advisory Panel supports this alternative. Individuals not on the Advisory Panel have expressed concern about removing the requirement because they have made the effort to have landings and feel that opportunity was available to everyone.

Alternative 3. Extend the time allowed to meet the 15,000 pound requirement for not more than 2 years; this would allow a total of 6 years.

Alternative 4. Allow application for renewal as an inactive permit holder.

This would keep the 15,000 pound requirement but allow those individual that do not meet the requirement to renew as an inactive permit holder.

**Issue #2. Permits lost due to not meeting the 15,000 pound requirement by 12/31/07.**

Alternative 1. No Action.

This alternative could result in up to one-half of the permits not being renewed.

Alternative 2. Reinstate permits lost due to not meeting the 15,000 pound requirement.

The Rock Shrimp Advisory Panel supports this alternative.

**Issue #3. Permits lost through failure to renew the limited entry rock shrimp endorsement.**

Alternative 1. No Action.

Input received during the Rock Shrimp AP meeting indicated that a number of individuals did not renew their endorsements because it was not as clear to them as it would have been had a separate limited access permit been issued.

Alternative 2. Reinstate permits lost through failure to renew the limited entry rock shrimp endorsement.

The Rock Shrimp Advisory Panel supports this alternative.

**Issue #4. Require all shrimp permit holders to provide economic data if selected.**

Alternative 1. No Action.

This would continue to prevent the Council from conducting the legally-mandated economic analyses. Without such analyses it is difficult to fully understand how proposed management measures would impact shrimp fishermen and dealers.

Alternative 2. Require all shrimp permit holders to provide economic data if selected.

This alternative would allow NMFS to collect economic data for shrimp fishermen and dealers. When such data become available, the Council would be able to conduct the analyses required by the Magnuson-Steven Act and other applicable law. This would also allow the Council to fully understand how proposed management measures would impact shrimp fishermen and dealers.

**The timing is as follows:**

- Scoping through January 18, 2008
- Council reviews scoping comments and Options Paper & provides direction to Staff/Team – March 3-7, 2008 meeting in Jekyll Island, GA
- Scientific & Statistical Committee reviews Amendment/Environmental Assessment – June 8-10, 2008 meeting in Orlando, FL
- Council approves Amendment/Environmental Assessment for public hearings – June 9-13, 2008 meeting in Orlando, FL
- Public hearings – August/September 2008 with final one on September 15, 2008 during the Council meeting in Charleston, SC
- Council reviews public hearing input and approves actions – September 15-19, 2008 meeting in Charleston, SC
- Council reviews and approves final Amendment/Environmental Assessment for formal review by the Secretary of Commerce – December 1-5, 2008 meeting in Wilmington, NC; Send for Secretarial Review December 2008.
- Intent to have regulations in place – April 1, 2009

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** Review the document and provide guidance to staff/Team.