Appendix A. Considered But Eliminated Alternatives

This section describes actions and alternatives that the South Atlantic Council considered in developing this document, but decided not to pursue. The description of each alternative is followed by a summary statement of why it was eliminated from more detailed summary in the document.

Note: The Alternatives removed from consideration below are associated with Action 3. (Action 3. Revise the overfished status determination criteria (BMSY proxy) for the pink shrimp stock.)

Alternative 2. Pink shrimp are overfished when the annual landings fall below two standard deviations below mean landings 1957-1993 for three consecutive years [286,293 pounds heads-on]. It is assumed that overfishing is occurring when the overfished threshold specified is met. (Reference to Shrimp Amendment 6, Action 6, Alternative 2)

Alternative 3. Revise or establish consistent overfishing and overfished definitions for penaeid shrimp (specifically, pink shrimp) based on the established MSY and OY catch values. Overfishing (MFMT) for pink shrimp would be defined as a fishing mortality rate that led to annual landings larger than two standard deviations above MSY for two consecutive years, and the overfished threshold (MSST) for pink shrimp would be defined as annual landings smaller than two standard deviations below MSY for two consecutive years.
Pink shrimp: MSST = 0.3 MP MSY = 1.8 MP MFMT = 3.3 MP.
(Reference to Shrimp Amendment 6, Action 6, Alternative 3)

Alternative 4. A BMSY proxy for pink shrimp would be calculated using the best scientific information available as determined by the Shrimp Review Panel, which would meet on an annual basis to review the BMSY proxy and stock status.

Alternative 5. Two proxies for BMSY for pink shrimp has been established using CPUE information from SEAMAP and the Pamlico Sound Trawl Survey as the lowest values in the [insert time range] that produced catches meeting MSY the following year.

<u>Discussion</u>
During the June 2012 Council meeting, these alternatives were removed from further consideration. The Council discussed that Alternatives 2 and 3 carry over from Shrimp Amendment 6 (Action 6, Alternatives 2 and 3)(SAFMC 2003) and are based on landings data. The alternatives would not address the issue currently faced with triggering the BMSY proxy for pink shrimp in the South Atlantic. The Council removed Alternative 4 from consideration because it does not specify which data sources would be used in determining the BMSY proxy for pink shrimp, and allows considerable deference to the Shrimp Review Panel for making the determination. Alternative 5 was removed from consideration as a result of the Council's interest in a more specific suite of alternatives that identify a fishery independent sampling program and a time range to base CPUE values in developing a BMSY proxy.