

**JOINT MEETING OF THE SHRIMP COMMITTEE & THE DEEPWATER AND  
SHRIMP ADVISORY PANELS  
JEKYLL ISLAND, GA  
MARCH 2, 2010**

The Shrimp Committee convened jointly with the Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panels on Tuesday March 2, 2010. The Committee & APs received a presentation from Dr. Christopher Liese of the Southeast Fisheries Science Center on the newly implemented economic data collection program for the South Atlantic shrimp fisheries. Staff then presented the conclusions of the Shrimp Review Panel conference call regarding possible closure of the EEZ off SC and GA to protect overwintering white shrimp and the status of pink shrimp stocks. A discussion was held regarding possible changes to the existing process whereby states may request concurrent closure of the EEZ due to severe winter temperatures. The Committee & APs also discussed utilizing additional fishery-independent surveys to refine the MSST proxy for pink shrimp due to sampling limitations of the SEAMAP survey. A list of other actions for possible inclusion in Shrimp Amendment 9 was discussed. The Committee & APs also received a presentation from Jennifer Lee (SERO) on re-initiation of Section 7 Consultation on the shrimp fishery due to incidental takes of smalltooth sawfish.

The Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panels made the following motions:

MOTION # 1: Appoint Fred Dockery as Chair of the Shrimp AP.

Approved by AP

MOTION # 2: Appoint Janie Thomas as Vice Chair of the Shrimp AP

Approved by AP

The committee made the following motions:

MOTION # 3: Recommend the development of a plan amendment to the Shrimp FMP that would allow for a rapid closure of all or a portion of the EEZ to protect overwintering shrimp upon the recommendation of the adjacent state and triggered by critical water temperatures (triggers TBD as part of the amendment development process).

(3 AP members were in favor of this motion and 8 were opposed)

Approved by Committee

MOTION # 4: include following items in upcoming amendment to the shrimp FMP:

A. Add Royal Red Shrimp to the FMU.

- B. Develop SFA parameters for royal red shrimp.
- C. Remove limited access program for rock shrimp fishery.
- D. Modify protocol for states to request concurrent closure of the EEZ during severe winter weather to expedite process
- E. Revise MSST proxy for pink shrimp
- F. Measures to reduce takes of smalltooth sawfish  
(8 AP members opposed including royal red shrimp in the FMU)

Approved by Committee

**Guidance to staff:**

- Research how other states, particularly Texas, handles closures due to severe winter weather to use as possible guidance to an amendment of the Shrimp FMP regarding this issue.
- Work with the Shrimp Review Panel to evaluate fishery-independent surveys to replace or enhance the current MSST proxy for pink shrimp that is currently based on the SEAMAP survey.