

FINAL
SUMMARY REPORT
SHRIMP COMMITTEE
SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
June 11, 2024

The Committee approved the agenda for the June 2024 meeting.

Joint Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp AP Report

The Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panels met on April 24 and 25, 2024 in Charleston, South Carolina. The AP Chair, Mike Merrifield, provided a summary of the Advisory Panels' discussion and recommendations. The Committee expressed their appreciation of the advisory panels' in-depth discussions.

When reviewing the APs' discussion on the economic disaster and foreign imports, the Committee provided direction to staff to develop a white paper to outline the current economic state of the fishery, possible tariff rate closures (using sugar and dairy industry examples) in support of the Southeast Shrimp Industry.

Giant Manta Ray and Smalltooth Sawfish ESA Section 7 Updates

Since the 2021 Shrimp Opinion was completed, new information for both giant manta ray and smalltooth sawfish and recent take data have triggered a reinitiation of the Section 7 consultation. The Council previously received a presentation on this consultation in September 2023. Jenny Lee provided the Committee with an update on the consultation including updated bycatch estimates and information on the recent smalltooth sawfish mortality event.

Shrimp FMP Overview

Council staff reviewed an FMP overview tool which provides a short summary of each amendment within the FMP that can be used to quickly referenced including a summary for the original plan and 11 amendments. For full plan or amendment details the Shrimp FMP Page.

Shrimp SAFE Report and Fishery Performance Report

Council staff reviewed the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report for white and rock shrimp. Staff noted the additional information such as fuel prices that have been added as a request from the APs. Staff asked the Committee whether an analysis of trends would be more appropriate on a 5- or 10-year scale, considering the fact that shrimp is an annual crop. The committee discussed a 3-year timeline but decided there was too much variability and then agreed that the 5-year timeline was most appropriate for analysis.

Shrimp Futures Project

Dr. Carissa Gervasi provided the Committee with an overview of the Shrimp Futures project. The Committee mentioned that for this project to be successful within the South Atlantic the states should be included in the planning process to help bring the relevant fishermen and other partners involved.