

OVERVIEW

Shrimp Committee Meeting

March 8, 2011

Sea Palms Resort and Conference Center

5445 Frederica Road

St. Simons Island, Georgia

The Shrimp Committee needs to: (A) approve minutes from the March 2, 2010 Committee/AP meeting and (B) review recommendations of the Shrimp Review Panel on possibly requesting closure of EEZ waters adjacent to SC and GA to protect overwintering white shrimp.

A. Approval of Minutes

The committee will review and approve the Committee/AP minutes from March 2, 2010.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:

1. Review and approve minutes.

B. Shrimp Review Panel Recommendations

The Shrimp FMP allows for a concurrent closure of the EEZ adjacent to those South Atlantic states that have closed their waters to the harvest of penaeid shrimp to protect overwintering stocks when they have been depleted by cold weather. As specified in the FMP, “the Council may consider a state’s request for closure of the EEZ if a drop in catch rate resulting from severe winter weather is indicated during standardized assessment sampling and reveals a reduction of 80% or greater of the overwintering white shrimp abundance as reflected by CPUE.” South Carolina and Georgia may request that the Council recommend concurrent closure of the EEZ off those states should they close state waters.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:

1. Review and discuss Shrimp Review Panel Recommendations.
2. Request closures of the EEZ if warranted.