



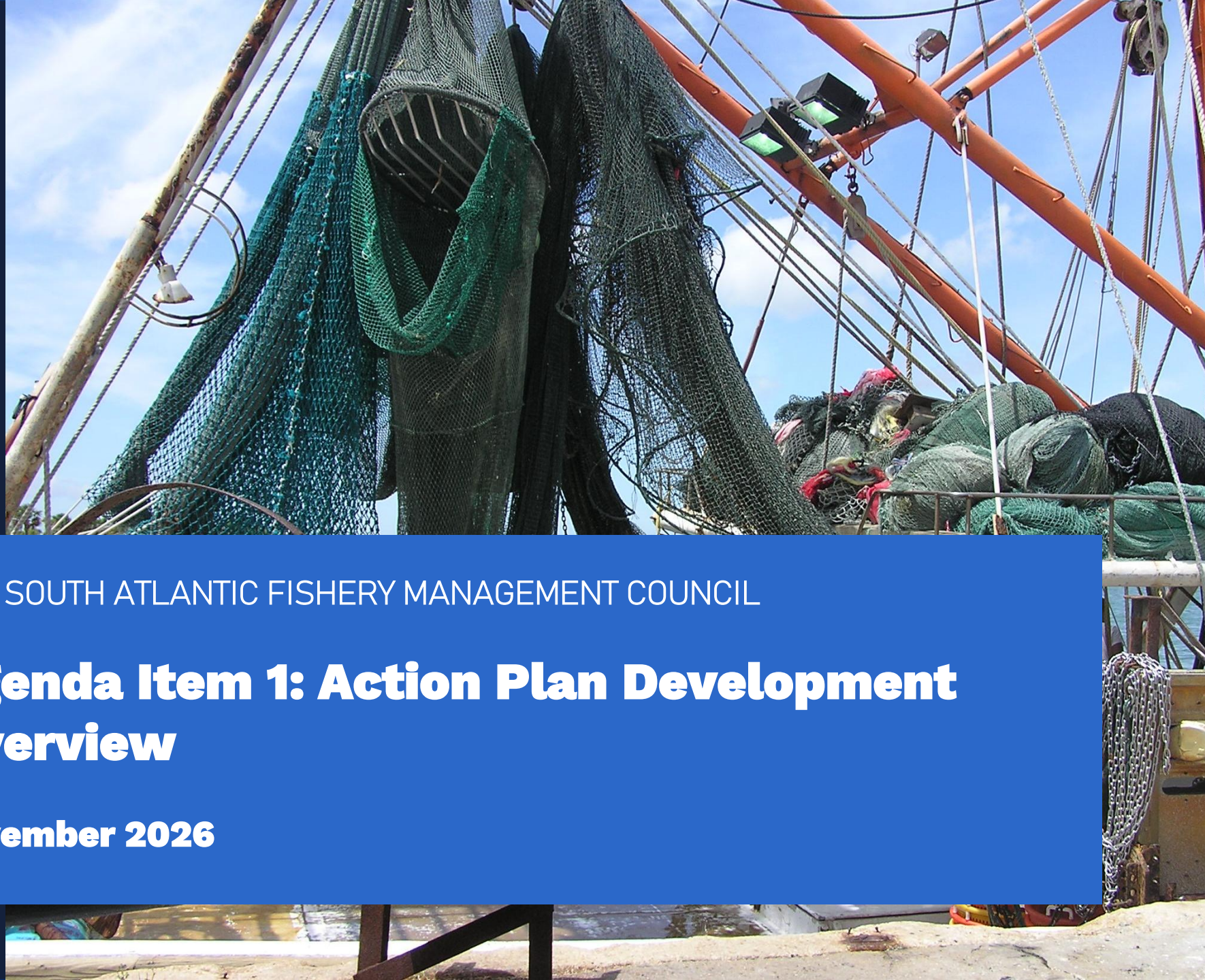
Shrimp Workgroup

Allie Iberle
allie.iberle@safmc.net
843-225-8135

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Agenda Item 1: Action Plan Development Overview

November 2026





**REVIEW THE CHARGE
OF THE WORKGROUP
AND REVIEW GOALS
AND OBJECTIVES**



**DICUSS THE FINAL
PRODUCT OF THIS
WORKGROUP**



REVIEW THE CHARGE OF THE WORKGROUP: GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goals:

1. Bring together experts in giant manta ray and smalltooth sawfish biology with managers and fishery stakeholders to explore ways to reduce bycatch and bycatch mortality of these species in shrimp fisheries.
2. Develop an action plan for giant manta ray and smalltooth sawfish that includes conservation and management measures to reduce interactions and/or bycatch mortality with these species in the shrimp fisheries of the South Atlantic, including any specific modifications to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan.



REVIEW THE CHARGE OF THE WORKGROUP: GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Objectives:

- ✓ 1. Review the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 consultation process with regards to these species.
- ✓ 2. Review scientific papers, bycatch data, and analyses on giant manta ray and smalltooth sawfish, relevant to the species' status and impacts of federal shrimp fisheries, including but not limited to spatial extent of bycatch characteristics, post release mortality data, effort data, model-derived estimates of bycatch, any population-level analyses (Population Viability Analysis [PVA]), and international bycatch reduction efforts for these species.
- ✓ 3. Identify data gaps and suggest new analyses with current data to inform bycatch reduction solutions.
- ✓ 4. Review shrimp fishery operations with regards to spatial and temporal effort, interactions with giant manta ray and smalltooth sawfish and the feasibility of any potential actions with fishermen.
- 5. Identify possible actions that may reduce bycatch or bycatch mortality on giant manta ray and smalltooth sawfish bycatch and bycatch mortality in shrimp fisheries in the South Atlantic.

TO-DO



WORKGROUP FINAL PRODUCT

The goals of the workgroup identified stated that an **action plan** would be developed and presented to the Council.

Staff envisioned this action plan as a matrix, that encompasses:

- Feedback from both species experts and fishermen.
- Recommendations across different areas such as the observer program, outreach, gear modifications, and/or novel ideas.
- Predicted effects of each recommendation as much as the group can describe, and any additional information that would be pertinent to the provide the Council.



WORKGROUP FINAL PRODUCT

What the **action plan** is **NOT**:

- It does **not** represent a proposed action or rule that will be implemented when the workgroup concludes work on the action plan.

So, what's **next**?

- After the action plan is completed, it will be presented to the Council during a Council meeting. The Council will consider the recommendations and decide if action is needed based on these recommendations. Action could be:
 - Developing an amendment to implement a change.
 - Convening their Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panels.
 - Writing a letter to recommend a change from NFMS.
 - Consider applications for exempted fishing permits if there was a project that was examining bycatch reduction.



WORKGROUP FINAL PRODUCT

Remember – the initial matrix we will start to work to on at this meeting will include all available options staff have identified.

Things can be **removed, modified,** or **differing opinions on the recommendation can be recorded.**

Think of something we missed – let's add it!

