

Tab D, No. 10(a)

# Shrimp 17



## Permit Moratorium

# History

- 1981: Shrimp FMP
- 2001: Federal commercial permit required (open access)
- 2006: 10-year permit moratorium implemented Oct 26
- 2016: Moratorium expires Oct 26

# Qualification

- Vessels must have been issued a valid permit by NMFS prior to and including December 6, 2003.
- An exception was made for owners who lost use of a qualified vessel, but who obtained a valid commercial shrimp vessel permit for the same vessel or another vessel prior to the date of publication of the final rule.

# Permits

- 2,951 before moratorium  
(2001-2006)
  - 2,666 qualified
  - 285 did not qualify
- 1,933 moratorium permits  
issued

# Purpose and Need

- The purpose of this amendment is to determine if limiting access to permits is necessary for the Gulf shrimp fishery to prevent overcapacity and promote economic stability.
- The need for this action is to maximize efficiency of the Gulf shrimp resource and help achieve optimum yield.

# Options

- Allow moratorium to expire
- Extend moratorium
- Create a permanent limited access system

# Moratorium Expires

- Will become open access
- May not need a plan amendment
- Why is a moratorium no longer needed?

# Moratorium Extended

- How many years?
- All current permits or requalify?
- Why is a temporary moratorium still needed?



# Limited Access System

- Same as moratorium but permanent
- All current permits or requalify?
- Permit conditions (renewal, transferability, etc.)
- Why is a limit access program needed?

# Possible Qualification

- Income?
  - Removed from other permits
- Landings?
  - Latent permits
  - Landings threshold
- Other?
  - Citizenship
  - Vessel size

# Permit Pool

- Maintains number of shrimp permits
- Currently, one year after expiration, permit is terminated
- Proposal by Council is that permit is reserved instead of terminated

# Royal Red Shrimp Endorsement

- Open to all shrimp permit holders
- 283 valid endorsements February 1
- Maximum of 17 vessels with landings in any one of the past 10 years

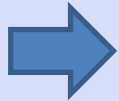
# Royal Red Endorsement

## Options

- Maintain “open” endorsement
- Limit endorsements based on landings
- Eliminate endorsements

# Time Line

- ✓ April 2014 - Council requested scoping document
- ✓ October 2014 – Council reviewed scoping document and requested input from WG and AP
- ✓ February 2015 - WG meets to discuss analysis; AP meets to discuss document
- April 2015 - Scoping document approved by Council
- June 2015 - Options paper and scoping comments reviewed by Council
- June-October 2015 - Data analysis
- October 2015 - Public hearing draft approved by Council
- February 2016 - Review of public hearings and public comment
- April 2016 - Final approval by Council
- May 1, 2016 - Amendment finalized and submitted to NMFS; proposed rule package prepared
- Mid June, 2016 - Amendment and proposed rule open for comment period
- August 1, 2016 - Comment period ends, final rule package prepared
- Mid-September, 2016 - Final rule is published
- October 26, 2016 - Expiration of current rule, final rule needs to be effective by this date.



# Shrimp AP recommendations

**The Shrimp AP recommends: That the current requirements of the shrimp permit moratorium remain in effect until October 26, 2026, except that-**

**1) Any shrimp permit that-**

**-Was valid or renewable as of December 31, 2014, and**

**-Is not renewed before the close of the 1 year period after the expiration date of that permit**

**Shall not permanently expire and shall instead be held by the NMFS in the “Gulf Shrimp Permit Reserve”**

**2) NMFS shall reactivate and issue any permit in the Gulf Shrimp Permit Reserve upon the receipt of a qualified application and payment of the applicable fee on a first come, first served basis**

**3) To be qualified, an application must meet the following criteria:**

**-Applicant qualifications: must be a US citizen or US corporation**

**-Vessel qualifications: vessel to which permit is attached must be no less than X ft. registered length**

**The Shrimp AP recommends: To request the Council include the prior motion, as adopted by the AP, recommending Amendment 17 measures in the public scoping document.**