

**Shrimp Committee Report
June 10th, 2015
Corky Perret - Chair**

Final Action Shrimp Amendment 15 – Status Determination Criterial for Penaeid Shrimp and Adjustments to the Shrimp Framework Procedure

The Committee reviewed Shrimp Amendment 15 and the new alternative for Action 1.3. The new alternative gives an MSY based overfished definition which is consistent with the preferred alternative for overfishing.

The Committee recommends, and I so move: in Action 1.3, that alternative 4 be the preferred alternative.

Alternative 4: The overfished threshold is defined as the MSST. The MSST for each penaeid shrimp stock is defined as the minimum spawning stock biomass at MSY (SSB_{MSY}). SSB_{MSY} values for the penaeid shrimp stocks are values produced by the stock synthesis model. Species specific SSB_{MSY} values will be recomputed during the updated assessments, but only among the fishing years 1984-2012. The values for each species will be updated every 5 years through the framework procedure, unless changed earlier by the Council. Currently, the stock synthesis model produces the following values:

- **Brown shrimp: SSB_{MSY} is 6,098,868 lbs of tails**
- **White shrimp: SSB_{MSY} is 365,715,146 lbs of tails**
- **Pink shrimp: SSB_{MSY} is 23,686,906 lbs of tails**

Motion carried with no opposition.

For Action 1.3, it was requested that language outlining the differences between Alternatives 2 and 3 and Alternative 4, similar to what is in Action 1.2, be added to the document.

The Committee recommends, and I so move: to approve the Shrimp Amendment 15 and recommend that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as modified in discussion as necessary and appropriate, giving staff editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document. The Council Chair is given the authority to deem any changes to the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Options Paper for Shrimp Amendment 17 – Addressing the Expiration for the Shrimp Permit Moratorium

The Committee reviewed the options paper for Shrimp Amendment 17. The Committee requested that in the purpose and need section, maintaining a high CPUE be added. After considerable

discussion, the committee felt that it was appropriate to select a preferred alternative for Action 1.

The Committee recommends, and I so move: In Action 1, to select Alternative 2, Option b as the preferred alternative.

**Alternative 2 – Extend the moratorium on the issuance of federal Gulf commercial shrimp vessel permits. The moratorium would be extended for:
Option b. 10 years**

Motion carried with no opposition.

The Committee discussed Action 2.1. It was noted that prior to the moratorium, permits were open access and not monitored, so a number can only be estimated. The Committee requested that for future discussion, the number of latent permits be provided. It was discussed whether or not a permit pool was necessary or if it would be more appropriate for the Council to review the fishery if a target number of permits was reached. Staff will revise the alternatives in Action 2.1 to address this and add two options to each alternative: 1) if the number of permits drops below the target, then a permit pool will be created, and 2) if the number of permits drops below the target, the Council will review the fishery to determine if action is needed. There was also discussion about the eligibility requirements for a permit pool permit in Action 2.2. Eligibility requirements will complicate the document and the process, and the Committee will have to revisit this issue at a later date. It was requested that the “once per year” provision be removed from Action 2.2, alternative 2. Lastly, the Committee reviewed Action 3, which addresses the royal red shrimp endorsement.

The Committee recommends, and I so move: in Action 3, to move alternative 3 to considered but rejected.

Motion carried with no opposition.

The Committee requested that the Shrimp AP review the public hearing draft of Shrimp Amendment 17 prior to the October 2015 Council meeting.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.