

**Shrimp Committee Report  
August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Leann Bosarge - Chair**

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

The Committee reviewed the revised options paper for Shrimp Amendment 17. The Committee did not make any changes to the preferred alternative and option in Action 1. The Committee discussed the current alternatives and options in Action 2-1 and requested the analysis in the document be reviewed by the SSC. While discussing a need for a permit pool it was noted that there are permits available for purchase by new entrants.

The Committee requested that the amendment further discuss the distinction between valid permits and permits that are actively shrimped offshore. The factors affecting landings including environmental variability and shrimp and fuel prices were also discussed. The Committee considered additional reference years and offered the following motion.

**The Committee recommends, and I so move: In Action 2-1, Alternative 3. Set a target number of Gulf shrimp vessel permits based on the number of valid permits issued:**

- 1. at the beginning of the moratorium (1,933 permits)**
- 2. 2009 – 1,722 permits**
- 3. 2011 – 1,582 permits**
- 4. 2013 – 1,501 permits**

**Option a. If the number of permits reaches the target number, any permits that are not or were not renewed within one year of the expiration date on the permit will go into a Gulf Shrimp Vessel Permit Reserve Pool.**

**Option b. If the number of permits reaches the target number, the Council will review the status of the fishery to determine if action is needed.**

Motion carried 3 to 2.

This new alternative may be restructured to be consistent with the rest of the alternatives in Action 2-1. The Committee discussed Action 2-2 which considers eligibility requirements for shrimp permit added to the permit reserve pool. Staff requested additional information on transferability and expiration of permits in the reserve pool.

Staff is planning to take this document to public hearings after the October meeting. The following public hearing locations are proposed:

Brownsville and Galveston, Texas  
Kenner and Lafayette/Abbeville, Louisiana  
Theodore/Tillman's Corner, Alabama  
Biloxi/D'Iberville, Mississippi  
Tampa and Ft. Myers, Florida

### **Other Business - Update on Changes to TED Regulations in Louisiana**

The Committee was updated by Myron Fischer regarding the TED regulations in the State of Louisiana indicating that Louisiana would be enforcing TED regulations. There was further discussion regarding the potential increased enforcement efforts for TED compliance if TEDS are required in skimmer trawls. It also was requested that a list of possible revisions to the TED Boarding form be compiled for NMFS to consider.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.