



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

Managing Fishery Resources in the U.S. Federal Waters of the Gulf of Mexico

4107 West Spruce St Suite 200

Tampa, Florida 33607 USA

Phone: 813.348.1630 • Toll free: 888.833.1844 • Fax: 813.348.1711

www.gulfcouncil.org

007107APR2023

April 28, 2023

Dr. Clay Porch
Director of Southeast Fisheries Science Center
National Marine Fisheries Service
75 Virginia Beach Dr.
Miami, Florida 33149

Dear Dr. Porch:

At its April 3-6, 2023 meeting, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) voted to request the Southeast Fisheries Science Center develop effort estimates for brown, white, and pink shrimp using new shrimp effort model estimation procedures. During the Council meeting, the Shrimp AP Chair relayed concerns from the AP during its March 15-16, 2023, meeting over potential limitations in the types of models which could be explored in Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) 87 if total effort is generated as a combined function of brown, white, and pink shrimp but is not also generated for each individual shrimp species. As brown, white, and pink shrimp are being examined separately during the SEDAR 87 process, it would therefore be beneficial to have available the corresponding species-specific effort estimates, which will likely also reflect the spatial differences in distribution and harvest. The Council recognized the AP's concerns and would like the requested effort estimates prepared in time for evaluation at the SEDAR 87 Data Workshop scheduled for September 18-22, 2023, in Mobile, Alabama.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Matthew Freeman.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Stunz".

Dr. Greg Stunz
Council Chair

cc: Gulf Council / Council Staff / Larry Massey, Ph.D. / Lisa Desfosse, Ph.D. /
Trika Gerard, Ph.D. / Erica Rule / John Walter, Ph.D. / Alan Lowther, Ph.D. /
Molly Stevens, Ph.D. / Katie Siegfried, Ph.D. / Andy Strelcheck / Virginia Fay /
Heather Blough / John McGovern, Ph.D. / Peter Hood