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# Shrimp Futures Project: Addressing Current Challenges and Future Scenario Planning

***NOAA Fisheries SEFSC and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission***

Gulf of Mexico Shrimp AP meeting MARCH 19, 2024

# Current State of the Fishery

- Vital cultural and economic importance to the regional economy
- Future existence in jeopardy due to high imports, low ex-vessel prices, high fuel costs, storms, availability of labor
- Facing economic and environmental uncertainties



# Ongoing Projects

- SEDAR87 Gulf of Mexico Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp Research Track Assessment
- NOAA Fisheries Equity and Environmental Justice Focus Groups
- Climate Ecosystems and Fisheries Initiative



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# 'Shrimp Futures' Project Objectives

- Characterize current state and major challenges
- Develop a short (2025), medium (2030) and long-term (2050) vision for the fishery
- Identify and address the major pathways, impediments and uncertainties towards achieving the visions



# 'Shrimp Futures' Project Actions

- 1) Conceptual modeling:** Collaboratively develop a conceptual model encompassing economic, social, biophysical, and regulatory factors impacting the Southeastern US shrimp fishery. This model will serve as the foundation for subsequent discussions.
- 1) Vision Identification:** Develop short term and long-term visions, specifying key conceptual management objectives.
- 1) Uncertainty Analysis:** Identify the critical factors influencing the fishery, and develop a list of related short, medium and long-term uncertainties that will shape the future.
- 1) Scenario Planning:** Develop short and long-term scenarios for the shrimp fishery taking into account identified uncertainties.



# Potential Partnerships

- Supports National Seafood Strategy
- Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission 'Future of Gulf Seafood'
- **Whole of Government** approach e.g. other agencies
- Council(s) support
- Additional partnerships



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# Key opportunities and communications

- DOT [Port Infrastructure Development Program | MARAD](#)



- Sea Grant funding opportunity: [Young Fishermen's Career Development Projects Competition](#)

## Presentations:

- Louisiana Shrimp Taskforce (March 6th, 2024)
- South Atlantic Council Shrimp AP- April 24, Charleston



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