



Shrimp Amendment 16

Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures for Royal Red Shrimp

Updated 7/22/14



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How do your comments affect fishery management?

Your comments are reported to the Council and NOAA Fisheries and will be considered as the amendment goes through the development process. Once a public hearing draft and draft environmental impact statement are developed, you will have another opportunity to comment on the management alternatives under consideration. Your input will be considered as the Council deliberates and chooses the most appropriate management measures.

How else can I get involved?

There are many ways you can help the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council identify fishery management needs and develop reasonable management alternatives, each dependent on how actively involved you want to become. The first step to becoming involved is to educate yourself about the management process by visiting our website at www.gulfcouncil.org, signing up to receive our communications, and contacting Council members and staff to discuss management. You can attend meetings, serve on panels and committees that advise the Council on fishery issues, and even apply to become a Council member.

Introduction

In 2012, annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) were developed for multiple fishery management plans (FMP), including the Shrimp FMP. The “no action” alternatives and discussions indicated that there were no management restrictions or accountability measures in place for royal red shrimp. However, a quota and in-season quota closure were already in place for this species. This amendment will reconsider the annual catch limits and accountability measures for royal red shrimp.

Scope of Actions

Action 1 - Adjust annual catch limit (ACL) and quota for royal red shrimp

Alternative 1 - No action.

Retain the 334,000-lbs of tails commercial ACL.

Retain the 392,000-lbs of tails quota.

Alternative 2

Retain the 334,000-lbs of tails commercial ACL.

Remove the 392,000-lbs of tails quota.

Preferred Alternative 3

Remove both the 334,000-lbs of tails ACL and the 392,000-lbs of tails quota.

Change the ACL to 337,000-lbs of tails.



Action 2 - Adjust duplicative accountability measures (AM) and closure procedures for royal red shrimp

Alternative 1 - No action.

Retain the AM set through the Generic ACL/AM Amendment.*

Retain the in-season closure set through the revised 1981 FMP.

Alternative 2

Retain the AM set through the Generic ACL/AM Amendment.*

Remove the in-season closure set through the revised 1981 FMP.

Alternative 3

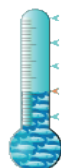
Remove the AM set through the Generic ACL/AM Amendment.*

Retain the in-season closure set through the revised 1981 FMP, which would then serve as the AM.

* If commercial landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the commercial ACL, then during the following fishing year, if commercial landings reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the commercial sector for the remainder of that fishing year.



To comment, please visit: <http://bit.ly/1k5s7KZ>, or click on the thermometer icon on our home page at www.gulfcouncil.org.



Notes

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