



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Tab D, No. 5



Shrimp Futures Project: Addressing Current Challenges and Future Scenario Planning

NOAA Fisheries SEFSC and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING, JANUARY 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

'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