

# Council Actions in Response to Motions from the March 2021 Shrimp AP Meeting



# Motion #1

**Motion:** To request from the Science Center information on years 2000-current, white/brown/pink/royal red species, and number of active, and number of valid and renewable permits in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Status:** *Letter requesting this information was sent to NMFS on May 5, 2021. This information is anticipated to be presented to the Shrimp AP in 2022.*



# Motion #2

**Motion:** To request NMFS to continue with the Texas Federal Closure in the coming year in conjunction with the state of Texas Closure in 2021.

**Status:** *Letter requesting continuation of the TX Federal Closure was sent to NMFS on April 21, 2021. The TX Federal Closure was in place for 2021.*



# Motion #3

**Motion:** The Shrimp AP requests the Council to contribute \$350,000 of its unexpended FY 2020 funds to the cost of LGL Ecological Research Associates' proposed Phase II-B project to develop software that will automatically transmit ELB data obtained from P-Sea WindPlot to a designated server.

***Status:***

***June 2021 Council Motion:*** To fund a call for proposals for expanded sampling of the fleet for effort monitoring in the Gulf of Mexico federally permitted Shrimp industry as presented in agenda item Tab G, No. 5b.

***The RFP is in the process of being re-advertised.***



# Motion #4

**Motion:** Request that the Council write a letter to NOAA OLE notifying them that the Gulf of Mexico shrimp industry should be exempted from the final rule documenting VMS requirements that published on August 7, 2020. These requirements specified the enhanced mobile transceiver unit, cellular based (EMTU-C) be capable of transmission and reception (2-way); which is an undue and unnecessary regulatory requirement, since the shrimp industry only needs one-way transmission of effort data.

**Status:** *See Council motion #1, on slide 9.*



# Motion #5

**Motion:** Request that the Council and NMFS work closely and in a timely fashion with LGL Research Associates to ensure the P-Sea WindPlot pilot program is compliant with the current NMFS minimum requirements for data collection and transmission for the Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery.

**Status:** *This is related to the AP's Motion #3. The Council will include technical details in the RFP, but it will be NMFS who will ultimately approve the final program that may be implemented in the regulations via the Gulf Council process.*



# Motion #6

**Motion:** The Shrimp AP requests the Council in its consultations with the Secretary of Commerce to take into consideration the comments submitted by the Southern Shrimp Alliance to the NOAA Office of Aquaculture on December 21, 2020, regarding the Request for Information on identifying Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Status:** *The Shrimp AP and Council have requested ongoing efforts from NOAA Office of Aquaculture regarding the NOAA Aquaculture Atlas and document development status on the draft Programmatic Impact Statement and identification of Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs). A presentation to the Shrimp AP is scheduled for this meeting (Agenda Item XI). A letter requesting establishment of a fishery stakeholder advisory panel to inform the process of identifying AOAs was sent to NMFS on January 4, 2021.*



# Motion #7

**Motion:** The Shrimp AP requests the Council to support the conduct of a new stock assessment of the Kemp's Ridley sea turtle population according to the modelling approach presented to the AP by LGL Ecological Research Associates, and for the Council to communicate that support to NOAA.

**Status:** *Letter supporting a new stock assessment was sent to NMFS on April 29, 2021.*



# October 2021 Council Mtg

## Motion #1

**MOTION:** Request that NMFS fully evaluate and consider, to the maximum extent possible, the draft approval specifications for reinstating the historical cELB program for the Gulf shrimp fishery in recognition of the legitimate distinctions between a scientific data collection-oriented program and an enforcement-oriented program (see Appendices D and E in the draft Framework Action). NMFS shall provide their evaluation at a future Council meeting.

*Status: Letter requesting this evaluation and presentation was sent to NMFS on November 10, 2021.*



# October 2021 Council Mtg

## Motion #2

**MOTION:** To recommend that the Council request that NMFS arrange for the testing, as soon as possible, of a small sample of approved cellular VMS units programmed to ping every 10 minutes, on federally permitted commercial shrimp vessels operating in different regions of the Gulf of Mexico, to determine if the data generated is compatible with the current cELB algorithm. The testing protocol should be designed by NMFS, in consultation and cooperation with the Shrimp Data Collection Focus Group, VMS vendors, and the shrimp industry, to build industry support and buy-in.

*Status: Letter requesting testing of cellular VMS was sent to NMFS on November 10, 2021. Additionally, a presentation on this topic will be given to the Shrimp AP during this meeting (Agenda Item VIII).*

