Scope of Work
Shrimp Advisory Panel
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
Webinar

Monday, November 16, 2020
10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Agenda Item IV: Update on NMFS Shrimp Working Groups

The AP will be presented with an update on the NMFS Shrimp Working Groups. These working groups are tasked with evaluating various shrimp data processing and estimation methods (life history and environmental data; fishing effort estimation; SEAMAP trawl indices of abundance; catch data and estimation; bycatch estimation). This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item V: Data Issues with Unmatched Trips

The AP will be presented with an overview of data issues related to Gulf shrimp fishery analytical requirements. The presentation will cover how landings data is matched with effort data, why some data is unmatched, and potential solutions to improve current matching. The AP may discuss other possible solutions. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item VI: Pilot Program to Evaluate Use of Vessel Navigation System to Measure Shrimping Effort

The current cellular shrimp electronic logbook program will no longer be supported in the coming year. The shrimping industry is working with the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and Dr. Benny Gallaway to evaluate other avenues to collect shrimp effort data in the Gulf of Mexico. Dr. Gallaway will present an overview of a pilot program that uses a vessel navigation system with modified software to measure shrimping effort. He will also discuss the pilot project design, such as the number and geographic distribution of vessels participating in the program, logistics of data transfer from shrimp vessels to the science center, and project costs of the pilot project. The Shrimp AP is asked to provide the Council with a recommendation on the pilot program.

Agenda Item VII: Better BRDs for the Gulf of Mexico Commercial Shrimp Trawl Fishery

The AP will be presented with information on a bycatch reduction device (BRD) project. The overall goal of this project is to restore fish biomass through actions that are expected to reduce finfish bycatch in the commercial shrimp trawl fishery. Commercial fishing removes biomass of both targeted and non-targeted bycatch species; a reduction in this bycatch would create a restoration benefit for fish biomass lost as a result of exposure to Deepwater Horizon oil and related dispersants. The objectives of this project are to identify and develop bycatch-

reducing technology to reduce commercial fishing pressure on finfish populations and to develop cost-effective solutions and effective incentives to maximize use of improved technology. Specifically, this project will identify, develop, evaluate, and certify new innovative BRDs or BRD combinations for use in US GOM shrimp trawl fisheries and/or distribute currently certified BRDS that are underutilized in GOM fisheries under an incentivized program. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item VIII: Small Bar TEDs

The AP will be presented with information on the Deepwater Horizon - Natural Resource Damage Assessment - Open Ocean funded project "Reducing Juvenile Sea Turtle Bycatch through Development of Reduced Bar Spacing in Turtle Excluder Devices". This project is just beginning implementation and is in a phase one of a multi-step, multi-year process. No regulatory action is to be taken through this project. The purpose of the presentation is to update the industry on the status of the project, and explain plans to engage the industry through multiple stages of project implementation. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item IX: Other Business

The AP may discuss other items of business that are added during the adoption of the agenda.