

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

**Hybrid Meeting
March 29, 2022
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET**

Agenda Item IV: Council Actions in Response to Motions from the December 2021 Shrimp AP Meeting, and January 2022 Council Meeting Motions

Council staff will provide an overview of Council actions in response to the Shrimp AP's motions at the December 2021 meeting. Council staff will also present the Council motions from its January 2022 meeting, related to the shrimp industry. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item V: Update on Council RFP to Address Expanded Sampling of the Fleet for Effort Monitoring in the Gulf Shrimp Industry

The AP will receive a brief update from Council staff on the status of the Council's Request for Proposals. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item VI: Update on Plan for Pilot Testing of VMS Units on Gulf Shrimp Vessels

The AP will be presented with an update on the plan for pilot testing of VMS units on Gulf shrimp vessels. The AP first received a presentation on the draft plan at its December 2021 meeting. The AP should ask questions and provide feedback on the updated plan. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item VII: NMFS's Evaluation of Draft Specifications for Reinstating Historical cELB Program

The AP will be presented with NMFS' response to a Council request for an evaluation of draft approval specifications for reinstating the historical cELB program; the Council received NMFS' response at its January 2022 meeting. The Council requested specific items be considered in the evaluation: logistics involved in either bringing a National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service server online for data transmission or use of a Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission server; which office or center of the National Marine Fisheries Service will house the technical specifications for the Gulf shrimp industry; who will handle the scientific testing and vetting of vendors seeking type-approval. The AP should consider the presentation and ask questions.

Agenda Item VIII: Review of Draft Shrimp Framework Action

The AP will be presented with the draft framework action to transition the Gulf shrimp fishery from the expired 3G cELB to a new device collecting vessel position data for the purpose of maintaining effort estimation. Staff will review draft alternatives. The AP should consider the presented information, ask questions, and may consider recommending a preferred alternative to the Council.

Agenda Item IX: 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 to assess adequacy and appropriateness to inform stock assessments, required regulatory reporting, and management advice (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. The AP should consider the presentation and ask questions.

Agenda Item X: An Update on the Development of Brown and White Shrimp Empirical Dynamic Models (EDM)

Dr. Masi (SERO) will present an update on the development of empirical dynamic models for predicting brown and white shrimp abundance in the Gulf of Mexico, and provide information about how this project relates to the efforts of the index working group for shrimp. The research is expected to produce a more agile modeling framework for timely management that also produces the needed status determination criteria. These models are expected to be considered for the upcoming SEDAR research track assessment scheduled to start in mid-2023. The summary from the SSC's March 2022 meeting is provided, as the SSC received a similar presentation from NMFS on EDMs. The AP should consider the information presented, ask questions, and provide feedback as appropriate.

Agenda Item XI: An Update on Gulf of Mexico Atlantis Ecosystem Model, And the Intention to Use the Peer-Reviewed Model for Shrimp Simulations and Strategic Management Advice

Dr. Masi will present on a SEFSC funded project to update and peer-review an existing Gulf of Mexico Atlantis model, and the intention to then use the model to simulate a Gulf shrimp policy scenario that is relevant to the Gulf Council. The AP should consider the information presented, ask questions, and provide feedback as appropriate.

Agenda Item XII: 2020 Gulf Shrimp Fishery Effort and Landings

The AP will be presented with information regarding the status of Gulf shrimp fishery effort and landings estimates. The presentation will highlight the challenges with generating these estimates and describe the efforts the SEFSC are undertaking to allow reliable estimation of shrimp effort and landings. The AP should consider the information presented and ask questions.

Agenda Item XIII: Update on Number of Active Gulf Shrimp Permits, Economic Estimates, and Royal Red Landings

Dr. Travis (SERO) will present an update on the number of Gulf shrimp permits and active Gulf shrimp permits through 2019. He will also provide new estimates reflecting the economic performance of the fishery from 2014-2019. Information will be provided regarding royal red landings from the Gulf being landed in the Atlantic, recent information on average prices for royal red shrimp in the Gulf, and estimates of red shrimp imports from Argentina. This information request came from the Council, in response to a Shrimp AP motion. The AP should consider the information presented and ask questions.

Agenda Item XIV: 2020 Royal Red Index

The AP will be presented with the 2020 Royal Red index, relating landings to the ACL. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item XV: Biological Review of the Texas Closure

The AP will be presented with the analysis of the Texas Closure. The Shrimp AP is asked to provide the Council with a recommendation on the Texas Closure for 2022.

Agenda Item XVI: Update on Sea Turtle Take and TED Compliance

The AP will be presented with an update on observed sea turtles in trawls and TED compliance information. The AP should consider the information presented and ask questions.

Agenda Item XVII: Update on Publication of Gulf of Mexico Aquaculture Opportunity Areas' Notice of Intent

The Shrimp AP will receive an update on the preparation of a Notice of Intent to Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in the Gulf of Mexico and public comment period that will follow. This information does not require any formal AP action.

Agenda Item XVIII: Public Comment

Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak. Directions for providing testimony can be found here: <https://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/Public-Comment-GoToWebinar-Instructions.pdf>

Agenda Item XIX: Other Business

Other items may be added during the Adoption of the Agenda.