

## § 622.50 Permits, permit moratorium, and endorsements.

(a) ***Gulf shrimp permit.*** For a person aboard a vessel to fish for shrimp in the Gulf EEZ or possess shrimp in or from the Gulf EEZ, a commercial vessel permit for Gulf shrimp must have been issued to the vessel and must be on board. See [paragraph \(b\)](#) of this section regarding a moratorium on commercial vessel permits for Gulf shrimp and the associated provisions. See [paragraph \(c\)](#) of this section, regarding an additional endorsement requirement related to royal red shrimp.

(b) ***Moratorium on commercial vessel permits for Gulf shrimp.*** The provisions of this [paragraph \(b\)](#) are applicable through **October 26, 2026**.

(1) ***Moratorium permits are required.*** The only valid commercial vessel permits for Gulf shrimp are commercial vessel moratorium permits for Gulf shrimp. In accordance with the procedures specified in the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf (Gulf Shrimp FMP), all commercial vessel moratorium permits for Gulf shrimp have been issued. No additional permits will be issued.

(2) ***Permit transferability.*** Commercial vessel moratorium permits for Gulf shrimp are fully transferable, with or without the sale of the vessel. To request that the RA transfer a commercial vessel moratorium permit for Gulf shrimp, the owner of a vessel that is to receive the transferred permit must complete the transfer information on the reverse of the permit and return the permit and a completed application for transfer to the RA. Transfer documents must be notarized as specified in [§ 622.4\(f\)\(1\)](#).

(3) ***Renewal.***

(i) Renewal of a commercial vessel moratorium permit for Gulf shrimp is contingent upon compliance with the recordkeeping and reporting requirements for Gulf shrimp specified in [§ 622.51\(a\)](#).

(ii) Except as provided for in [paragraph \(b\)\(3\)\(iii\)](#) of this section, a commercial vessel moratorium permit for Gulf shrimp that is not renewed will be terminated and will not be reissued during the moratorium. A permit is considered to be not renewed when an application for renewal, as required, is not received by the RA within 1 year of the expiration date of the permit.

(iii) When NMFS has determined that the number of commercial vessel moratorium permits for Gulf shrimp has reached the threshold number of permits as described in the FMP, then a commercial vessel moratorium permit for Gulf shrimp that is not renewed will be converted to a Gulf shrimp reserve pool permit and held by NMFS for possible reissuance. Gulf shrimp reserve pool permits will not be issued until eligibility requirements are developed and implemented through subsequent rulemaking.