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Shrimp AP Meeting – Agenda Item VIII

10/8/2026

Given declining economic conditions in the federal Gulf shrimp industry, the Gulf Council (Council) received an update of the number of valid or renewable federal Gulf shrimp permits (1,185 permits as of July 21, 2026) at the August 2026 meeting. The Council requested another update at the October 2026 meeting, given that the number of permits was reaching the threshold established in Action 4 of Shrimp Amendment 17B[1].

> **Action 4, Preferred Alternative 4 of Shrimp Amendment 17B:**
>
> When the number of valid or renewable shrimp moratorium permits reaches 1,175, the Council will form a review panel to review the details of a permit pool and other options. The panel would consist of Shrimp Advisory Panel (AP) members, Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) members, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Council staff. If the number of permits reaches the threshold set in Action 3, any permits that are not renewed within one year of the expiration date on the permit will go into a Reserve Pool.

Based on the above preferred alternative, the Gulf Council will need to approve a final membership list and a charge for the Review Panel. A draft membership list and draft charge are provided below for the Gulf Council's consideration.

Draft Membership List

To be populated	Shrimp AP
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Jim Nance	SSC
Andrew Ropicki	SSC
Frank Helies	NMFS Staff – Southeast Regional Office
Jessica Stephen	NMFS Staff – Southeast Regional Office
Matt Freeman	Council Staff

Draft Charge of Shrimp Permit Pool Review Panel

As established in Shrimp Amendment 17B, the Shrimp Permit Pool Review Panel will review the details of a permit pool and other options. The Panel would determine if action was needed in response to permits reaching the Panel threshold of 1,175 valid or renewable federal Gulf

[1] https://gulf-council-media.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/2025/03/Final-Shrimp-Amendment-17B_508Compliant.pdf

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shrimp permits and make recommendations to the Council. That action could be to establish criteria for issuance and maintenance of permits from the permit pool or to establish any other management measure. Any recommended action would be developed through the Council process. Recommendations from the Review Panel will be presented to the Council at a future meeting.