



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
703.842.0740

ASMFC Northern Shrimp Section Selects Final Measures for Amendment 3 and Recommends Final Approval by the Commission

Portland, ME – The Commission’s Northern Shrimp Section (Section) selected final measures for Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Northern Shrimp and recommended Commission approval of the Amendment at its next Business Session meeting, likely in October in Norfolk, VA. The Amendment is designed to improve management of the northern shrimp resource in the event the fishery reopens (the fishery has been under moratorium since 2014). Specifically, the Amendment refines the FMP objectives and provides the flexibility to use the best available information to define the status of the stock and set the total allowable catch (TAC). Furthermore, the Amendment implements a state-specific allocation program to better manage effort in the fishery; 80% of the annual TAC will be allocated to Maine, 10% to New Hampshire, and 10% to Massachusetts. Fishermen with a trap landings history will continue to operate under gear-specific allocations (i.e., 87% of the state-specific quota will be allocated to the trawl fishery, and 13% to the trap fishery), however, the Section anticipates exploring alternative measures through the adaptive management process that would allow states to modify allocation between gear types on an annual basis. The Section also has the discretion to roll over unused quota from the states of New Hampshire and Massachusetts to Maine by a date determined during annual specifications.

Additionally, the Amendment strengthens catch and landings reporting requirements to ensure all harvested shrimp are being reported, and requires shrimp-directed trawl vessels to use either a double-Nordmore or compound grate system (both designed to minimize the catch of small, presumably male, shrimp). Other changes include the implementation of accountability measures (i.e., penalties if states exceed their quota), specification of a maximum fishing season length, and formalizing fishery-dependent monitoring requirements.

The Section will meet November 29 (location to be determined) to review the 2017 stock status report and set specifications for the 2018 fishing season. For more information, please contact Max Appelman, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at mappelman@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740.

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The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and anadromous species.

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201
703.842.0740 (phone) 703.842.0741 (fax) www.asmfc.org

Northern Shrimp Section Motions
August 31, 2017
Summary for Final Action on Amendment 3

Move to adopt under:

- **Section 2.3 Option B: implement revised objectives**
- **Section 2.5 Option B: best available science**
- **Section 3.1.1 Option B: weekly reporting of all sale at first point of contact**
- **Section 3.1.2 Option B: port sampling of commercial landings is required**
- **Section 4.1.1 Option C: flexible TAC setting procedure based on best available science**

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. Armstrong. Motion accept by unanimous consent.

Main Motion

Move to adopt under section 4.1.2. Option C4 and modify that states have the option to modify annual allocation between gear types and must report back the Northern Shrimp Section prior to the start of the fishing year.

Motion made by Mr. Keliher and seconded by Mr. White. Motion substituted.

Motion to Substitute

Move to substitute to adopt under section 4.1.2. Option C4 and sub-option C2 quota reconciliation and sub-option C3 quota rollover with the provision that the roll over date will be established via Section vote during the specification setting process.

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. Keliher. Motion carries unanimously.

Main Motion as Substituted

Move to adopt under section 4.1.2 Option C4 and sub-option C2 quota reconciliation and sub-option C3 quota rollover with the provision that the roll over date will be established via Section vote during the specification setting process.

Motion by Mr. Grout, seconded by Mr. Keliher. Motion carries unanimously.

Move to adopt under Section 4.1.2.2 Option B2.

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. Keliher. Motion carries unanimously.

Move to adopt under Section 4.1.3 Option B1.

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. Armstrong. Motion carries unanimously.

Move to adopt under Section 4.1.12 Option B and the provision that this requirement can be modified by a Section vote.

Motion made by Mr. Keliher and seconded by Mr. Grout. Motion carries unanimously.

Move that states implement the provisions of Amendment 3 by the first day of the next approved season not including a Research Set Aside under a moratorium.

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. Armstrong. Motion carries unanimously.

Move to recommend that the Commission approve Amendment 3 to the Northern Shrimp Fishery Management Plan, as modified by the Section, at its next Business Session meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. Train. Motion carries unanimously.

Move to approve Kurtis Lang's membership to the Northern Shrimp Advisory Panel.

Motion made by Mr. Grout and seconded by Mr. White. Motion carries unanimously.