May 2025

Shrimp Futures Initiative

NOAA FISHERIES

Southeast Fisheries Science Center

NOAA's Southeast Fisheries Science Center is working to understand the profound challenges facing the Southeast's shrimp fisheries to help prepare for their uncertain future.

Project Overview

Southeast shrimp fisheries are of significant cultural and economic importance. They face many challenges that will determine their future viability and prosperity. NOAA's Southeast Fisheries Science Center is championing the Shrimp Futures Initiative to examine these challenges, explore the industry's vision for the fishery, and identify opportunities to support the industry's future.

THE PRESENT

For the first component, we are characterizing the current state of the fishery through an economic analysis including current economic conditions, trends, and threats. This will identify the major challenges impacting fishery performance. We have also built strong connections with key partners and agencies, collecting their assessments of the industry's status. With this knowledge, we will identify immediate actions that might support the shrimp industry in the shorter term.

THE FUTURE

In the second half of this endeavor, we will organize workshops with the shrimp industry, fishery managers, and government agencies to develop a long-term vision for the fisheries. This will inform future scenario planning to identify the key interventions that would help achieve a long-term vision of a healthy, profitable, and competitive wild-caught American shrimp fishery.

Anticipated Outcomes

- Long-term vision for the fishery: where do we want to be in 2050?
- Essential adaptations for the fishery to achieve the long term vision
- Actionable plan to be presented to managers and decision-makers within and outside of NOAA Fisheries to fortify the shrimp fishery against uncertainties and ensure its sustainable success despite evolving challenges

This initiative supports NOAA Fisheries' National Seafood Strategy, aligns directly with Executive Order 13921, "*Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness*", and positions us to better support our nation's fishing communities.

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More Information: