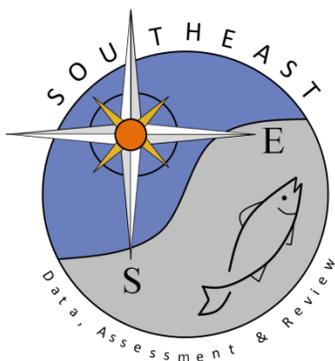


## Federal Shrimp Permit Data Information

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SEDAR-PW6-WP03

Submitted: 19 June 2014



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Please cite this document as:

Michie, K. 2014. Federal Shrimp Permit Data Information. SEDAR-PW6-WP03. SEDAR, North Charleston, SC. 3 pp.

**Federal Shrimp Permit Data Information**  
**Shrimp Procedural Workshop July 22-24, 2014**  
**Charleston, SC**

**Background**

*Gulf of Mexico*

The Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery is managed under the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf Shrimp FMP), which was implemented in 1981. Since that time, the Gulf Shrimp FMP has been amended 15 times to implement various management measures. Amendment 11 to the Gulf Shrimp (2002) established a requirement that owners and operators of all vessels harvesting shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico exclusive economic zone. In September 2006, a final rule to implement Amendment 13 to the Gulf Shrimp FMP was implemented, and established a 10-year moratorium on issuance of Federal Gulf shrimp vessel permits. This rule also requires owners and operators fishing for royal red shrimp to obtain a royal red shrimp endorsement.

*South Atlantic*

In 1991 the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council developed a fishery management plan specific to the South Atlantic region. Since that time, the South Atlantic Shrimp FMP has been amended nine times to implement various management measures. On January 11, 2006, the final rule to implement Amendment 6 to the Shrimp FMP became effective. The rule required an owner or operator of trawler that harvests or possesses penaeid shrimp in or from federal waters off the southern Atlantic states to obtain a commercial vessel permit for South Atlantic penaeid shrimp. The amendment also established a limited access rock shrimp endorsement, and an open access rock shrimp permit. Amendment 7 to the South Atlantic Shrimp FMP, implemented November 2, 2009, renamed the rock shrimp endorsement and the rock shrimp permit to alleviate persistent confusion over the endorsement renewal process. They each became new permits, one open access, and one limited access (described below).

**Permit Types**

**Gulf Shrimp Moratorium Permit:** This is a limited access permit that allows the vessel to harvest penaeid shrimp with allowable gear types in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

**Gulf Royal Red Shrimp Permit:** This is a limited access permit, which acts like an endorsement to the Gulf shrimp moratorium permit. A vessel owner or operator must first have a valid Gulf shrimp moratorium permit in order to have a Gulf royal red shrimp permit.

**South Atlantic Penaeid Shrimp Permit:** This is an open access permit, which allows commercial harvest of penaeid shrimp in federal waters of the South Atlantic.

**Rock Shrimp South Atlantic EEZ Permit:** This is a limited access permit, which allows commercial harvest of rock shrimp in federal waters of the South Atlantic region. A vessel must have a valid/renewable South Atlantic penaeid shrimp permit in order to obtain a South Atlantic EEZ rock shrimp permit.

**South Atlantic Rock Shrimp Carolinas Zone:** This is an open access permit which allows commercial rock shrimp harvest in federal waters only off the coasts of North Carolina and South Carolina. A vessel must have a valid/renewable South Atlantic penaeid shrimp permit in order to obtain a Carolinas zone rock shrimp permit.

### **Current Permit Numbers**

The 2014 permit counts reflect the numbers of permits already renewed or valid and renewable for this year as of May 27, 2014. For a limited access permit, the number of valid and renewable/transferable permits are shown because they have one year after their expiration date to renew their permit or it is terminated. For the open access permits, only the number of valid permits are shown because open access permits do not terminate - they can renew their permit after a year and the permit processor will select “Renew” or “New” as the transaction type.

Below is a snapshot of current numbers of permits as of May 27, 2014.

**Gulf Shrimp Moratorium Permit (valid and renewable):** 1,488

**Gulf Royal Red Shrimp Permit (valid):** 294

**South Atlantic Penaeid Shrimp Permit (valid):** 498

**Rock Shrimp South Atlantic EEZ Permit (valid and renewable):** 105

**South Atlantic Rock Shrimp Carolinas Zone (valid):** 93

### **Permit Trends Through Time**

*Notes about the permit information:*

The yearly shrimp permit information provided below is from the NMFS Permits Database. In 2007 the permits system was migrated to a new database and permits information prior to 2007 that is found in the current system may not be reliable. Therefore, the permit counts are the for the 2008-2014 time series.

**Table 1.** Gulf Moratorium Shrimp Permit (limited access)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Permits</b>
2008	1933
2009	1907
2010	1723
2011	1632

2012	1582
2013	1546
2014	1488

**Table 2.** Gulf Royal Red Shrimp Permit (open access)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Permits</b>
2008	388
2009	339
2010	325
2011	331
2012	351
2013	331
2014	294

**Table 3.** South Atlantic Penaeid Shrimp Permit (open access)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Permits</b>
2008	754
2009	691
2010	657
2011	629
2012	638
2013	615
2014	498

**Table 4.** Rock Shrimp South Atlantic EEZ Permit (limited access)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Permits</b>
2008	127
2009	122
2010	111
2011	111
2012	109
2013	107
2014	105

**Table 5.** South Atlantic Rock Shrimp Carolinas Zone (open access)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Permits</b>
2008	317
2009	295
2010	173
2011	156
2012	162
2013	151
2014	93