



# *Shrimp Fishery Management Plan*

Draft Amendment 2 Overview

*DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY*

Marine Fisheries

MFC Meeting | Chris Stewart, Jason Rock, Dan Zapf | February 2021



## *Draft Amendment 2: Goal and Objectives*

### **Goal:**

Manage the shrimp fishery to provide adequate resource protection, optimize long-term harvest, and minimize ecosystem impacts.

### **Objectives:**

- Reduce bycatch of non-target species of finfish and crustaceans, as well as protected, threatened, and endangered species.
- Promote the restoration, enhancement, and protection of habitat and environmental quality in a manner consistent with the CHPP.
- Develop a strategy through the CHPP to review current nursery areas and to identify and evaluate potential areas suitable for designation.
- Use biological, environmental, habitat, fishery, social, and economic data needed to effectively monitor and manage the shrimp fishery and its ecosystem impacts (i.e., bycatch, habitat degradation).
- Promote implementation of research and education programs designed to improve stakeholder and the general public's understanding of shrimp trawl bycatch impacts on fish population dynamics.



## *Draft Amendment 2 Issue Papers*

- Data richness varied and was a key factor for discussion points
- Habitat benefits and bycatch reductions are non-quantifiable
- Issues are inter-related and must be considered in conjunction with one another
- The drafted issues address commission input
- Discussion points will be used to begin conversation with the Shrimp Advisory Committee



# Draft Amendment 2: Issues



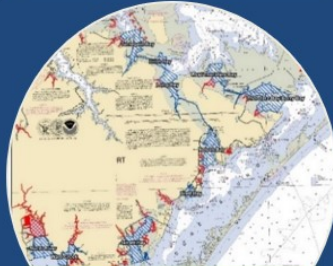
## Habitat Protection

### Overview:

- ▶ Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) and shell bottom habitats are critical habitat for many economically important finfish and invertebrates.

### Example Options:

- ▶ Specific trawl closures could be implemented to protect submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) and shell bottom habitats



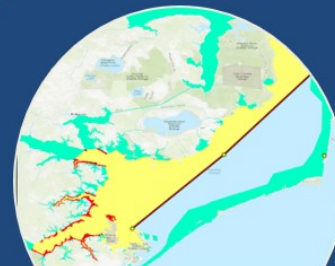
## SSNAs

### Overview:

- ▶ Special secondary nursery areas (SSNAs) provide essential habitat for many developing sub-adult finfish and invertebrates.

### Example Options:

- ▶ Change designation of special secondary nursery areas to permanent secondary nursery areas, static seasons, and delayed openings



## Area Restrictions

### Overview:

- ▶ Connectivity between protected areas and creating migration corridors to better encompass the life cycle and distribution of key finfish species.

### Example Options:

- ▶ Area closures in Pamlico Sound and adjacent water bodies



## Managing Effort

### Overview:

- ▶ Limited data for these measures due to variability in fishing practices, habitat, and environment make bycatch reductions hard to quantify. Management measures may be used to reduce effort and limit conflicts.

### Example Options:

- ▶ Gear modification, time limits, harvest limits, and increased access for non-trawl gears



# *Shrimp FMP Amendment 2 Next Steps*

• Division holds public scoping period

• Marine Fisheries Commission approve goal and objectives of FMP

• **Division draft FMP**

Next Step

• Division hold workshops to further develop draft FMP with plan advisory committee

• Division update draft plan for Marine Fisheries Commission presentation

• Marine Fisheries Commission vote to send draft FMP for public and advisory committee review

• Commission advisory committees meet to review draft FMP and receive public comment

• Marine Fisheries Commission select preferred management options

• Department of Environmental Quality secretary and legislative review draft FMP

• Marine Fisheries Commission vote on final adoption of FMP

• Division and Marine Fisheries Commission implement management strategies

## *Dates of Workshops*

March 2, 6 p.m. – Orientation

March 4, 3 p.m. – Protection of Critical Habitats

March 9, 3 p.m. – Shrimp Management in SSNAs

March 10, 3 p.m. – Area Restrictions to Reduce Shrimp Trawl Bycatch

March 11, 3 p.m. – Managing Effort and Gear Modifications

March 15, 5 p.m. – Closing Discussion

## *Next Steps*

The division requests the commission review, discuss, and provide feedback on the issues identified by the division in accordance with the MFC approved Amendment 2 goal and objectives.

# Questions?

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