

Current Trends in the Shrimp Fishery and Shrimp Imports

Over the past two years, diseases affecting aquacultured shrimp in Asia, such as Early Mortality Syndrome (EMS), have led to an overall decline in imported shrimp to the U.S. This has led to Louisiana and other U.S. shrimpers getting more money for their catch.

Last year prices were at a record high. However, EMS is currently less of a problem and prices are falling a bit as more imports are coming into the U.S. During this time, India took over as the number one exporter of shrimp to the U.S., surpassing Thailand.

While disease is not currently a major issue, antibiotic use is becoming one. While there are antibiotics approved for use in fish aquaculture under specific guidelines, no antibiotics are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in crustacean aquaculture - this includes shrimp.

More imports are being checked for, and rejected due to antibiotic residue on the shrimp. Last year more than 200 entries of shrimp were refused for antibiotic residue. In January and February of 2015, more than 80 entries of shrimp imports were refused due to antibiotic residues. In March, the FDA created import alert 16-131 which included the presence of drugs or additives in several species including shrimp.

As the majority of shrimp consumed in the U.S. is imported, farmed shrimp, the amount of shrimp successfully imported into the U.S. has a direct impact on the price shrimp fishermen get dockside and consumers pay at the store.

- Julie Lively

For more information:

http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cms_ia/importalert_33.html

<http://www.shrimpalliance.com/fda-is-cracking-down-on-contaminated-shrimp-imports/>



Photo credit: Paula Ouder

Tow Times Reminder for April 1

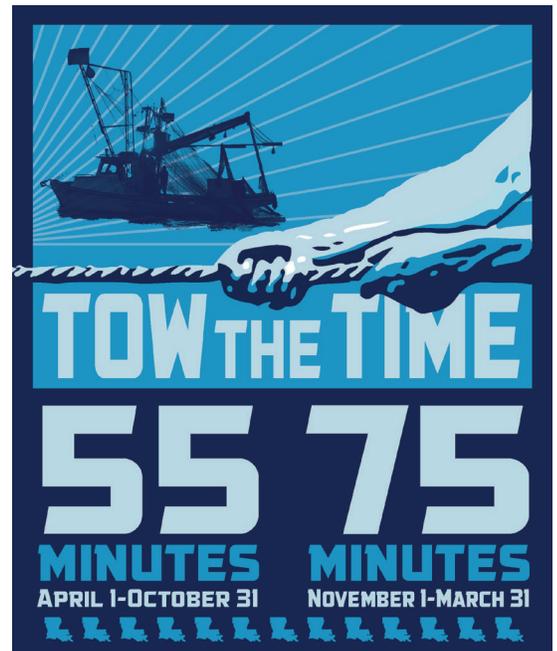
Shrimp fishermen using skimmer trawls, pusher-head trawls and wing-net trawls without TEDs have tow time limits to help prevent incidental catch of turtles. Tow time limits are:

55 minutes from April 1 through Oct. 31

75 minutes from Nov. 1 through March 31

Tow times are measured from the time the codend enters the water until it is completely removed from the water. Raising a net to the water surface to determine catch size – without removing the codend from the water – does not end the tow clock.

For more information from NOAA, visit www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/turtles/skimmertrawlnets.htm



LOUISIANA REGULATIONS

Louisiana sets 2015 Recreational Red Snapper Season

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) announced the Louisiana red snapper season in Louisiana state waters opened on Friday, March 20, at 12:01 a.m., and will remain open seven days per week until further notice.

The “Louisiana-only” season: The bag and possession limit for the state-waters season is two fish per person at a 16-inch minimum total length.

The Louisiana Gulfward Boundary: In June 2012, the Commission took action to extend Louisiana state waters from three miles offshore to three marine leagues, or approximately nine nautical miles, offshore. LDWF officials encourage fishermen to use caution and their own personal judgment when fishing beyond the three-mile boundary that is currently recognized as federal waters, as it is fully expected that federal agents will continue to enforce federal law. Until U.S. Congress confirms Louisiana’s action, the battle will continue over Louisiana’s state water boundary.

Recreational Offshore Landing Permit: LDWF reminds anglers that a Recreational Offshore Landing Permit is required in order to possess certain species, including red snapper. Anglers may obtain or renew the permit, free of charge at <https://rolp.wlf.la.gov>.

State-based Management Framework for Red Snapper

In an historic and unprecedented move, all five Gulf states have unanimously agreed on a new framework for cooperative state-based management of Gulf red snapper and have submitted it to the Gulf states' congressional delegations for their consideration for future legislation. This alternative management strategy would remove red snapper from federal authority and place responsibility for this highly valuable species in the hands of a new, independent body called the Gulf States Red Snapper Management Authority (GSR SMA), comprised of the principle marine fisheries managers from each Gulf state.

Under the GSR SMA framework, each state would be responsible for all management of red snapper in their respective state and adjacent federal waters. The GSR SMA would approve each state's management plan, coordinate population assessments, provide consistent accountability measures, and distribute federal funding for research, assessment, and management.

GULF OF MEXICO REGULATIONS

Comments to Collect Red Drum in Federal Waters off Mississippi

NOAA Fisheries is accepting comments on an application for an exempted fishing permit from the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The application proposes to allow Mississippi-licensed for-hire vessels to harvest and possess red drum from federal waters during the course of regular for-hire fishing trips. This two-year study would collect biological information on offshore red drum to aid biologists in assessing the status of the population in a future stock assessment.

Dates and Addresses:

Comments must be received no later than April 23, 2015. You may submit comments on the application, identified by RIN 0648-XD816, by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: 0648.XD816.Red.Drum.EFP@noaa.gov. Please include "Red Drum EFP" in the subject line of the e-mail.
- Mail: Steve Branstetter, NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

This bulletin only provides an overview of the application. For additional information, contact Steve Branstetter at (727) 824-5305 or by e-mail at Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov.

Lagniappe Fisheries Newsletter

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Red Snapper Recreational Accountability Measures

A final rule adds two long-term recreational accountability measures for red snapper. Accountability measures reduce the chances the harvest will exceed the quota, and if the quota is exceeded, take corrective action. The final rule will be effective April 20, 2015.

The first accountability measure establishes a recreational annual catch target. The annual catch target is 20 percent less than the recreational quota. Projected recreational seasons will be based on the annual catch target rather than the quota. This measure is expected to reduce the probability of exceeding the quota in any given year from 50 percent to 15 percent.

The second accountability measure is an overage adjustment that is only applied when the red snapper population is considered overfished (the population is too low). In the event the recreational quota is exceeded, the recreational quota will be reduced in the year following the overage by the amount of the overage. This quota reduction could be modified if the best scientific information available determines that a different amount is necessary. Under this measure, the recreational annual catch target would be set at 20 percent below the adjusted quota.

Fish Gear Coordinates

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that 13 claims in the amount of \$45,217.96 were received for payment during the period Feb. 1-28, 2015.

There were 11 paid and two denied.

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates, in Degree Decimal Minutes, of reported underwater obstructions are:

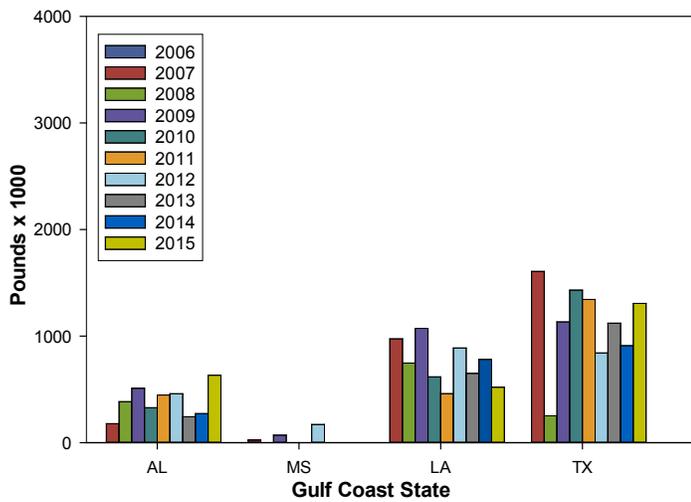
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29 12.365	90 32.215	TERREBONNE
29 13.058	89 03.719	PLAQUEMINES
29 18.550	89 51.287	PLAQUEMINES
29 19.688	89 55.428	TERREBONNE
29 21.814	89 58.588	JEFFERSON
29 25.050	90 04.566	TERREBONNE
29 25.783	89 56.338	PLAQUEMINES
29 39.040	92 53.840	CAMERON
29 41.502	89 47.001	PLAQUEMINES
29 50.893	89 20.360	SAINT BERNARD
29 93.580	89 53.412	SAINT BERNARD

A list of claimants and amounts paid can be obtained from Gwendolyn Thomas, administrator, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 44277, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 or you can call (225) 342-9388.

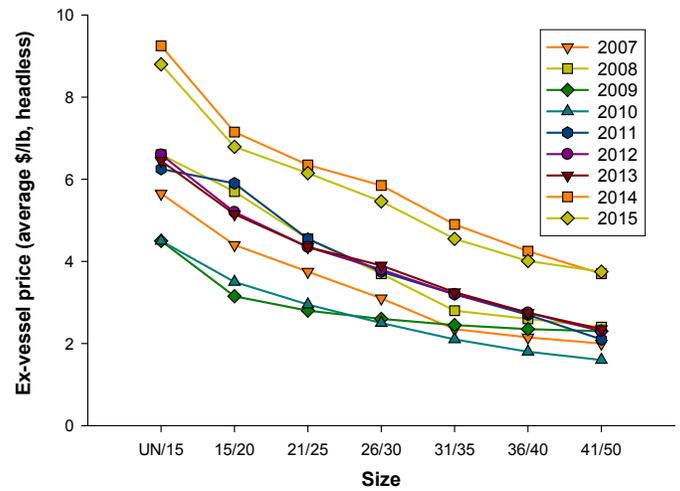
Louisiana Shrimp Watch

Louisiana specific data portrayed in the graphics are selected from preliminary data posted by NOAA on its website. All data portrayed are subject to final revision and approval by NOAA. Shrimp landings are ex-vessel prices, inclusive of all species harvested. Missing, inadequate or withheld reports are portrayed as “zero” in these graphics. Price graphics reflect central Gulf states only (Texas and Florida are reported independently). For more information, please refer to: www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market_news/index.html.

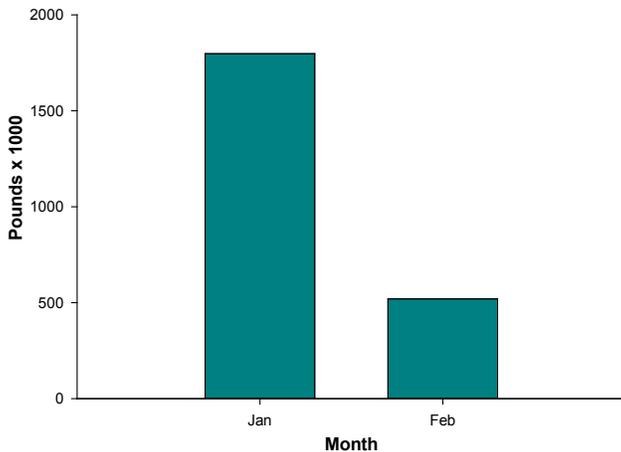
February Shrimp Harvest



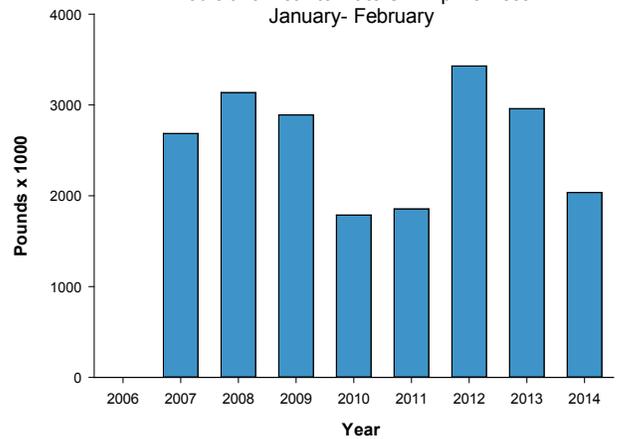
February Northern GoM Shrimp Prices



Louisiana 2014 Shrimp Harvest



Louisiana Year to Date Shrimp Harvest January- February



The Gumbo Pot

Shrimp and Corn Chowder with Bacon

Recipe courtesy of *Louisiana Kitchen & Culture*. For more recipes or to subscribe to their magazine or free newsletter, please visit <http://louisiana.kitchenandculture.com/>

Ingredients

2 pounds whole kernel corn, fresh or frozen
 2 carrots, peeled and sliced thin
 2 russet potatoes, peeled and chopped
 1 red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
 3 cups seafood or chicken stock
 1 (8-ounce) bottle clam juice
 1/2 cup dry white wine or additional broth
 1 bay leaf
 1 teaspoon garlic powder
 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
 1 pound small shrimp, peeled and deveined
 1/2 cup heavy cream, room temperature
 sliced green onions
 cooked crumbled bacon
 hot sauce



Photo credit: Louisiana Kitchen & Culture

Method:

Place the corn, carrots, potatoes, bell peppers, broth, clam juice, wine, bay leaf, garlic powder, and pepper in a lightly greased large slow cooker. Cover and cook on low for six hours. Remove and discard the bay leaf. Using an immersion blender, pulse the soup to slightly purée. Add the shrimp and cream and stir well. Cover and let stand for five minutes before serving warm with a garnish of green onions and crumbled bacon. Have plenty of hot toasted French bread; pass the hot sauce at the table.

If you have a favorite seafood recipe that you would like to share, please send it to Julie Lively janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu for inclusion in future issues.



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We would like to hear from you! Please contact us regarding fishery questions, comments or concerns you would like to see covered in the Lagniappe. Anyone interested in submitting information, such as articles, editorials or photographs pertaining to fishing or fisheries management is encouraged to do so.

Please contact Lagniappe editor Julie Anderson Lively at janderson@agcenter.lsu.edu.

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