



The Shrimp e-Advocate

News Edition

August 2007

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The Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA) is a non-profit alliance of members of the U.S. shrimp industry in eight states committed to preventing the continued deterioration of America's shrimp industry and to ensuring the industry's future viability. SSA serves as the national voice for the shrimp fishermen and processors in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas.

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Commerce Recommends Lifting Duties on Shrimp from Ecuador

The Department of Commerce ("Commerce") has issued a final determination that could allow Ecuador, the second largest supplier of shrimp to the U.S. market, to escape antidumping duties. The Administration asked Commerce to re-calculate the Ecuadorian shrimp antidumping duties without the use of the "zeroing" methodology in a voluntary response to a WTO ruling. Commerce had a choice of WTO-consistent calculation alternatives that would have kept antidumping duties in place. However, in a hasty decision that arrived a month early, it ignored these alternatives. Despite issuing the decision early, Commerce claimed that it did "not have sufficient time" to address one of the alternatives proposed by SSA. The determination was the most harmful possible outcome of the Section 129 case.

The United States Trade Representative now must consult with Congress and determine whether or not to implement Commerce's recommendation to remove antidumping duties on Ecuadorian shrimp imports. The decision to remove antidumping duties is a foreign policy decision. USTR is under no legal obligation from U.S. courts to recalculate the antidumping orders, but is doing so to implement a WTO ruling that USTR has called illegitimate. In fact, the USTR is negotiating with WTO members to make clear that zeroing is permitted in both investigations and administrative reviews and has said the WTO rulings on zeroing "did not result from the negotiated text of the agreement."

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SSA contends that the U.S. government should suspend the implementation of any WTO zeroing rulings resulting in the revocation of the antidumping duties until international negotiations resolve this issue.

SSA Testifies to Congress on Proposed U.S. Trade Laws

SSA executive director John Williams testified yesterday before the House of Representatives Ways and Means

equivalency certifications would be allowed. The bill has been co-sponsored by seven Representatives including Gene Taylor (D-MS), Ron Paul (R-TX), and John Mica (R-FL). SSA applauds Congress for its attention to the problem of unsafe seafood imports.

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Ecosystem Plan

SSA is monitoring the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's development of a Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP), which currently includes a Total Allowable Trawl Area that closes deep-water areas off of the coasts of NC, SC, GA, and FL to protect deep-water coral reefs. The current draft plan could prevent numerous rock shrimp and/or royal red shrimp vessels from entering their traditional trawling areas. SSA is concerned that FEP could be broadened to close inshore waters as it is developed, which would effect all shrimpers on the eastern coasts. SSA will continue to monitor and comment on the plan to ensure environmental benefits and economic concerns are fully measured.

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Shrimp Review Panel Update

FYI - As a result of the Shrimp Review Panel (SRP) meeting earlier this year in February the Council determined it was not necessary to take action on pink shrimp at this time. The reasons were due to the findings that the pink shrimp stock in areas along the Southeast coast are lessened due to causes other than fishing such as environmental and climatic factors. At the March meeting the Council reviewed and was in agreement with the SRP Report and panel's conclusion

Offshore Aquaculture

The Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council is developing an open water aquaculture plan for the Gulf of Mexico. Of concern to SSA is that the regulatory plan and legislation surrounding offshore aquaculture are being fast-tracked without proper input from stakeholders affected by open water aquaculture. SSA encourages the Gulf Council to take a measured and well researched approach to the issues surrounding open water aquaculture, such as the environmental effects of non-native and altered fish and the potential economic costs of additional loss of shrimp trawling areas.

SSA Hires New Executive Assistant

Rachel Williams started her new full-time job as SSA's Executive Assistant to the Executive Director on August 1, 2007. She is being trained by Michelle Yopp, who held the position until pursuing a Bachelors of Arts degree. Rachel, who is not related to executive director John Williams, comes to SSA with a background in management and customer relations. She lives in Clearwater, FL with her husband and daughter, age 6. Please help us welcome her to the office.

Deadline for Byrd Funds Past

The deadline to submit claims for qualifying expenditures under the Byrd Amendment in 2007 has past. For any eligible domestic producers that missed the opportunity for possible Byrd distributions in 2007, you may submit your qualifying expenditures in 2008. While antidumping duties collected on imports entering the country after October 2007 will no longer be distributed to the domestic industry, antidumping duties on import entries prior to October 2007 will likely be collected and distributed to the industry over the next few years.

NOAA - Shrimp Marketing to the EU workshop

On Tuesday August 7th starting 8am, the Louisiana Seafood Board has helped to coordinate a Shrimp Marketing Workshop to the European Union with NOAA. It will be held at the Sheraton New Orleans on Canal Street. You are invited to attend and we encourage all to participate. Please help us spread the word invite all processors for sure and marketing folks!!

PLEASE RSVP so we can plan accordingly!! This is very important to help control costs.

If you wish come early and see the [GreatAmericanSeafoodCookOff](#) or the Louisiana Alligator Soiree (visit site for details).

You can stay in town at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel which has provided an excellent rate of \$81.00 a night; they are in a great location between the French Quarter and the Convention Center.

Call 888-627- 7033 (Simply mention Seafood Cook Off or NOAA event) or go to [Reservations](#) to make your reservation.

Ewell Smith

Executive Director

Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board

Angela report on future stories

As China and the FDA ban continues to be a hot news topic, Wild American Shrimp is contacting the reporters covering the issue to educate them about certified product and consumer interest. Recently, Wild American Shrimp has seen coverage on CNN, WCBS-AM (New York), The Advocate and The Bulletin, with confirmed upcoming covering including: Health Magazine in October; Ocean Home Magazine in the fall; Atlantic Southeast Magazine (early 2008); Atlanta Journal-Constitution (TBD); Arts & Leisure news service (summer); Taste for Life Magazine (early 2008).

Media roundtable recap

On July 19, WAST hosted an invitation-only media

Workshop on Exporting to the EU to be held after the Great American Seafood Cookoff in New Orleans. Both Executive Director Eddie Gordon and Director of Operations Mario Piccinin will be speaking and will also be part of the panel discussion. WASI will be glad to provide notes on the workshop for anyone who is not able to make it.

Look for us on the FoodNetwork

Keep looking for your fellow shrimpers on the FoodNetwork as WASI continues a heavy schedule of consumer targeted advertising. This programming has been very successful, bringing an average of 363 new visitors to our website during the airing schedule.