



# The Shrimp e-Advocate

News Edition

July 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.

## Quick Links

[SSA Website](#)

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## FDA Detains Chinese Shrimp for Inspection

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has taken a good first step to cracking down on illegal antibiotics and chemicals on imported, farm-raised shrimp. On June 28, 2007 it issued an import alert that requires Chinese shrimp and four other seafood products to be detained at the border until they are proven to be free of residues from drugs that are not approved in the United States for use in farm-raised aquatic animals.

SSA is working with Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to address circumvention of the FDA testing and antidumping orders through transshipment and other means.

## SSA Pursues Fair and Equitable Byrd Distributions

Last year, U.S. shrimp fishermen received an insufficient proportion of the funds distributed under the Byrd Amendment. While shrimp fishermen and processors received the same percentage of their claimed qualified expenditures, the dollar amounts obtained by fishermen and processors were dramatically different due the fact that processors claimed more expenses than fishermen.

SSA is hoping to meet with the American Shrimp Processors Association early next week in an effort to reach a mutually acceptable means of achieving more fair and equitable distributions of Byrd funds this year.

SSA has also requested a ruling from Customs to the effect that shrimp inputs are not qualified expenditures under the Byrd Amendment and continues to work with elected officials to address the current law with appropriate legislation.

## LSA Misses Deadlines to Defend Shrimp Industry in Administrative Reviews

LSA has failed to meet deadlines to provide comment on multiple issues in the second administrative review that could significantly influence whether the final antidumping rates increase or decrease. LSA's lack of participation in the legal proceedings leaves SSA as the only voice representing shrimp fishermen on critical issues. SSA has posted its recent filings in the second administrative review on its website.

## Red Snapper Management Plan Before NOAA

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The management plan to end overfishing of red snapper is currently before the Secretary of Commerce for final approval and is expected to be implemented before the 2008 season. SSA testified to adverse impacts of the plan on the shrimp industry and raised concerns about the plan's scientific basis. Despite SSA's serious concerns, the final plan requires that shrimpers reduce red snapper bycatch mortality by 74% from the average levels five years ago. The rebuilding plan includes a relaxation of the shrimp bycatch reduction requirement in 2011 to 67% and a further phase down to 60% by 2032 as the red snapper stocks recover. The management plan also includes a reduction in the directed fishery's total allowable catch from 9.12 million pounds to 5 million. The original plan opposed by SSA would have required the 74% target to be achieved for the next 25 years.

## Requests for Byrd Amendment Distributions Due July 30, 2007

The CBP has updated the section of its [website](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/add_cvd/cont_dump/cont_dump_faq.xml) ([http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/add\\_cvd/cont\\_dump/cont\\_dump\\_faq.xml](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/add_cvd/cont_dump/cont_dump_faq.xml)) on questions and answers about CDSOA. Applications for distribution of available Byrd Amendment funds must be received at the address below prior to **July 30, 2007**. If your claim form is not received by Customs on or before **July 30, 2007** your claim will automatically be rejected.

Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Finance Bureau of Customs and Border Protection  
Revenue Division  
Attn: Leigh Redelman  
PO Box 68940  
Indianapolis, IN 46268

The remaining settlement monies are being used by SSA to enhance the U.S. shrimp industry through a variety of initiatives, such as to defend the antidumping duties, to represent the shrimp industry in fisheries management councils, to enhance marketing of U.S. wild-caught shrimp, and to represent the industry in future years.

### **SSA's Executive Assistant to Become Fulltime Student**

Michelle Yopp has been a hard worker behind-the-scenes of SSA as the Assistant to the Executive Director. She has helped SSA set up its new offices in Tarpon Springs, managed the office, travel plans, and meeting accommodations, and facilitated the audit of SSA's procedures and finances. At the end of August, she leaves her daily job to work fulltime towards her Bachelor of Arts degree with an emphasis in women studies at the University of South Florida. Please join us in thanking her for her services.