



THIRD QUARTER 2026

SSA Activities Report

Highlights of the Southern Shrimp Alliance's July - September 2026 activities on behalf of American shrimp fishermen, processors, and related businesses

Where we show up

NOAA FISHERIES LEADERSHIP

SSA met with NOAA Fisheries leadership as they established priorities to reduce regulatory burdens, increase U.S. seafood production, and address shrimp trade imbalances.

USTR TRADE POLICY

SSA continued representing the U.S. shrimp industry through the Trade and Environmental Policy Advisory Committee, and directly advocated for trade policies to protect U.S. shrimpers.

USDA OFFICE OF SEAFOOD

SSA continued working with the new USDA Office of Seafood to establish priorities and identify programs available to seafood producers and those needing eligibility modifications.

COASTAL SCIENCE ROUNDTABLE

SSA Board Member Brent Fulcher represented commercial fishermen at a NOAA coastal science roundtable with NOAA Administrator Dr. Neil Jacobs and other senior agency officials.

INTERNATIONAL SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION

Executive Director Blake Price was appointed to the Consultative Committee of Experts to the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles.

ON THE DOCKS

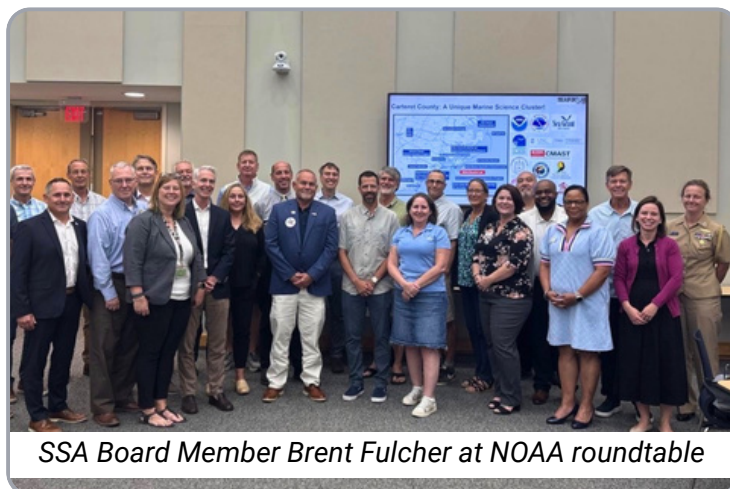
SSA visited shrimping communities throughout East coast, meeting directly with fishermen in Beaufort, Thunderbolt, Bluffton, Tybee Island, Crescent, Darien, Brunswick and Mayport.

OTHER

SSA regularly represents shrimpers before the Gulf and South Atlantic Management Councils, Congress, and the courts.



SSA's counsel Benjamin Duffy-Howard provides testimony to USTR



SSA Board Member Brent Fulcher at NOAA roundtable



Dockside visit in Ft. Myers, FL



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23
News Alerts in Q3

+1.7K
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+127M
Est. Media Views

REACHING INDUSTRY MILESTONES

PROTECTING AMERICAN SHRIMPERS

- **New Section 301 tariffs:** After SSA testified against a seafood carveout and led coalition support for tariffs, USTR announced additional **10% and 12.5% duties** on major shrimp-supplying countries.
- **Trade crime enforcement:** The **PAIL Act** passed the House unanimously, advancing legislation to establish a DOJ unit dedicated to prosecuting international trade crimes.
- **Ecuador trade relief preserved:** Commerce rejected attempts by three Ecuadorian shrimp exporters to escape countervailing duties

INCREASING CONSUMER AWARENESS

- USDA announced **\$20 million in Section 32 purchases of U.S. wild-caught shrimp**, creating direct government demand for domestic product.
- USDA added U.S. wild-caught peeled and deveined shrimp to the **2027 TEFAP Foods Available List**, opening another market through federal food assistance programs.
- The **American Food for American Schools Act** was introduced in both chambers to strengthen Buy American requirements in school meal programs.

STRENGTHENING SEAFOOD LABELING

- An amendment based on the **bipartisan LABEL Act** was added to the **Senate Farm Bill**, advancing stronger seafood labeling requirements.
- Testing of **Baton Rouge** restaurant dishes found that **100% of the imported/farm-raised shrimp failed to comply with state labeling laws**, with half claiming domestic shrimp despite using required signage.

DEFENDING FISHERY ACCESS

- NOAA Fisheries formally identified addressing **shrimp trade imbalances** as a priority while directing regional councils to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and increase seafood production.
- SSA's formal comments to NOAA clearly state that **aquaculture development in the Gulf** should not replace or diminish existing wild-capture fisheries.

STRENGTHENING INDUSTRY CONNECTION

Connected fishermen with USDA resources • Expanded board member storytelling • Continued Shrimp University • 8,500+ Facebook followers, 200+ Instagram followers, and 100+ LinkedIn followers

In 2026, the U.S. shrimp industry is making progress on multiple fronts. With high fuel costs and tariff refunds, the need to secure lasting wins is urgent. Add your voice and join us in our mission.

- Blake Price, SSA's Executive Director

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