

November 15, 2004

**Public Notice
And
Request for Comment on Application Criteria**

South Carolina Commercial Shrimp Dock Owners

The Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments has been working with National Marine Fisheries Service, Clemson Extension Service, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the South Carolina Shrimp Industry Economic Assistance Task Force on a project to provide relief to commercial shrimp dock owners that have been adversely affected by a decline in the price of wild American shrimp during 2002. As part of this process we are soliciting input regarding the criteria that will be used to provide federal relief funds designated for South Carolina dock owners.

The following are the guidelines developed by the Shrimp Industry Economic Assistance Task Force.

The distribution of approximately \$200,000 is intended to provide direct economic assistance to Commercial Shrimp Dock Owners that meet **all** of the following criteria:

1. Must have a current South Carolina Wholesale Dealers License
2. Must have and provide waterfront dockside facilities to two or more commercial shrimp trawlers
3. Must have purchased \$50,000 of domestic shrimp from shrimp trawlers between May 1, 2004 and October 1, 2004

The economic assistance will be provided as follows:

- All qualifying docks will receive an equal share from ½ of the available funds (\$100,000),

And

- The other ½ of the available funds (\$100,000) will be distributed based on production. Production payments will be a pro rata share based on pounds of wild American shrimp purchased from licensed vessels between May 1, 2004 and October 1, 2004 documented by trip tickets.

This notice is intended to serve as a formal request for comments on the above criteria. Any and all comments on the above criteria **must** be submitted **in writing** and can be faxed to (843) 529-0305 or mailed to Shrimp Industry Application Criteria, BCDCOG, 1362 McMillan Ave, Suite 100 North Charleston SC 29405.

All comments must be received by November 29, 2004