

GULF FISHERY NEWS

VOLUME 21, NO. 4

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1999

GULF FISHERY NEWS is a publication of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council for persons interested in the Gulf's fishery resources. Editor: Peter Hood.



In This Issue:

- ! *BOB SHIPP AND KARL LESSARD ELECTED COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 1999/2000*
- ! *COUNCIL TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF CHARTER VESSEL/HEADBOAT PERMITS*
- ! *COUNCIL STILL SEEKING PERSONS TO SERVE ON DOLPHIN/WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL*
- ! *NEW FISHING REGULATIONS APPROVED BY NMFS*
- ! *NMFS PUBLISHES LISTS OF ALLOWABLE GEAR*
- ! *NEW REEF FISH REGULATIONS TENTATIVELY APPROVED BY NMFS*
- ! *COUNCIL ASKS NMFS TO DO ADDITIONAL ANALYSES IN THE RED SNAPPER STOCK ASSESSMENT*
- ! *COMMERCE SECRETARY DALEY APPOINTS 20 EXPERTS TO MARINE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE*
- ! *TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER MEETING*
- ! *ENFORCEMENT REPORT*
 - " *GULF RED SNAPPER FISHERMEN SEAFOOD DEALER; VESSEL OWNER TO PAY \$800,000 FOR FEDERAL FISHERY VIOLATIONS*
 - " *LOUISIANA SEAFOOD DEALER AND FISHERMAN CHARGED WITH SIGNIFICANT SHARK FISHERY VIOLATIONS*

BOB SHIPP AND KARL LESSARD ELECTED COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 1999/2000

At the September Council meeting, the Council elected a new Chairman and Vice-Chairman to serve for the coming year. The Council elected Dr. Robert L. Shipp (Alabama) to be the new Chairman, and Mr. Karl Lessard (Florida) to be Vice-Chairman. They replace outgoing Chairman Hal Osburn (Texas) and Vice-Chairman Kay Williams (Mississippi). Both Mr. Osburn and Ms. Williams will remain members of the Council. Dr. Shipp is the Director of the University of South Alabama Department of Marine Sciences, and has been a Council member since 1991. He previously served as Chairman during 1996/97. Mr. Lessard is a commercial fisherman and president of Captain Bee Fisheries, Inc. in Marathon, Florida. He has been a Council member since 1994.

COUNCIL TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF CHARTER VESSEL/HEADBOAT PERMITS

The recreational fisheries in the Gulf region are larger than other east coast regions in terms of landings and participants. During 1995 and 1996, an average of about 4.0 million persons participated in marine recreational fishing in the Gulf states. Anglers made approximately 26.7 million trips annually, landed approximately 205 million pounds of fish, and spent approximately \$3.5

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

November 8-12, 1999
Caribe Royale Resort Suites
14300 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32830



Permit moratorium cont.

billion. A large portion of this recreational effort can be attributed to the for-hire segment of the fishery. In the Gulf region there are presently about 1,286 charter vessels and 91 headboats. This represents an estimated 32 percent increase in the number of charter vessels and a 6 percent decrease in the number headboats between 1988 and 1998. Additionally, the number of charter vessel trips has increased 187 percent between 1988 and 1997.

The Council is considering implementation of a temporary moratorium on the issuance of charter vessel/headboat permits to moderate short-term future increases in fishing effort and attempt to stabilize fishing mortality. A moratorium, if adopted, should provide a basis for the development of a more comprehensive effort limitation program for this segment of the recreational fishery. It will be a prudent first step in the development and evaluation of more comprehensive effort limitation programs that could provide better long-term control of fishing effort.

A moratorium is a form of limited access management that is, in this case, intended to temporarily stabilize fishing effort while the Council develops a more comprehensive effort limitation program. In principle, its direct effect is to limit the number of participants in the fishery to a number equal to those permitted before or at the start of the moratorium. Whereas, under open access, fishing effort will continue to increase. This would diminish the overall economic performance of the fishery and may adversely affect the restoration of overfished stocks. If, upon development of alternative effort limitation programs, the Council decides the recreational for-hire reef fish or coastal migratory pelagics fishery is best managed as an open-access fishery, then the moratorium would end. As the initial step in this direction, a control date of November 18, 1998, for the reef fish and coastal migratory pelagics charter and headboat fishery was published in the Federal Register. The intent of this notice was to inform the public that entrants into the charter vessel/headboat fisheries after November 18, 1998, may not be assured of future access to the reef fish and/or coastal migratory pelagics

Monday, December 6, 1999

Port Isabel, Texas
Key West, Florida

Tuesday, December 7, 1999

Port Aransas, Texas
Naples, Florida

Wednesday, December 8, 1999

Galveston, Texas
Madeira Beach, Florida

Thursday, December 9, 1999

Larose, Louisiana

Monday, December 13, 1999

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Biloxi, Mississippi

Tuesday, December 14, 1999

Orange Beach, Alabama

Wednesday, December 15, 1999

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Panama City, Florida

resources if (1) an effort limitation management regime is developed and implemented that limits the number of participants in the fishery and (2) if the control date notice is used as a criterion for eligibility.

The moratorium proposed in this amendment considers six features: 1) the duration of the moratorium; 2) initial eligibility requirements for permit; 3) permit transfers during the moratorium; 4) vessel size for permit transfer; 5) the reissuance of permits not renewed; and 6) an appeal process. At present, the Council has suggested as preferred alternatives:

- Establish a 3-year moratorium for duration of the moratorium;
- That initial eligibility requirements be all persons holding permits on September 16, 1999 are eligible;
- Permit transfers during the moratorium be allowed between 1) vessels owned by the permit holder and 2) individuals without transfer of the vessel;
- Reissuance of permits not renewed (or permanently revoked) will not be reissued by NMFS during the moratorium.

The Council did not select preferred alternatives for:

- Vessel size restriction on permit transfers;
- Appeals process under moratorium.

Public hearings for the Draft Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit Moratorium Amendment will be held at the following locations and dates from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., unless otherwise listed. In addition, public testimony will be accepted at the Gulf Council meeting in Fort Walton Beach, Florida on January 19, 2000. Look for future updates on specific locations where these hearings will take place, or contact the Gulf Council (see page 10 for contact information).

COUNCIL APPOINTS MEMBERS TO SERVE ON DOLPHIN/WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL BUT ADDITIONAL MEMBERS ARE STILL NEEDED

The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils (Councils) will be joint preparers of a new fishery management plan (FMP) for dolphin, *Coryphaena hippurus*, and wahoo, *Acanthocybium solandri*, fisheries throughout their range in the exclusive economic zone of the Atlantic. Currently, dolphin is managed under the FMP for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic, and wahoo is not managed under any Federal FMP.

At the September meeting, the Council appointed several members to an Advisory Panel (AP). Persons who were appointed to the AP are:

Pam Basco (Chair)	Recreational	Texas
Bill Wickers (Vice Chair)	Charter/Commercial	Florida
Richard Landry	Recreational	Louisiana
Russel O'Steen	Recreational	Louisiana
Clara Pease	Charter/Commercial	Florida
Jim Twiggs	Charter	Mississippi
Wiley Horton	Recreational	Florida
Richard Rice	Charter	Louisiana
Kenneth Guindon	Dealer/Commercial	Texas
Don Walker	Charter	Alabama
Leo Ledet Jr.	Recreational	Louisiana

To keep a balance between user groups and geographic areas, a few openings were left vacant and will be filled at the November Council meeting. Specifically, the Council is looking for persons from Florida or who represent the commercial sector. The AP is comprised of persons who are familiar with the fisheries that will be managed under the FMP and will provide recommendations relevant to the plan development. Persons interested in serving on the AP should send a letter to the Council office (see page 10 for contact information) identifying their interest and include a short resume describing their background with dolphin/wahoo. Persons who have fishery resource violations within the last five years are ineligible to serve.



NEW FISHING REGULATIONS APPROVED BY NMFS FOR RED SNAPPER AND KING MACKEREL

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has recently approved and implemented new fishing regulations affecting red snapper and king mackerel in the Gulf of Mexico.

- red snapper - zero bag limit for the captain and crew of for-hire vessels (effective with next opening of recreational season)
- red snapper - commercial Fall season (September 1 opening) is open from noon on the 1st to noon on the 10th of each month until the Fall sub-quota is filled. The Spring season (February 1 opening) will continue to be open from noon on the 1st to noon on the 15th of each month until the Spring sub-quota is filled.
- king mackerel - zero bag limit for the captain and crew of for-hire vessels (effective 9/20/99).
- king mackerel - 24" fork length minimum size limit (effective 9/20/99)

A Council proposal to delay the opening of the recreational red snapper season until March 1 was rejected by NMFS (the season will open on January 1). The Council recommended this measure to extend the fishing season further into the fall; however, all NMFS analyses suggest that the two-month delay would result in a net loss of fishing days. Furthermore, public comment on the proposed rule suggested to NMFS that this measure would have an adverse economic impact on the Texas red snapper fishery. Therefore, NMFS disapproved this measure based upon National Standard 4 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, which requires that allocation of fishing privileges be fair and equitable.

A Council proposal to lower the red snapper minimum size limit to 14 inches total length was also rejected by NMFS. This measure would have shortened the recreational season with little or no corresponding benefit to the stock and was contrary to the intent of the Council. The red snapper recreational minimum size limit is currently 15" total length. The minimum size limit had been temporarily set at 18" total length to extend the recreational season. The 18" size limit reverted back to a 15" size limit on August 29, 1999 with the closure of the 1999 recreational red snapper season. With a review of a new stock assessment of red snapper at its November 8-11, 1999 meeting, the Council will reconsider red snapper regulatory measures for 2000.

COMMERCE SECRETARY DALEY APPOINTS 20 EXPERTS TO MARINE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Commerce Secretary William M. Daley appointed 20 fisheries experts to NMFS's Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC), the group that advises the Secretary on marine resources policy and programs that affect the nation's ocean fish resources and marine mammal populations. The appointees make recommendations regarding ongoing reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens, the Endangered Species and the Marine Mammal Protection Acts. Program policies and activities regarding vessel monitoring systems, marine reserves, the national observer program, stock assessments and data collection, as well as other mandates of the fisheries service, are considered by MAFAC.

Thirteen members were reappointed to the committee along with seven new appointees who include representatives from commercial and recreational fishing interests, and environmental, academic, state, tribal, consumer and other national points of view. The Committee, commonly known as MAFAC, reports to the Secretary through the under secretary for oceans and atmosphere who serves as the chair of the group. Reappointed to MAFAC for a three-year term are: Dr. Bonnie Brown, Midlothian, VA; Mr. Richard Gutting, Arlington, VA; Ms. Elizabeth Hamilton, Oregon City, OR; Dr. Susan Hanna, Corvallis, OR; Ms. Suzanne Ludicello-Martley, Rapid City, SD; Dr. Charles Kidd, Jamaica, NY; Mr. Rodney Moore, Portland, OR; Mr. Jeffrey Pike, Washington, DC; Dr. La Verne Ragster, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Ms. Patricia Tummons, Hilo, HI; Dr. Percy Washington, Seattle, WA; Dr. Elizabeth Wenner, Charleston, SC. Mr. Brooks Takenaka, Honolulu, HI was appointed to a one-year term to complete his second three-year term. The new appointments to MAFAC in 1999 include: Mr. Donald Kent, San Diego, CA; Mr. James L. Leland, Jr., McClellanville, SC; Mr. Melvin E. Moon, Jr., La Push, WA; Mr. Alvin D. Osterback Sr., Sand Point, AK; Ms. Margaret J. Raymond, South Berwick, ME; Ms. Bobbi M. Walker, Orange Beach, AL; and Ms. Kathleen M. Wynne, Kodiak, AK.

NEW REEF FISH REGULATIONS TENTATIVELY APPROVED BY NMFS

The following changes proposed by the Council to NMFS have been tentatively approved but not yet implemented. Implementation is expected in October or November. These changes are:

- a slot limit of 14" to 22" total length for banded rudderfish and lesser amberjack;
- a 5-fish recreational bag limit for banded rudderfish and lesser amberjack combined,
- a 16" total length minimum size limit for the following species - scamp and mutton snapper;
- a 12" total length minimum size limit for the following species - cubera snapper, dog snapper, mahogany snapper, schoolmaster, and gray triggerfish;
- a 12" fork length minimum size limit and 5-fish recreational bag limit for hogfish;
- a 1-fish per vessel recreational bag limit for speckled hind;
- a 1-fish per vessel recreational bag limit for warsaw grouper;
- banded rudderfish, lesser amberjack, and hogfish will be removed from the 20 reef fish aggregate recreational bag limit (since they will have their own individual bag limits);
- removal of Queen triggerfish from federal management (species will then be subject to state regulations in federal waters)

NMFS PUBLISHES LISTS OF ALLOWABLE GEAR

The NMFS has published a series of regional lists of fisheries and allowable fishing gear used in those fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). The list was originally scheduled to become effective July 26, 1999. However, due to a growing list of errors and omissions, NMFS has delayed the effectiveness of the rule until December 1, 1999 and accepted public comment through September 13, 1999. Once implemented, it will be illegal to use a gear not on the list for a given fishery without first providing 90 days advance notice to NMFS. An individual fisherman who provides such notice may use the unlisted gear after the 90 day waiting period unless regulatory action is taken to prohibit the use of that gear or participate in the fishery (e.g., through emergency or interim regulations). The list of fisheries and allowable gear for the Gulf of Mexico EEZ is given in the table on the next page. ("FMP" means a fishery for which there is a federal fishery management plan, and "Non-FMP" means a fishery for which there is not a federal fishery management plan in the Gulf of Mexico.)

Allowable Gear - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council			
Fishery	Allowable Gear Types	Fishery	Allowable Gear Types
Gulf of Mexico Red Drum FMP	No harvest/possession EEZ	Stone Crab FMP	
Coral Reef FMP		A. Trap/pot crab fishery	Trap, pot
A. Commercial fishery	Hand harvest only	B. Recreational fishery	Trap, pot
B. Recreational fishery	Hand harvest only	Mullet Fishery (non-FMP)	
Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish FMP		A. Trawl fishery	Trawl
A. Snapper-Grouper reef fish longline/hook and line fishery	Longline, handline, bandit gear, rod and reel, buoy gear	B. Gillnet fishery	Gillnet
B. Pot/trap reef fish fishery	Pot, trap	C. Recreational fishery	Bandit gear, handline, rod and reel
C. Other commercial fishery	Spear, powerhead, cast net, trawl	Inshore Coastal Gillnet Fishery (Non-FMP)	Gillnet
D. Recreational fishery	Spear, powerhead, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, cast net	Golden Crab Fishery (Non-FMP)	Trap
Gulf of Mexico Shrimp FMP		Octopus Fishery (Non-FMP)	Trap
A. Commercial fishery	Trawl, butterfly net, skimmer, castnet	Marine Life Aquarium Fishery (Non-FMP)	Dip net, slurp gun, barrier net, allowable chemicals
B. Recreational fishery	Trawl	Coastal Herring Trawl Fishery (Non-FMP)	Trawl
Gulf of Mexico Migratory Pelagics FMP		Butterfish Trawl Fishery (Non-FMP)	Trawl
A. Large pelagics longline fishery	Longline	Gulf of Mexico Groundfish (Non-FMP)	
B. King/Spanish mackerel gillnet fishery	Gillnet	A. Commercial fishery	Trawl, purse seine, gillnet
C. Pelagic hook-and-line fishery	Bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, spear	B. Recreational fishery	Hook-and-line
D. Pelagic species purse seine fishery	Purse seine	Gulf of Mexico Menhaden Purse Seine Fishery (Non-FMP)	Purse seine
E. Recreational fishery	Bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, spear	Sardine Purse Seine Fishery (Non-FMP)	Purse seine
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster FMP		Oyster Fishery (Non-FMP)	Dredge
A. Spiny lobster pot/trap fishery	Trap, pot	Non-Groundfish Finfish (Non-FMP)	Trawl, gillnet, longline, handline, rod and reel, bandit gear
B. Dip net fishery	Dip net, bully net, hoop net	Recreational Fishery (Non-FMP)	Bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, spear, bully net, gillnet, dip net, longline, powerhead, seine, slurp gun, trap, trawl, harpoon, castnet, hoop net
C. Recreational fishery	Dip net, bully net, pot, trap, snare		

TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Monday, November 8, 1999

Habitat Protection Committee

- Recommendations of FL/AL Habitat Protection Advisory Panel (AP)
- Recommendations of MS/LA Habitat Protection AP
- Recommendations of the TX Habitat Protection AP
- Revision of Council Habitat Protection Policy

Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel Management Committees

- Draft Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit Moratorium Amendment
 - Staff Revisions

Joint Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)/Law Enforcement Committees and AP Meeting

- Update on Gulf Fishery Violations
- Law Enforcement AP (LEAP) Recommendations
- Enforcement Issues and Problems

Red Drum Management Committee

- Red Drum Stock Assessment Panel (RDSAP) Report
- AP and SSC Recommendations
- Committee Recommendations

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Reef Fish Management Committee

- Red Snapper Total Allowable Catch (TAC)
- **S** Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel (RFSAP) Report
- **S** Socioeconomic Panel (SEP) Report
- **S** Stakeholders' Recommendations
- **S** AP and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Recommendations
- **S** Committee Action
- Red Snapper Recruitment Indices Analysis
- Red Grouper TAC
 - **S** RFSAP Report
 - **S** SEP Report
 - **S** AP and SSC Recommendations
 - **S** Kenchington Analysis
 - **S** Committee Recommendations
- RFSAP/SSC Review of Gag Information
- Stock Assessments for FY2000

Joint Marine Reserves/Reef Fish Committee

- Tortugas 2000 Marine Reserves (Riley's Hump)
 - a. Economic Analysis
 - b. Options Paper
 - c. Committee Recommendations for Development of a FMP Amendment or other actions

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Administrative Policy Committee

- Policy on Written Public Comment

- Policy on Review of Stock Assessments

Shrimp Management Committee

- BRD Workshop Summary

Mackerel Management Committee Provisions of Dolphin/Wahoo Draft FMP

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

- Call to Order and Introductions
- Adoption of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Appointment of Committees
- Public Testimony
 - Red Snapper TAC
 - Red Grouper TAC

Thursday, November 11, 1999

- Reef Fish Management Committee Report
- Committee Reports
 - Habitat Protection
 - Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel Management
 - Joint Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)/Law Enforcement
 - Red Drum Management
 - Administrative Policy

Friday, November 12, 1999

- Committee Reports (continued)
 - Joint Marine Reserves/Reef Fish
 - Shrimp Management
 - Mackerel Management
- SAFMC Liaison Report
- ICCAT Advisory Committee Report
- Enforcement Reports
- Directors' Reports
- Other Business

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the agenda may come before the Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the MSFCMA, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. Persons testifying must turn in the registration card prior to the start of the testimony period.

ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

Gulf Red Snapper Fishermen Seafood Dealer; Vessel Owner to Pay \$800,000 for Federal Fishery Violations

Two Pensacola, Florida corporations collectively charged with over one hundred counts of federal fisheries violations have agreed to pay \$800,000 in penalties. "The serious violations committed by these two corporations, particularly the falsified records, undermine the very integrity of NOAA's management regime and will not be tolerated," said Bill Hogarth, Southeast Regional Administrator of the NMFS.

A. C. Williams, Jr., A. C. Williams Seafood Company, Inc., and A. C. Williams Corporation, Inc., admitted to multiple violations of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Lacey Act, and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act and agreed to the \$800,000 settlement. A. C. Williams, Jr. and A. C. Williams Seafood Company, Inc., the seafood dealer, admitted to:

- purchasing approximately 35,000 pounds of red snapper during the commercial closure;
- falsifying records to conceal the identity of the fish;
- shipping the falsely labeled fish in interstate commerce to Blue Ribbon Seafood's New York City's Fulton Fish Market;
- purchasing red snapper in excess of a vessel's trip limit during the open commercial season;
- and engaging in activities requiring federal reef fish and tunas permits without such permits.

A. C. Williams, Jr. and A. C. Williams Seafood Company, Inc. engaged in 576 closed season purchases from 25 boats after 375 vessel trips in 1996 and 1997. "

A.C. Williams Corporation, Inc., owner of five of the supplying vessels, admitted to:

- selling approximately 9,000 pounds of red snapper during the commercial closure;
- falsifying logbooks to conceal the identity of the fish and/or failing to submit logbooks when reef fish were landed;

- and selling approximately 475 pounds of red snapper in excess of vessel trip limits during the open commercial season.

Vessels owned by A. C. Williams Corporation, Inc. engaged in 155 commercial closure sales of red snapper after 102 vessel trips in 1996 and 1997.

Louisiana Seafood Dealer and Fisherman Charged with Significant Shark Fishery Violations

Notices of Violation and Assessment and Notices of Permit Sanctions were issued against Mark Vogel, a vessel captain from Kenner, Louisiana, and Sharkco Seafood International, Inc., a seafood dealer in Venice, Louisiana, for violating closure, reporting, and trip limits in the shark fishery in 1996 and 1997. Vogel was assessed a civil penalty of \$130,000 and an 11 month permit sanction. Sharkco Seafood International was assessed a civil penalty of \$250,000 and a six month permit sanction.

"These charges send a strong message to the fishing community that NOAA will investigate and prosecute these and other fishery violations. Many shark populations are overfished. We must protect this national resource and ensure that fishing quotas are observed for those who follow the rules," said Senior Enforcement Attorney Karen Antrim Raine of NOAA's Office of General Counsel, who is prosecuting the case.

Vogel and Sharkco Seafood International have requested a hearing before an administrative law judge to deny or contest all or any part of the violations charged and the penalties assessed. Additionally, the agency is seeking forfeiture of proceeds in the amount of \$8,759.37 from the sale of 10,937 pounds of blacktip shark and 303 pounds of fins that were seized from Sharkco Seafood International in April 1997 in connection with the charges.



NOVAs ISSUED BETWEEN APRIL 1, 1999 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 1999

CASE NUMBER	RESPONDENT NAME	AREA	LE UNIT	CASE DESCRIPTION	NOVA AMOUNT	NOFP* AMOUNT	PROPOSED NOPS** DURATION
SE970122FM	JOSEPH GIACALONE RECOVERY MARINE, INC.	GOM	USCG	(1)POSSESS SHARK DURING CLOSURE (2)FILLET SHARK AT SEA	(1)\$ 8,000 (2)\$ 2,000		
SE970369FM	KENNETH P. OSTROWSKI WJI OF TAMPA, INC.	GOM	USCG	SHARK FINNING POSSESS SHARK DURING CLOSURE	\$ 6,000 \$ 500		
SE980174FM	RODNEY R. ROGERS SHE'S A BELL, INC.	GOM	USCG	POSSESS UNDERSIZED FISH (RED GROUPE) POSSESS UNDERSIZED FISH (RED GROUPE) FOR BAIT	\$ 1,500 \$ 1,500		
SE980175FM	RONALD J. DEPERCUS R.C. LASKEY, INC.	GOM	USCG	POSSESS UNDERSIZED FISH (RED GROUPE) FOR BAIT	\$ 1,500		
SE980204ES	GUSTAV BAHRUTH MICHAEL BAHRUTH	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,620.95	
SE980213ES	BINH VAN NGUYEN	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 3,000		
SE980298FM	GEORGE T. KELLY, IV	SA	FMP	POSSESS OF NASSAU GROUPE	\$ 2,000		
SE980405ES	ANN NGOC DUONG DAVID LE	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 6,000	\$3,817.60	
SE980407ES	TONY M. DARDAR	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 8,000		
SE980411ES	RODDY AGUILLARD	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 4,500		
SE981017MS	TRUSTEN P. DRAKE	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE SEA GRASS	\$ 1,500		
SE981019MS	ROGER K. BARBER	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL	\$ 3,500		
SE981021MS	DAVID N. HOROWITZ	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL	\$ 2,500		
SE990046ES	CAPT B, INC. LANG V. HO	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 8,000		
SE990110ES	CHICO BOY, INC.	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 4,000	\$10,124.70	
SE990110ES	MANUEL GALLARDO- CASTILLO	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION	\$ 4,500		
SE990111FM	TERRENCE GREGORY ABRAMS GREGG ABRAMS SEAFOOD	GOM	NMFS	OPPOSE, INTIMIDATE, INTERFERE WITH NMFS DATA COLLECTOR	\$22,000		
SE990141ES	MARIAN CHAPMAN RICKY MARTINEZ	GOM	USCG	TEDS VIOLATION TAKE ENDANGERED SPECIES OF SEA TURTLE	\$3,000 \$2,000		
SE970163FM	MARK L. VOGEL	GOM	NMFS/ LA	5 COUNTS OF RETAIN/SALE LARGE COASTAL SHARK DURING CLOSURE 5 COUNTS OF FALSIFY/FAIL TO SUBMIT INFORMATION 1 COUNT POSSESS SHARK IN	\$100,000 \$25,000 \$5,000		363 DAYS
SE970164FM	SHARKO SEAFOOD INTERNATIONAL, INC.	GOM	NMFS/ LA	5 COUNTS OF PURCHASE LARGE COASTAL SHARKS DURING A CLOSURE 6 COUNTS OF FALSIFY/FAIL TO PROVIDE INFORMATION 1 COUNT OF UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF SHARK	\$200,000 \$42,000	\$8,759.37	180 DAYS
SE980096FM	TIMOTHY J. KINZIE MICHAEL F. LAGASSE	GOM	USCG	SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SEASONAL TRAWL CLOSURE	\$12,000.00	\$3,424.00	

*NOFP = NOTICE OF PROPOSED FORFEITURE

**NOPS = NOTICE OF PERMIT SANCTION

CASE NUMBER	RESPONDENT NAME	AREA	LE UNIT	CASE DESCRIPTION	NOVA AMOUNT	NOFP* AMOUNT	PROPOSED NOPS** DURATION
SE980237FM	A.C. WILLIAMS CORPORATION, INC.	GOM	NMFS/FMP	4 COUNT S OF SELLING RED SNAPPER AFTER CLOSURE 3 COUNTS FALSE REPORTING	\$12,540		150 DAYS
SE980246FM	A.C. WILLIAMS CORPORATION, INC.	GOM	NMFS/FMP	2 COUNTS OF SELLING RED SNAPPER AFTER CLOSURE	\$21,780		185 DAYS
SE990001ES	NORMAN BORDES KEITH E. STEIR	GOM	USCG	TED VIOLATION	\$2,000		
SE990032FM	ALD TRAWLERS, INC. ALBERT L. DARDA	GOM	USCG	BRD VIOLATION	\$6,000		
SE990052ES	LONG VAN VO	GOM	USCG	TED VIOLATION BRD VIOLATION	\$2,000 \$2,000		
SE990063FM	HAN VAN NGUYEN PHUNG QUANG TRAN	GOM	NMFS/USCG	TORTUGAS SANCTUARY	\$15,000	\$10,155.70	
SE990113FM	RONALD DEAN FOSTER	GOM	USCG	FISH TRAPS IN CLOSED AREA, FLORIDA MIDDLE GROUNDS IMPROPERLY CONSTRUCTED TRAPS SELL AMBERJACK DURING CLOSURE	\$12,000 \$1,500 \$1,500		30 DAYS
SE990276FM	WILLIAM HARING JOE HEMBREE	GOM	USCG	LONGLINING INSIDE RESTRICTED AREA POSSESS REEF FISH AND SHARK NOT INTACT (USED FOR BAIT) POSSESS UNDERSIZED RED GROUPER DISPOSAL OF GEAR AFTER LE	\$5,000 \$ 4,000 \$1,500	\$9,414.40	60 DAYS
SE990291ES	KELLY R. BURTON	GOM	NMFS	TED VIOLATION	\$2,000		
SE990293ES	LARRY TERRELL BOUDOIN	GOM	NMFS	TED VIOLATION	\$2,200		
SE990914MS	LARRY L. FOWLER	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE A VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL/SEA GRASS	\$2,025		
SE990915MS	JOSEPH R. FALLON	FKNMS	FMP	COMMERCIALY FISHING WITHIN AN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE	\$5,000		
SE990917MS	CLAUDE S. BONANNI	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE A VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL/SEAGRASS	\$2,500		
SE990988MS	ROBERT L. FISHER	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE A VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL/SEAGRASS	\$1,500		
SE990989MS	LAWRENCE A. POTALIVO	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE A VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL/SEAGRASS	\$2,500		
SE990990MS	NICHOLAS PAPAIIOANNOU	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE A VESSEL GREATER THAN 50 METERS IN ATBA	\$10,000		
SE991146MS	GREGORY W. RAHE	FKNMS	FMP	FISHING IN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE	\$500		
SE991158MS	DALE ROBERT COBANE JAMES R. WHITE	FKNMS	FMP	ALTERATION OF SEABED ABANDONMENT OF STRUCTURE MATERIALS	\$1,000		
SE991277MS	AARON DANIEL KOCH	FKNMS	FMP	OPERATE A VESSEL SO AS TO STRIKE OR DAMAGE CORAL/SEAGRASS	\$2,000.00		

*NOFP = NOTICE OF PROPOSED FORFEITURE

**NOPS = NOTICE OF PERMIT SANCTION

GULF FISHERY NEWS WANTS YOUR NEWS AND VIEWS

GULF FISHERY NEWS is a publication of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Any material in this newsletter may be reprinted or reproduced. We would like to hear from you regarding fishery questions you would like to see covered in GULF FISHERY NEWS. Send your comments to GULF FISHERY NEWS, c/o Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, Florida, 33619-2266. Telephone: 813-228-2815 (toll-free 888-833-1844). Fax: 813-225-7015. E-mail: gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional fishery management councils that were established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976. The Council is responsible for the development and modification of fishery management plans (FMPs) that are designed to manage fishery resources in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Mexico from state boundaries to the 200-mile limit. This is a publication of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and financial assistance for this news release was provided by grant funds pursuant to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Award No. NA97FC0010.

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

3018 U.S. Highway 301 N.

Suite 1000

Tampa, Florida 33619-2266

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER