



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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For Immediate Release

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Ernesto forces Fisher Forums to be rescheduled

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With Governor Bush declaring a State of Emergency for Florida, and a hurricane watch in effect for much of south Florida, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has rescheduled its Fisher Forums.

"In the interest of public safety, the meetings have been rescheduled," said Rick Leard, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Deputy Director.

The meetings are an attempt to provide a forum for stakeholders and other interested parties to interact with Gulf Council staff to present ideas and concerns.

"We've had a very good response to the initial meeting schedule, and we don't want to lose momentum, so we intend to be back out on the road soon," said Leard.

The forums will be "Town Hall" style, and participants will have an opportunity to introduce issues and ideas that may not currently be under consideration, as well as a chance to learn about the Gulf Council.

Up for discussion is anything from the Council's mission, to what the Council can do to improve the process in general, to recommendations on specific management plans.

October 3, 2006	The Harvey Government Center 1200 Truman Avenue Key West, FL 33040	6pm-10pm
October 4, 2006	Rookery Bay 300 Tower Road Naples, FL 34113	6pm-10pm
October 5, 2006	City of Madeira Beach City Hall Auditorium 300 Municipal Drive Madeira Beach, FL 33708	6pm-10pm