



# GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Airport Executive Center  
2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100 • Tampa, Florida 33607  
(813) 348-1630 • FAX (813) 348-1711



E-mail: [gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org](mailto:gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org) Web: <http://www.gulfcouncil.org>

---

This is a publication of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council pursuant to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Award No. NA05NMF4410003.

## Meeting Notice

For more information  
Contact: Richard Leard  
813-348-1630

## **Law Enforcement Advisory Panel will convene to review a Draft Joint Amendment to the Reef Fish and Shrimp Fishery Management Plans – Amendment 27/14**

**Tampa, Florida – February 16, 2007** – The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene its Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (LEAP) to review a draft of Joint Reef Fish Amendment 27/ Shrimp Amendment 14. The amendment contains alternatives to regulate the harvest and bycatch of red snapper by both the directed commercial and recreational fisheries and the shrimp fishery in the Gulf of Mexico. The need for this amendment arose from the Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) process through which a recent stock assessment shows that the red snapper stock in the Gulf continues to be overfished and experiencing overfishing.

In addition, the LEAP will review a scoping document for a potential amendment to address the need for additional management measures for gray triggerfish, greater amberjack, gag, and red grouper. The LEAP will discuss enforcement implications of the potential implementation of a fish-tagging program for stocks managed under individual fishing quotas (IFQ's), such as red snapper, and the potential use of a federal fish stamp to identify recreational fishermen fishing in the EEZ.

Finally, the LEAP will discuss both enforcement problems and successes related to the recently implemented IFQ program for red snapper, and it will review the status of various FMP amendments and other regulatory actions previously approved by the Gulf Council.

The LEAP consists of principal law enforcement officers in each of the Gulf States, as well as the NMFS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's General Counsel for law enforcement.

The panel will meet Tuesday, March 13, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, 875 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi, Mississippi. A copy of the agenda and related materials can be obtained by calling the Council office at 813-348-1630.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal panel action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by this notice.

This meeting is open to the public and is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office five working days prior to the meeting.

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional fishery management councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council prepares fishery management plans designed to manage fishery resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.

XXX

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
2203 N. LOIS AVENUE  
SUITE 1100  
TAMPA, FL 3307

An Equal Opportunity Employer

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST CLASS MAIL

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

«First\_Name»«Last\_Name»  
«Mailing\_Address»