



GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

2203 N. Lois Avenue • Tampa, Florida 33607

(813) 348-1630 • FAX (813) 348-1711

E-mail: gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org Web: <http://www.gulfcouncil.org>



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NEWS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT: Charlene Ponce

813-348-1630

Gulf Council Seeks Applicants for Ad Hoc Recreational Red Snapper Advisory Panel

The Gulf Council is currently recruiting applicants for its newly created Ad Hoc Recreational Red Snapper Advisory Panel.

The charge of the panel is to evaluate and recommend innovative management strategies for the private and for-hire recreational red snapper fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico. Approaches to consider include, but are not limited to, random distribution systems such as lotteries, community-based approaches, incentive-based approaches such as IFQs, effort control measures such as license limitations, and any other novel approaches deemed relevant by the AP.

The panel will also evaluate and recommend innovative approaches to minimizing bycatch and bycatch mortality in the private and for-hire recreational red snapper fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico. Approaches to consider include, but are not limited to, methods to improve the survival of released fish such as gear requirements or fisherman training, methods to avoid the capture of undersized or out-of-season fish such as seasonal area closures or fisherman training, and methods to account for otherwise unavoidable regulatory discards such as bycatch banking/exchange programs or reclassification of regulatory discards to legal harvest.

Finally, the panel will assist the Council in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the recommended measures.

Anyone interested in serving on the AP should submit a résumé or a letter of interest, including background information, to the Council office at 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33607. Information may also be faxed: 813-348-1711; or e-mailed charlene.ponce@gulfcouncil.org, and should be received by close of business, April 13, 2007.

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