



GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Meeting Notice

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Gulf Council to Convene its Ad Hoc Aquaculture Advisory Panel

Tampa, Florida – May 4, 2007 - The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) has scheduled a meeting of its Ad Hoc Aquaculture Advisory Panel (AP) for May 30 – 31, 2007, at the Wyndham Westshore, 4860 W. Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, FL. The meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 30, and conclude no later than 1:00 p.m. Thursday, May 31, 2007.

The AP consists largely of scientists with expertise in marine aquaculture, and will review an options paper for “Generic Amendment to provide for Regulation of Offshore Marine Aquaculture.” The options paper provides alternatives and conditions for permitting offshore (EEZ) facilities to conduct aquaculture of species of fish endemic to the Gulf of Mexico. Such conditions and alternatives will moderate the environmental affects of aquaculture. The options paper, when completed, will constitute the public hearing draft amendment for this activity.

Copies of the agenda and other related materials can be obtained by calling 813-348-1630. The 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 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the AP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (M-SFCMA), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings.

Action of the Ad Hoc Aquaculture AP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the M-SFCMA, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take action to address the emergency.

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 of 1976. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council prepares fishery management plans that are designed to manage fishery resources in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.

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