



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

Airport Executive Center
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Meeting Notice

Contact: Wayne Swingle
813-348-1630

Gulf Council to Conduct Public Hearings on Aquaculture Amendment

Tampa, Florida – June 19, 2007 - The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) has scheduled a series of public hearings to solicit public comment on a draft Aquaculture Amendment.

The draft Aquaculture Amendment will require persons to obtain a permit from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in order to participate in aquaculture by constructing an aquaculture facility in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Mexico.

Each application for permit must comply with many permit conditions related to recordkeeping and operation of the facility. These permit conditions will assure the facility has a minimal affect on the environment and on other fishery resources.

Compliance with the conditions will be evaluated annually for the duration of the permit as the basis for renewal of the permit for the next year.

Public input is an important part of the amendment process. It offers the public an opportunity to have ideas heard and possibly included as alternatives presented to the Council for consideration. Therefore, the Council strongly encourages public participation.

Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and will conclude no later than 10:00 p.m. at the following locations:

July 9, 2007

[Best Western Cypress Creek](#)

7921 Lamar Poole Road
Biloxi, MS 39532
228-875-7111

[Doubletree Beach Resort](#)

17120 Gulf Boulevard
N. Redington Beach, FL 33708
727-391-4000

July 10, 2007

[City of Orange Beach Parks and Recreation](#)

27235 Canal Road
Orange Beach, AL 36561
251-981-6028

[W Hotel](#)

333 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70130
504-525-9444

July 11, 2007

[Embassy Suites Hotel](#)

570 Scenic Gulf Drive

Destin, FL 32550

888-745-8832

[San Luis](#)

5222 Seawall Boulevard

Galveston, TX 77550

409-744-1500

July 12, 2007

[Best Western Marina Grand](#)

300 North Shoreline Boulevard

Corpus Christi, TX 78401

361-883-5111

Copies of the draft Amendment 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.

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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