



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

Managing Fishery Resources in the U.S. Federal Waters of the Gulf of Mexico

2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100

Tampa, FL 33607

Phone: 813.348.1630 • Toll free: 888.833.1844 • Fax: 813.348.1711

www.gulfcouncil.org

Meeting Notice

March 25, 2010

Contact: Charlene Ponce

813-348-1630

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to Meet in Galveston, Texas

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will meet April 12 - 15, 2010, at the Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Boulevard in Galveston, Texas. Council Committees will convene Monday morning at 9:00 after a closed session. Committees will meet through 10:00 a.m. Wednesday morning, with the full Council convening at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday through Thursday morning. Agenda highlights are summarized below. For a copy of the detailed agenda or to review briefing book materials, please visit the Council web site at www.gulfcouncil.org or call 888-833-1844.

The Budget Committee and the Administrative Policy Committee will meet Monday morning. Beginning at 1:30 p.m. the Reef Fish Management Committee will meet to review the SEDAR 19 Black Grouper Stock Assessment. The Committee will also hear reports from the Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee, as well as the Reef Fish Limited Access Privilege Program Advisory Panel. Also up for discussion is an options paper for Reef Fish Amendment 32 for gag and red grouper, and a framework action for greater amberjack. The Reef Fish Management Committee is expected to run through Tuesday morning.

The Data Collection Committee will convene at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday afternoon to hear a report of the Data Collection Advisory Panel. The Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Management Committee will then meet to review an options paper for the Generic Amendment for Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures. The Committee will also hear reports from the SEDAR Uncertainty Workshop; the Scientific and Statistical Committee's Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule Workgroup; and the Ecosystem Scientific and Statistical Committee.

The Coastal Migratory Pelagics (Mackerel) Management Committee will meet at 4:00 p.m. to review a revised options paper for Amendment 18 for Coastal Migratory Pelagics, along with the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's actions related to Amendment 18.

Also on Tuesday the SEDAR Selection Committee will meet to discuss changes to the SEDAR procedure.

Immediately following committee recess on Tuesday, the Council and NOAA Fisheries will host an informal Question and Answer Session on Gulf of Mexico fishery management issues.

Beginning Wednesday morning at 8:30 the Shrimp Management Committee will hear a report on the 2009 Shrimp Fishing Effort, and discuss shrimp trawl bycatch reduction under the Highly Migratory Species Amendment 3. Finally, the Red Drum Management Committee will convene to review a status report on state escapement data for red drum, and an update on the Southeast Fishery Science Center's methodology for age composition for red drum.

The full Council will convene at 10:00 a.m. Public testimony will begin at 10:15, and will be accepted on exempted fishing permits (if any) and a proposed framework action for greater amberjack. The Council will also hold an open public comment session to give members of the public an opportunity to address

the Council on fishery issues that may not be on the agenda. Open public comment will be taken immediately following public testimony until 2:30 p.m. Comment cards must be completed before the start of public testimony.

Beginning at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, through Thursday morning, the Council will deliberate and take action on committee recommendations made earlier in the week. The meeting is expected to conclude by noon Thursday.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the Council and Committees for discussion, in accordance with the M-SFCMA, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the Council and Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas 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 Council's intent to take action to address the emergency.

The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to allow for such adjustments and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice. Meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Tina O'Hern at the Council five days prior to the meeting.

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2203 N. Lois Avenue
Suite 1100
Tampa, FL 33607

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