



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

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Meeting Notice

May 17, 2011

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Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to Meet in Key West, Florida

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will meet June 6 – 10, 2011, at the Marriott Beachside Hotel, 3841 N. Roosevelt Boulevard in Key West, Florida. Council Committees will convene Monday at 8:30 a.m. and will meet through most of Wednesday. The full Council will convene at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, and is expected to adjourn by 4:45 p.m. Friday. 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 Reef Fish Management Committee will meet all day Monday to discuss myriad issues, including final action on Reef Fish Amendment 32. The Committee will also review and discuss the following:

- Re-run of gag and red grouper projections using 2009 and 2010 landings
- Re-run of red snapper projections using 2009 and 2010 landings
- Review SEDAR 22 yellowedge grouper and tilefish (golden) stock assessments
- Options paper for a greater amberjack amendment to adjust total allowable catch
- Draft regulatory amendment to eliminate the fixed fall red snapper closed season
- Options paper for earned income and crew size limit
- Discuss consultant-based fishing
- Discuss a draft rule to open red snapper individual fishing quota to all U.S. citizens

On Tuesday, the Joint Gulf & South Atlantic Spiny Lobster Management Committees will meet to review and potentially take final action on the Joint Spiny Lobster Amendment 10, which addresses annual catch limits and accountability measures for spiny lobster.

The Data Collection Committee will meet to receive a summary and recommendations of the Vessel Monitoring System Advisory Panel.

The Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Management Committee will also meet Tuesday and part of Wednesday to review and possibly take final action on the Generic Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measures Amendment. The Committee is also slated to review the Circle Hook Symposium report. Wednesday afternoon the Joint Gulf & South Atlantic Mackerel Management Committees will review the public hearing draft of Amendment 18 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan. Amendment 18 deals with annual catch limits and accountability measures for cobia, and king and Spanish mackerel.

The full Council will convene Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. beginning with *Fisheries 101*. The Council will review Advisory Panel selections and committee reports for the Data Collection Committee and the Budget/Personnel Committee. Immediately following committee recess on Wednesday, the Council and NOAA Fisheries will host an informal Question and Answer Session on Gulf of Mexico fishery management issues.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. Thursday morning, the Council will take public testimony on exempted fishing permits (if any), final action on Reef Fish Amendment 32, the Generic Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measure Amendment, and the Joint Spiny Lobster Amendment 10. 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 12:30 p.m. Comment cards must be completed before the start of public testimony.

From 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Thursday the Council will deliberate and take action on committee recommendations made earlier in the week. The meeting is expected to conclude Friday by 4:45 p.m.

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 Trish Kennedy at the Council office five days prior to the meeting.

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