Gulf Council to Hold Public Hearings

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has scheduled two public hearings and one public webinar to take public comments on Reef Fish Amendment 43. This amendment considers setting a management boundary between the west Florida stock of hogfish, which is located entirely in the Gulf of Mexico jurisdiction, and the east Florida/Florida Keys stock, which occurs primarily in the south Atlantic but extends partially into the Gulf Council's jurisdiction in the Florida Keys. The draft amendment also looks at defining overfished and overfishing thresholds, setting an annual catch limit and increasing both the commercial and recreational minimum size limit for hogfish. The Council has selected a preferred alternative that would raise the minimum size limit of hogfish to 16 inches fork length.

Monday, May 9, 2016
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
1785 5th Avenue South
Naples, FL
239-261-3500

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
Holiday Inn Express
2171 54th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL
727-520-7800

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Webinar
Click here to register!

You can also submit your comments online:
http://gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/comment_forms/Amendment_43.php.
Written comments should be received on or before Friday, May 6, 2016.

About the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional Fishery Management Councils established by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The Council prepares fishery management plans, which are designed to manage fishery resources within the 200-mile limit of the Gulf of Mexico.