



# 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**

March 15, 2014

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## **Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to Meet in Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will meet April 7-10, 2014, at the Embassy Suites at 4914 Constitution Ave. Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

Committee meetings will convene Monday morning at 8:30 beginning with the Administrative Policy Committee, which will review the Administrative Handbook and House Magnuson-Stevens Act Amendment. Next, the Budget/Personnel Committee will review the 2014 budget. At 1:30 the Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee will address the SEDAR prioritization process and the definition of For-Hire Fishing. Before ending the day with a closed session to discuss appointments to the Socioeconomic Scientific and Statistical Committee, the Mackerel Management Committee will meet to:

- Take final action on Mackerel Amendment 20B - Boundaries and Transit Provisions;
- Take final action on Mackerel Framework Amendment 1 - Spanish Mackerel ACL Modifications;
- Discuss the cost-benefit analysis for reallocation of Gulf king mackerel and Atlantic Spanish mackerel.

Reef Fish Management Committee will meet all day Tuesday to:

- Discuss modifications to the Red Snapper IFQ Program;
- Review Amendment 40 - Sector Separation Options Paper;
- Discuss a framework action to modify IFQ species quotas;
- Review the legal and policy aspects of allocation;
- Discuss a final draft of Amendment 28 - Red Snapper Allocation;
- Update on progress of Joint South Florida Management Committee;
- Review Exempted Fishing Permits (if any).

The Shrimp Committee meets Wednesday beginning at 8:30 am. In addition to hearing a summary of the Shrimp Advisory Panel Meeting and Scientific and Statistical Committee recommendations, the committee will:

- Discuss the Texas Shrimp Closure for 2014;
- Review a Draft Options Paper for Shrimp Amendment 16 - Adjustment to Royal Red Shrimp ACL and Accountability Measures;
- Review the Kemp's Ridley stock assessment
- Discuss a timeline for the Shrimp Permit Moratorium.

The Red Drum Committee will then convene to hear a summary of the Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting and review the SEMAP Red Drum Working Group Proceedings. The Data Collection Committee will hear an update on the Commercial Logbook Pilot Project and discuss a For-hire Electronic Data Reporting Program. Wednesday committee meetings will conclude with a summary of the Joint Shrimp/Ad Hoc Artificial Substrate Advisory Panel Meeting.

The full Council will convene Wednesday at 11:15 am. At 1:30, pm the Council will take public comment on the following:

- Final Action - Join Mackerel Amendment 20B - Boundaries and Transit Provisions
- Final Action - Joint Framework Action to Increase Spanish Mackerel ACL
- Final Draft - Reef Fish Amendment 28 - Red Snapper Allocation

The Council will also hear open public comment to give members of the public an opportunity to address the Council on fishery issues that may not be on the agenda. Anyone wishing to speak must sign up prior to the comment period.

Beginning Thursday at 8:30 am, the Council will deliberate and take action on committee recommendations made earlier in the week and conclude discussions at 3:45 pm.

For a copy of the detailed agenda, or to watch the meeting live, please visit [http://gulfcouncil.org/council\\_meetings/index.php](http://gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/index.php) or call 888-833-1844. Briefing book materials can be downloaded from the Council FTP site at <https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi>. Both the username and password are "gulfguest".

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 subjects of formal action. Actions of the Council and Committees will be restricted to 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 Kathy Pereira at the Council office at least five days prior to the meeting.

### **About 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.

### **Submit comments and stay updated on fishery issues:**

Check it out! Go to [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) and click on the thermometer in the middle of the page. From there you can read up on all the pending actions, watch the video presentations, read comments, and submit your own. All comments submitted through the online form are automatically posted on our web site for Council review. Other comments are manually posted every couple of days.

There is also a thermometer for each issue that lets you know where the Council is in the process for that particular amendment, whether it's the scoping phase, final action, or implementation.