



**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council:**

# **Ad Hoc Charter-For-Hire Data Collection Advisory Panel Orientation**

# Welcome Aboard!



To ensure a well-rounded understanding of each component of fishery management, the Council draws upon the expertise of knowledgeable people from across the region with varying experience and understanding of particular issues.

As a new Advisory Panel member you may have some questions:

- What role does the Council play in making fishing regulations?
- How do APs function and what are my responsibilities?
- How will my contributions influence fisheries management?

# Who is the Council?

## Voting members:

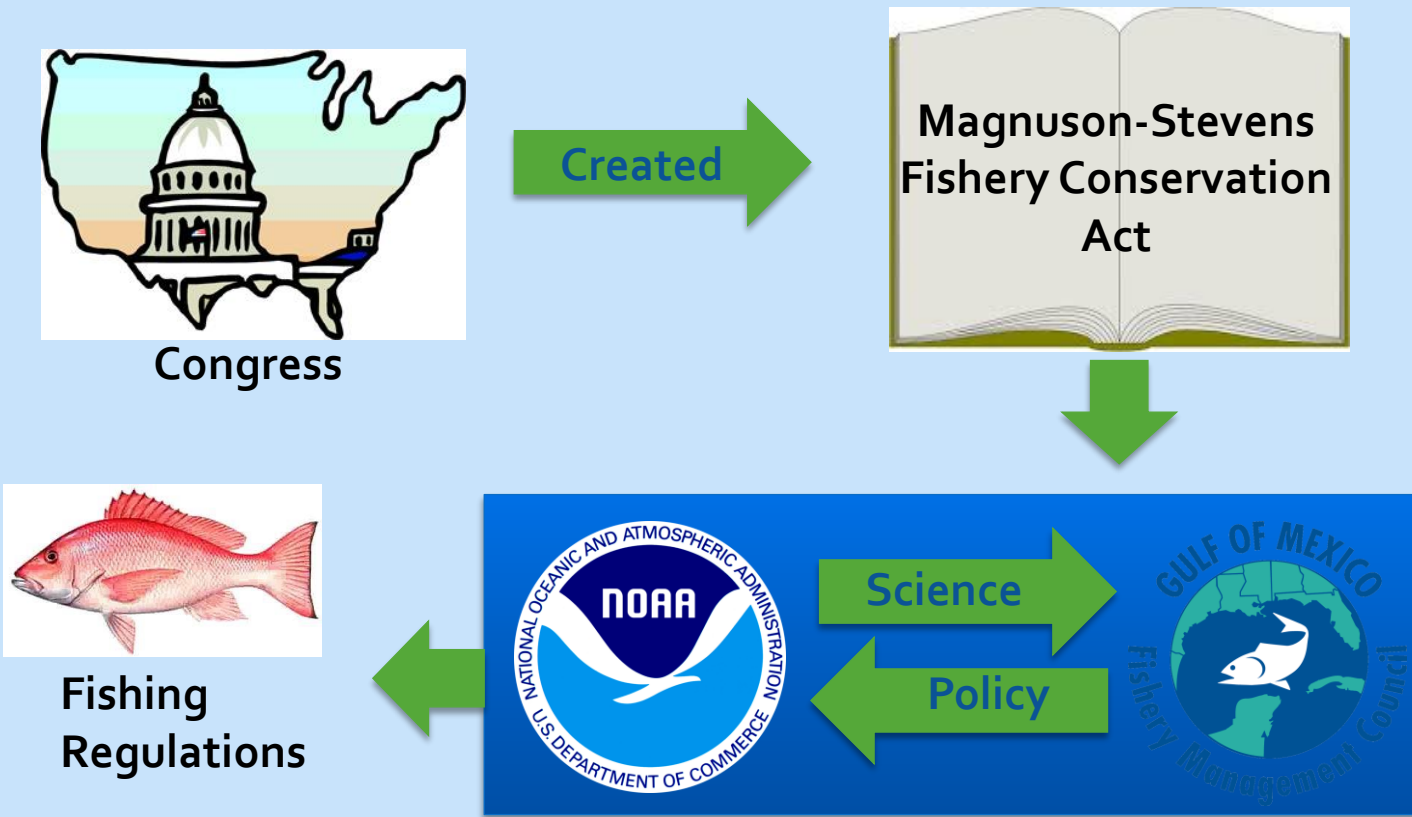
- Regional Administrator of NOAA Fisheries
- Directors of the 5 Gulf state marine resource management agencies
- 11 members of the public who represent different interests in the fishery

## Non-voting members:

- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Department of State
- Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission



# What is a Fishery Management Council?

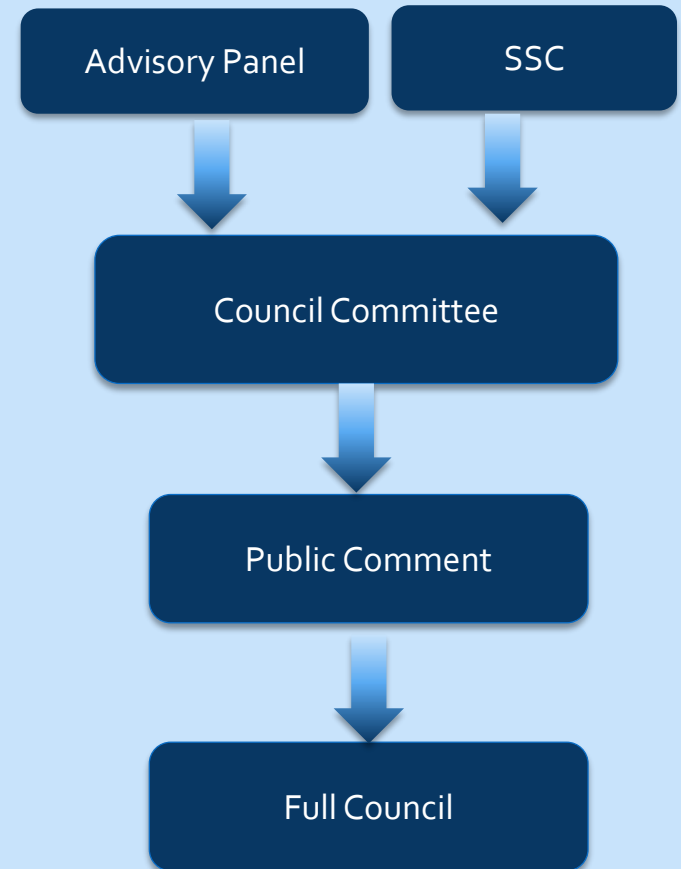


# What is an Advisory Panel?



While the Council is comprised of individuals who are knowledgeable about aspects of the fishery, it relies on Advisory panels and the public for a deeper understanding of particular issues.

## Progression of Recommendations



# What is My Role as an AP Member?

You are expected to contribute to a dialogue, using your personal knowledge and perspective to guide the AP and consequently, the Council, toward a big-picture understanding of the issue at hand. The Council benefits from your advice on potential solutions and a better understanding of the pro's and cons of proposed management changes.



# How Does an AP Function?

The AP is expected to make recommendations to the Council.

- Motions can be passed using parliamentary procedure (Robert's Rules).
  1. Listen to the other side
  2. Focus on issues, not personalities
  3. Avoid questioning motives
  4. Be polite
- Recommendations that the panel can agree to are more meaningful than split votes.
- If there is division on the group, providing the Council with rationale or pros/cons is useful.

# How Does an AP Function?

AP members are expected to:

- Review background materials in advance of each meeting.
- Actively participate in each meeting.
- Maintain civility and strive to work towards clear recommendations and feedback to the Council. If majority can't agree, provide clear rationale to the Council.





# How Does an AP Function?

The AP will elect one of its members to serve as Chairman. The Chairman's role is to:

- Move the AP through the meeting agenda.
- Ensure sufficient consideration of each issue.
- Allow each member equal opportunity to contribute and prevent anyone from dominating the conversation.
- Ensure members have clear understanding of issues/topics before voting, if votes are necessary.
- Promote clear and useful feedback and recommendations to the Council
- Review agendas and meeting summaries.
- Represent the AP to the Council.

Typically, the AP Chair does not vote on a motion unless there is a tie.

# What Happens to AP Recommendations?

- A summary report of each meeting will be drafted by staff and presented to the Council by staff with chair's input.
- The Council Committee will then make recommendations to the full Council.
- The full Council will decide what action to take after considering Committee recommendations.



# Join Our Community

- Sign-up for our press releases
- Follow us on Facebook/Instagram
- Watch our YouTube Channel
- Visit the Amendment's Under Development webpage

