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For Immediate Release
February 25, 2014

Gulf Council to Convene a Meeting of its Standing, Special Shrimp, and Special Red Drum Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSCs)

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has scheduled a meeting of its Standing, Special Shrimp, and Special Red Drum SSCs March 19 - 20, 2014. The meeting will be held at the Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel, 739 Canal Street in New Orleans, and it will begin at 1:00 pm Wednesday and conclude at 5:00 pm. Thursday.

The Standing and Special Shrimp SSC will meeting Wednesday, March 19 beginning at 1:00 pm to review and discuss:

- new stock assessments for brown, white, and pink shrimp
- a biological review of the Texas Shrimp closure
- a draft options paper for Shrimp Amendment 15 - Status Determination Criteria and Adjustments to the Shrimp FMP Framework Procedure
- annual catch limit adjustment and accountability measures for royal red shrimp

The Shrimp SSC will continue to meet Thursday morning if necessary. The Standing and Special Red Drum SSC will meet Thursday to discuss possible data poor methods to set the overfishing limit for red drum, the formation of a data triage working group, and a possible plan of action/next steps for red drum.

Finally, the Standing SSC will meet at the conclusion of the Standing and Special Red Drum SSC meeting to review and discuss analysis needs for further development of ABC control rule alternatives, and to review of new National Standard 2 guidelines.

A copy of the agenda and related materials can be downloaded from the Council's FTP server - <https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi> (login is `gulfguest/gulfguest`), or obtained by calling the Council office at 813-348-1630.

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.

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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.



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**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management
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[Charlene Ponce](#)
Public Information Officer
888-833-1844 ext. 229