



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

Committees Schedule & Council Agendaⁱ

April 3rd – 6th, 2023

Courtyard Marriott

Gulfport, Mississippi & [Virtual](#)

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM CDT: Monday, April 3rd – Full Council Closed Session

- Selection of Coastal Migratory Pelagic AP Members
- Selection of 2022 Officer/Team of the Year
- Selection of Standing and Statistical Committee Member Replacement

Monday, April 3rd – Committee Sessions

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM CDT: Mackerel (Tab C) – Mr. Anson

- Review of Coastal Migratory Pelagics Landings
- **Final Action:** Draft Framework Amendment 12: Modifications to the Commercial Gulf King Mackerel Gillnet Fishing Season
- Recommendations from the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Advisory Panel December 2022 Meeting

----- **Break 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM CDT** -----

10:45 AM – 12:30 PM CDT: Data Collection (Tab F) – Ms. Boggs

- Update on Southeast For-Hire Integrated Reporting Program: Discussion on 5th Circuit Court of Appeals Ruling and Regulatory Next Steps
- Public Hearing Draft: Modification to Commercial Coastal Logbook Reporting Requirements and Advisory Panel Recommendations
- Discussion of Private Angler Licensing Requirements and the Feasibility of a Federal Private Angling Permit
- Remaining Data Collection AP Summary Items

----- **Lunch 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM CDT** -----

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM CDT: Shrimp (Tab D) – Mr. Banks

- Biological Review of Texas Closure
- Report on Expanded Sampling of the Fleet for Effort Monitoring in the Gulf Shrimp Fishery
- Update on NMFS VMS Project
- Draft Shrimp Framework Action: Modification of the Vessel Position Data Collection Program for the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery

----- **Break 3:15 PM – 3:30 PM CDT** -----

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM CDT: Shrimp Continued (Tab D) – Mr. Banks

- Update on Shrimp Effort Estimation Model and 2021 Gulf Shrimp Fishery Effort
- Shrimp Advisory Panel Summary Reports
- Scientific and Statistical Committee Summary Report

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM CDT: Reef Fish (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

- Review of Recent Reef Fish, For-hire, and Individual Fishing Quota Landings

– Recess –

Tuesday, April 4th – Committee Sessions, Continued

8:00 AM – 10:30 AM CDT: Reef Fish Committee continued (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

- Public Hearing Draft for Amendment 56: Modifications to the Gag Grouper Catch Limits, Sector Allocations, and Fishing Seasons

----- Break 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM CDT -----

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM CDT: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

- ~~Draft Framework: Modifications to Recreational and Commercial Greater Amberjack Management Measures~~
- Discussion of Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Objectives

----- Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM CDT -----

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM CDT: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

- SSC Summary Report and Recommendations from the March 2023 Meeting
 - Scamp & Yellowmouth Grouper Updated Catch Projections
 - Evaluating Bottom Fishing Seasonal Closures in the Recreational Fishery
 - Greater Amberjack Discard Mortality
 - Great Amberjack Count Update
 - Evaluating Wenchman and Mid-water Snapper Landings
 - Other Items from March 2023 SSC Meeting

----- Break 3:30 PM – 3:45 PM CDT -----

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM CDT: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

- Draft Options: Recalibration of Red Snapper Recreational Catch Limits and Modification of Gray Snapper Catch Limits

– Recess –

Immediately following the Reef Fish Committee – NMFS will Host a General Question and Answer Session

Wednesday, April 5th – Committee Sessions, Continued

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM CDT: Sustainable Fisheries (Tab E) – Dr. Sweetman

- Presentation: A Brief Introduction on How Management Strategy Evaluation Can Address Some Key Challenges before the Council
- Overview of Potential Options for Regulatory Streamlining
- Presentation: Factors to Consider for the Inclusion of Species in Federal Management
- SSC Report on Allocation Approaches Presentation

----- Break 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM CDT -----

Wednesday, April 5th – Council Session

- I. **11:15 AM – 11:18 AM CDT:** Call to Order, Announcements, and Introductions – *Dr. Stunz*
- II. **11:18 AM – 11:20 AM CDT:** Adoption of Agendaⁱ and Approval of Minutes (**Tab A, Nos. 3 & 4**) – *Dr. Stunz*
- III. **11:20 AM – 12:00 PM CDT:** Presentations:
 - Update from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) on Wind Energy Development in the Gulf of Mexico (**Tab A, No. 7**) – *Mr. Boube*
 - NOAA Fisheries' Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Strategy, Regional Implementation Process, and Schedule – (**Tab A, No. 8**) – *Mr. Strelcheck / Dr. Walter*

----- Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM CDT -----

Wednesday, April 5th – Council Session continued

- IV. **1:30 PM – 5:00 PM CDT:** Public Comment ^{ii, iii, iv, v} – *Dr. Stunz*
 - A. **Final Action:** Draft Framework Amendment 12: Modifications to the Gulf of Mexico Migratory Group King Mackerel Gillnet Fishing Season
 - B. Open Testimony on Other Fishery Issues or Concerns

– Recess –

Thursday, April 6th – Council Session

Committee Reports:

- A. **8:00 AM – 8:30 AM CDT:** Mackerel (**Tab C**) – *Mr. Anson*
- B. **8:30 AM – 9:00 AM CDT:** Data Collection (**Tab F**) – *Ms. Boggs*
- C. **9:00 AM – 10:00 AM CDT:** Shrimp (**Tab D**) – *Mr. Banks*

----- Break 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM CDT -----

D. 10:15 AM – 12:00 PM CDT: Reef Fish (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

----- Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM CDT -----

E. 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM CDT: Reef Fish *continued* (Tab B) – Dr. Frazer

F. 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM CDT: Sustainable Fisheries (Tab E) – Dr. Sweetman

----- Break 3:30 PM – 3:45 PM CDT -----

G. 3:45 PM – 3:50 PM CDT: Closed Session Report including Announcement of 2022 Officer/Team of the Year – Gen. Spraggins

3:50 PM – 4:30 PM CDT: Supporting Agencies Update (Tab R) – Dr. Stunz

- South Atlantic Council Liaison (Tab R, No. 1) – Mr. Roller
- Mississippi Law Enforcement Efforts (Tab R, No. 2) – Lt. Carron
- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) (Tab R, No. 3) – ASAC O'Malley
- Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission – Mr. Donaldson
- U.S. Coast Guard (Tab R, No. 5) – LCDR Motoi
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Department of State

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM CDT: Other Business (Tab U) – Dr. Stunz

- Litigation Update – Ms. Levy

– Adjourn –

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Next Meeting</u> June 5 – 8, 2023 <u>The Battlehouse</u> <u>Renaissance Hotel & Spa</u> Mobile, Alabama</p>
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ⁱ The established times for addressing items on the Council agendas may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. Public comment may begin earlier than 1:30 pm CDT on April 5th, 2023 but will not conclude before that time.

ⁱⁱ Persons wishing to give public testimony **virtually** must sign up on the Council website beginning on the first day of the Council meeting. Registration closes one hour before public testimony begins. During public comment, the Council will hear testimony related to final actions of the Council and pertinent agenda items. Time constraints may limit individual speaking time as determined by the presiding officer.

To help ensure that Council members have sufficient time to consider your written testimony, please submit your comments at least three business days prior to the start of the Council meeting.

ⁱⁱⁱ Any oral or written statement shall include a brief description of the background and interests of the person testifying and the source and date of any specific information. Persons wishing to submit written testimony or information can do so by emailing it to gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org. All written comments will be posted on the Council's website for viewing by Council members and the public.

^{iv} Oral or written communications provided to the Council are public documents. These communications will be made available to the public in their entirety and maintained by the Council as part of its permanent record. Further, knowingly and willfully submitting false information to the Council is a violation of Federal law.

^v Anyone wishing to use electronic visual aids during public testimony must provide staff with a copy of the material at least one hour before comment begins to allow for a virus scan of said material.