



# Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

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## **Gulf Council Seeks Applicants for Federal Fishery Advisory Panels** *Application Deadline is March 13, 2015*

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is taking applications for seats on its advisory panels. Working at the grass roots level, advisory panel members provide expertise and guidance to the Council on the development and implementation of federal fishery management plans for the Gulf of Mexico.

The Gulf Council has ten advisory panels and four ad hoc advisory panels comprised of individuals who are knowledgeable about and interested in the conservation and management of the fishery resources, or who are engaged in the harvest of Gulf of Mexico managed species. Members include private anglers, charter-for-hire operators, headboat operators, commercial fishers, seafood dealers and processors, non-governmental organizations, scientists, and concerned citizens. Membership provides individuals with an opportunity to become more directly involved in the management decision-making process.

Advisory panel members are appointed by the Council and serve a two-year term. Advisory panel members generally meet no more than once or twice per year and are compensated for travel and per diem expenses. Ad Hoc panels operate in the same manner; however, these panels are temporary and are disbanded when the panel charge has been met.

Applications are now being accepted for the following panels:

- Coastal Migratory Pelagics
- Coral
- Data Collection
- Outreach & Education
- Red Drum
- Red Snapper
- Reef Fish
- SEDAR Workshop
- Shrimp
- Spiny Lobster
- Ad Hoc Artificial Substrate
- Ad Hoc Red Snapper IFQ
- Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter For-Hire
- Ad Hoc Headboat Reef Fish

To apply, visit [http://www.gulfcouncil.org/forms/Advisory\\_Form.php](http://www.gulfcouncil.org/forms/Advisory_Form.php) and complete the online application. Appointments are limited to a maximum of two advisory panels. Membership on Ad Hoc Panels is unlimited.

If you do not have internet access or need a paper copy of the application, please send an email to [AP.Applicants@gulfcouncil.org](mailto:AP.Applicants@gulfcouncil.org), or call the Council office at 813-348.1630 to request an application.

Applications must be received by **March 13, 2015** for consideration by the Council during its March/April meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi. **NOTE: If you currently serve on an advisory panel you must reapply during this appointment process.**