



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

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www.gulfcouncil.org

Meeting Notice
February 23, 2015

Gulf Council to Hold Scoping Workshops for Reef Fish Amendment 36 Red Snapper IFQ Program Modifications

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will hold a series of scoping workshops to discuss and take public comment on a proposed amendment to make modifications to the Red Snapper Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program.

The Council is looking at a broad range of potential modifications to the Red Snapper IFQ program, including changes to the program's eligibility requirements; redistribution of shares held in inactive accounts to address regulatory discards; consideration of a full retention commercial fishery for red snapper; exploring share, allocation, and vessel caps on quota; requirements for the use of shares and/or allocation; withholding full distribution of shares in the event of an anticipated mid-year quota change; and increasing enforcement of all commercial reef fish landings. Although this action focuses on red snapper specifically, the implication of Red Snapper IFQ program changes on the Grouper-Tilefish IFQ program, and other potential issues within the Grouper-Tilefish IFQ program will also be discussed.

The workshop schedule is as follows:

Tuesday - March 10, 2015

Courtyard Marriott
142 Library Drive
Houma, LA 70360
(985) 223-8996

Tuesday - March 17, 2015

Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel
64 South Water Street
Mobile, AL 36602
(251) 438-4000

Thursday - March 12, 2015

Hilton Garden Inn
6703 Denny Avenue
Pascagoula, MS 39567
(228) 762-7182

Wednesday - March 18, 2015

Hilton Garden Inn
1101 US Highway 231
Panama City, FL 32405
(850) 392-1093

Monday - March 16, 2015

Hilton Galveston Island Hotel
5400 Seawall Boulevard
Galveston Island, TX 77551
(409) 744-5000

Tuesday - March 24, 2015

Hilton St. Petersburg Carillon Park
950 Lake Carillon Drive
St. Petersburg, FL 33716
(727) 540-0050

Tuesday - March 17, 2015

Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham
501 East Goodnight Avenue
Aransas Pass, Texas 78336
(361) 758-1774

All hearings begin at 6 pm local time and will conclude after public input has ended, but no later than 9 pm.

A Scoping Guide will be posted on the Council website -

http://gulfcouncil.org/fishery_management_plans/scoping-thru-implementation.php.