



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 to Convene its Shrimp Advisory Panel

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene a meeting of its Shrimp Advisory Panel (AP) Thursday, March 3, 2016, from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Gulf Council office, 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, in Tampa, Florida.

The AP is scheduled to discuss the biological review of the Texas Shrimp Closure, an annual closure that aims to increase the yield of brown shrimp and eliminate the discard of undersized shrimp caught during a period of rapid growth. The AP will make recommendations to the Council for a cooperative closure for 2016.

The AP will also review and discuss Shrimp Amendment 17B, including recommendations from the Shrimp Working Group regarding Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Optimum Yield (OY) for all shrimp species. MSY is the largest long-term average catch or yield that can be taken from a stock or stock complex under prevailing ecological and environmental conditions. OY is the amount of fish harvested that will provide the greatest overall benefit to the nation.

Finally, the AP will review proposed coral habitat areas of particular concern.

A copy of the agenda and related materials can be downloaded from the Council's file server - <https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi> (login is gulfguest/gulfguest). Click on the "Library Folder" and navigate to "Shrimp AP Meeting March 2016." Materials can also be obtained by calling the Council office at 813-348-1630.

This meeting will be webcast over the internet via GoToWebinar.

Visit http://gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/Webinars.php to register.

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.

Submit comments and stay updated on fishery issues:

Check it out! Go to www.gulfcouncil.org and click on the thermometer in the middle of the page. From there you can read up on all the pending actions, watch the video presentations, read comments, and submit your own comments. All comments submitted through the online form are automatically posted on our web site for Council review. Other comments are manually posted every few days.