

Draft Recommendations on Executive Order 13921

Items from June 2020 Sustainable Fisheries Committee

- Do not close additional areas to commercial and recreational fishing
- Increase testing for banned substances in seafood imported to the U.S.
- Require country of origin labelling for seafood on restaurant menus nationwide
- Support young fishermen development programs
- Recommend that the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee review stock assessments for Highly Migratory Species
- Review and revise U.S.C.G. safety compliance programs
- Consider measures to reduce agriculture run-off into the Mississippi River and reduce hypoxia that creates the Dead Zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

Item from the E.O. 13777 – Regulatory Reform Task Force review process (April, June 2018)

During the 2018 regulatory review, it was suggested to remove the gear restricted areas, specifically the reef fish stressed area, because fish traps are now prohibited. However, after reviewing the Council meeting minutes from the April and June 2018 Council meetings, the rationale for not including this recommendation is not clear and the Council may want to reconsider removing the gear restricted areas.

§622.35 Gear restricted areas.

(a) *Reef fish stressed area.* The stressed area is that part of the Gulf EEZ shoreward of rhumb lines connecting, in order, the points listed in Table 2 in Appendix B of this part.

Reef Fish Stressed Areas

A powerhead may not be used in the stressed area to take Gulf reef fish. A roller trawl may not be used in the stressed area.

