



Gulf Fishery News

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

August-September, 2010

Inside this issue:

Council Elections	2
New Members Sworn-in	2
From the Deck of the Shipp	3
Gag Interim Rule	4
Fishery Closures	4
Council Hires Fisheries Outreach Specialist	5
Greater Amberjack Regulatory Amendment	5
Council Agenda	6
Great American Seafood Cook-Off	8
Oil Spill Conference Scheduled	10

Advisory Panel and SEDAR Appointments

Former Council member Julie Morris was recently appointed to the Ad Hoc Reef Fish Limited Access Privilege Program Advisory Panel. She will serve as the panel's vice-chair.

Mr. Elbert Whorton was appointed to the Ad Hoc Data Collection Advisory Panel.

Mr. Jerry Sansom was selected to attend the Southeast Data and Review (SEDAR) Assessment Workshop scheduled for September 27 - 30, 2010 in Key West, Florida.



Volume 32, Issue 3

Recreational Red Snapper to Reopen

At the request of the Gulf Council, NOAA Fisheries Service will reopen the recreational red snapper season for eight consecutive weekends (Friday through Sunday), beginning October 1, 2010. The re-opening is effective each weekend from 12:01 a.m. local time, Friday through 12:01 a.m. local time Monday. The fishing season will close for the remainder of 2010 at 12:01 a.m. local time, November 22, 2010.

Anglers are reminded that current fishing regulations apply - two red snapper per person, per day, that measure a minimum of 16" total length. In addition, anglers must have in possession a venting tool and dehooking device when fishing for Gulf reef fish. The use of non-stainless steel circle hooks is also required for fishermen using natural baits. For-hire captain and crew are not permitted to keep red snapper.

In June, the Gulf Council requested that NOAA Fisheries Service institute rule making to reopen the recreational red snapper season later this year if it was determined that the 2010 quota was not filled before the fishery closed on July 24, 2010. NOAA Fisheries has determined that approximately 2.3 millions pounds of the 3.4 million pound recreational quota remains, allowing for the 24-day supplemental season.

In other red snapper news, the Council discussed during it's August meeting, possible regional management of red snapper and asked staff to continue working on a draft discussion paper that explores options for dividing the stock into sub-units.

The Council also discussed an increase in red snapper total allowable catch for 2011-2012. The Council directed staff to proceed with a regulatory amendment, selecting as its preferred alternative setting total allowable catch at 7.185 million pounds for 2011. That would mean commercial and recreational quotas of 3.664 million pounds and 3.521 million pounds, respectively.



Photos Courtesy of Paul Gabriel

Council Chair Shipp and Vice-Chair Gill Reappointed

Council member, Dr. Bob Shipp was recently re-elected Council Chair for the 2010/2011 Council year. Shipp is currently serving his second three-year term on the Council. He first served from 1991 to 2000 and was reappointed in 2005. Shipp is a fishery scientist who teaches at the University of South Alabama.

“Obviously, the Council has been challenged and preoccupied with the impact of the Deep Horizon oil spill, and has been pretty much ‘on hold’ during this summer. Now that things appear to be stabilizing, if not returning to normal, we will be moving into uncharted waters as we try to best manage our fish stocks and adjust to the conditions we encounter,” said Shipp.



Bob Shipp



Bob Gill

Member Bob Gill was re-elected as Vice Chair of the Council. Gill has served on the Council since 2006 and was reappointed in 2009. He is currently serving his second three-year term. He is co-owner of Shrimp Landing, a seafood dealership in Crystal River, Florida.

“I am honored to be re-elected to a Council leadership position and participate in fishery management activities not only for the Gulf of Mexico, but also from a national perspective. I look forward to helping the Gulf Council achieve its goals of ending overfishing and restoring fish stocks so that all might enjoy the bounty of the waters. One of my priority goals for the year will be to get more stakeholders engaged and involved in the fishery management process so that we manage the fisheries together as a team for the benefit of all,” said Gill.

Two New Council Members Appointed, One Reappointed

During its August meeting, the Gulf Council held a swearing-in ceremony for new members Douglass W. Boyd of Texas, and Lawrence “Larry” G. Abele of Florida, and returning member Harolyn “Kay” Williams of Mississippi.

Doug Boyd is a member of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, the Coastal Conservation Association, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department of Fisheries Shrimp Advisory Panel. Boyd considers his role on the Fishery Management Council as one of stewardship, noting that it is the key element to conserving marine resources.



Doug Boyd

“While this will be an ongoing learning process, I’m looking forward to working with the Council, stakeholders, and industry leaders to find workable solutions that lead to sustainable fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico,” said Boyd.



Larry Abele

Larry Abele earned a Ph.D. from the University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. He is the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at Florida State University and has authored numerous scientific publications. Abele says his philosophy for conserving and managing fishery resources is based on careful analysis of the data and applying those data to the values inherent in the various laws protecting those resources.

After attending his first Council meeting, Dr. Abele commented on what a pleasure it was to meet and work with the other members.

“They’re a dedicated group of individuals committed to the well-being of our fisheries,” he said.

“Hearing the views expressed by so many individuals who depend on the Gulf of Mexico both economically and recreationally was also very enlightening,” Abele added.

Kay Williams has broad experience in commercial fisheries and ocean issues. Williams previously served three consecutive three-year terms, serving as Council Vice-Chair in 1998-1999 and Chair in 2000-2001. She returned to the Council in 2007 and this reappointment marks the beginning of her second three-year term. Williams has been involved in fisheries issues since 1970 and has served on various regional and international panels. She has also testified before Congress on several fishery issues.

“Working with the Industry for so many years has helped me to respect and appreciate the sacrifices made by those dedicated men and women in efforts to help us help them make the fisheries better for all,” said Williams.



Kay Williams

“We have to balance competing public use and enjoyment while preserving biological integrity and sustainability. I believe collaborative stewardship through science-based conservation is the best answer,” she added.



Dr. Bob Shipp, Council Chair

From the Deck of the Shipp

In early November the Council will host a workshop on Sector Separation. This issue has been floating around for the last couple of years, and it's time it got resolved. I think most Council members would like

to support the will of our stakeholders regarding Sector Separation (whatever that may be) but we seem to be a "house divided." Discussions have been quite heated on this issue, but hopefully the workshop will give the Council a perspective toward a solution.

I have a concern that many of the stakeholders may not have a proper perspective of this issue. What is of special concern is the belief that somehow sector separation will translate into a year-long season with each stakeholder having a guaranteed chunk of the overall quota. I know that frequent attendees at Council meetings know this is not the case, but I have heard "hallway talk" that leads me to believe some hold this view.

Having a guaranteed piece of the quota is, of course, how the commercial individual fishing quota (IFQ) system works - but it is not how the recreational sector works. It is true is that if the sectors were separated, each would have a percentage of the recreational quota, but the quota would still be fished under recreational regulations. It is possible that these regulations could be adjusted for the various sectors if harvest pressures justified it.

Angler Registration Reaches 628,000

After topping the half million mark, the pace of registrations with the National Saltwater Angler Registry is slowing as summer winds down and many fishermen appear to be taking a "wait and see" approach to registering. For example, as of this week, only 173,000 anglers have registered in New Jersey; a figure far below past estimates that put the number of participants at well over a million. NOAA is planning on using registry data for surveys starting in 2011. An incomplete registry could mean substantial delays in survey improvements.

Failing to register this year is the same as not having your catch count when it comes to making regulations and management decisions. Readers who would like to help spread the word by posting information on their websites, blogs, newsletters, or other outreach vehicles can contact Forbes Darby at Forbes.Darby@noaa.gov or (301) 713-9501.

Perhaps the greatest unknowns are: How much of the recreational quota would be available to each sector, and how many sectors would there be? The prevailing wisdom is that there would be two: a private recreational and a for-hire sector. I don't know what the final breakdown of the quota would be, but regardless, I think the quota has to be established before a final decision can be made.

I also offer a few questions, for which I have no answers at this time. Will the Council have the ability to adjust the quota split in the future? Is there a rationale to further split the for-hire group into head boats and others? If regional

What is Sector Separation?

Currently, Gulf fisheries are divided into two sectors for management purposes; a commercial sector and a recreational sector. For-hire charter and head boat operations, along with private recreational anglers are all part of the recreational sector. Sector separation could allow the splitting of the recreational sector into two or more sectors. For example, instead of a single recreational sector, that sector could be divided into a private recreational sector and a for-hire sector. Further separation could occur by also dividing the for-hire sector into a charter boat sector and a head boat sector.

management ever becomes a reality, how would the quota be split? Finally, if transferability between commercial and recreational sectors is allowed, how would the sectors of the recreational fishery function?

Sector separation is a very important issue, hence the timeliness of the workshop. I urge any who have an interest (and that should include all of us who fish in the EEZ) to be represented at this workshop. If you are a member of a charter organization, fishing club, or if you are a supporting industry, send somebody to the workshop if you can't go yourself.

-Bob Shipp

Dr. Bob Shipp is chair Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and chair Department of Marine Sciences, University of South Alabama.

The opinions expressed herein are those of the chair, and not necessarily those of the Council or its individual members.



Gag Interim Rule to Become Effective January 1, 2011

The Council requested that NOAA Fisheries Service publish a temporary rule to delay the opening of the recreational gag season for at least 180 days beginning January 1, 2011, and will release 100,000-pounds (approximately one quarter) of the commercial quota. The commercial quota was established to allow fishermen targeting other species to retain some bycatch of gag.

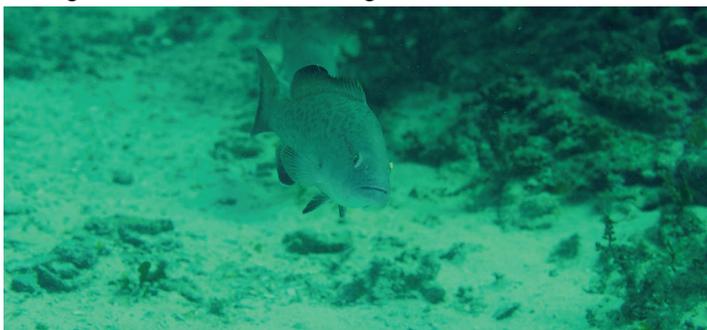
The Council intends to allow a limited recreational harvest of gag during the second half of 2011 when the number of days open can be maximized. However, the exact number of days that the recreational season can be open is dependent upon the final recreational allocation of gag, which will be determined by a rerun of the gag update assessment. The results of that assessment rerun will be available for Council review during its February 2011 meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi.

The interim rule also suspends the commercial red grouper multi-use individual fishing quota shares in order to prevent a possible overrun of the gag annual catch limit. Without that suspension, it is likely that the commercial gag annual catch target and annual catch limit would be exceeded, triggering accountability measures on the commercial sector.

Gag is one of the four species under the management of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council that is overfished, and the Council is developing an amendment to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan - Reef Fish Amendment 32 - to end overfishing and rebuild the stock within ten years. But because that amendment is not scheduled for implementation until mid-late 2011, an interim rule is necessary to minimize regulatory discards and reduce overfishing of gag.

Amendment 32 will establish accountability measures for both the recreational and commercial fisheries; make adjustments to commercial multi-use individual fishing quota shares; look at modifying bag limits, size limits, and closed seasons for gag and red grouper; address both commercial and recreational bycatch issues; consider recreational data collection and monitoring programs; and consider time and/or area closures.

Public hearings for Amendment 32 will be scheduled early next year, with final action expected during the June or August 2011 Council meeting.



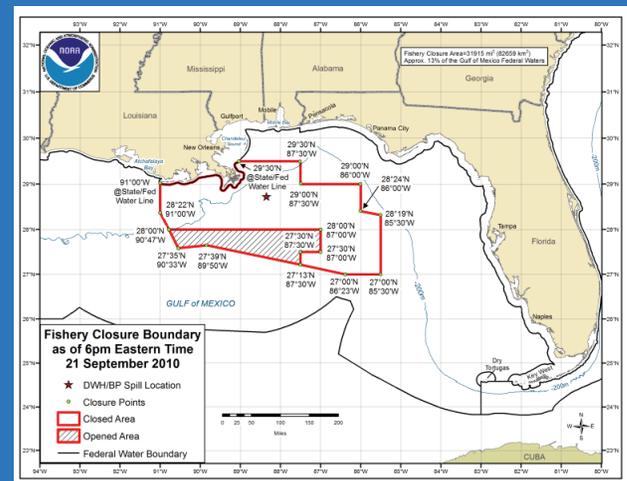
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Closures

Oil Spill Area Closure:

Check NOAA.gov for daily updates.

North latitude	West longitude
29° 30'	At state/federal line
29° 30'	87° 30'
29° 00'	87° 30'
29° 00'	86° 00'
28° 24'	86° 00'
28° 19'	85° 30'
27° 00'	85° 30'
27° 00'	86° 23'
27° 13'	87° 30'
27° 30'	87° 30'
27° 30'	87° 00'
28° 00'	87° 00'
28° 00'	90° 47'
28° 22'	91° 00'
At the state/federal line	91° 00'

Follow the state/federal water line easterly to beginning point



Recreational Closures:

Red Snapper

Recreational red snapper season closed July 24, 2010, but a quota remains and a supplemental season will open October 1 - November 22, 2010 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday only).

Commercial Closures/Shifts:

King Mackerel

The boundary between the Atlantic and Gulf groups of king mackerel off Florida shifts, beginning April 1, 2010. This change also affects daily commercial trip limits.

October Council Meeting Reminder

The Council will be meeting the week of October 25 - 29, 2010 at the Embassy Suites in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Please make your reservation under the Gulf Council room block to receive the special discounted room rate.

When the Council travels, the deadline for comments is moved up a day to accommodate packing and shipping of materials to our meeting location.

Submission of written comments and materials to be included as part of the briefing book materials for this meeting **MUST BE RECEIVED** by 5:00 p.m. EDT October 20, 2010.

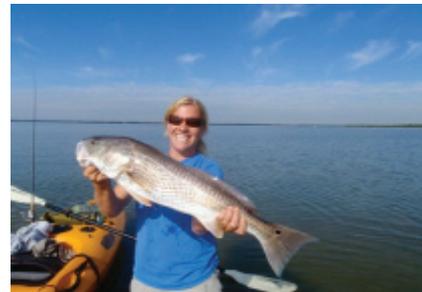
If you miss the deadline and bring your own copies to the meeting, please bring at least 30 copies for the Council. If you wish your materials to be made available to the public, please bring additional copies.

A draft agenda can be found on page 6.



Gulf Council Hires Fisheries Outreach Specialist

Let me begin by introducing myself: I'm Emily Muehlstein, an avid kayak fisherman (or fisherwoman, if you prefer), who has been fishing the inshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico since I was a little girl. I got my start as an angler bouncing shrimp in search of flounder off of my grandfather's boat. In more recent years, I have spent countless hours in and around Tampa Bay honing my skills as an angler. In an effort to learn more about fishing and become a part of the fishing community I have participated in a few forums and fished with some local fishing groups.



After a day of kayak fishing, Emily shows off her catch.

I have a soft spot in my heart for catching red drum, and I will never turn down the opportunity to target big migratory species such as king mackerel, tarpon, and cobia from my kayak. I prefer to use artificial bait, but enjoy floating the occasional pinfish or cut bait behind me as well. I do not aim to pack my freezer with fish, but I am certainly not opposed to keeping a fish or two for dinner.

I earned a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of South Florida. I worked for a short time at an aquaculture facility breeding cichlids for aquariums and then worked as a microbiologist for an independent laboratory monitoring water quality. I returned to USF, where I earned my Master's degree in Science Education, with a certificate in Informal Science Education (teaching science outside of the typical classroom). I've worked as an outdoor educator running a summer camp and writing science curriculum for the past three years.

I have just begun a new chapter in my career as the Fisheries Outreach Specialist for the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. I will be responsible for developing educational opportunities and engaging the public in dialogue with the Council about fishery management. Ideally, I will be able to foster participation in the Council process through timely, honest, straightforward communication of Council actions and procedures. I can be reached by e-mail at Emily.Muehlstein@GulfCouncil.org or by phone at: (813) 348-1630 ext. 238.

Greater Amberjack Framework Action

The Council is considering a regulatory framework action that could result in a recreational season closure for greater amberjack in an effort to avoid in-season quota closures during peak fishing months and maximize social and economic benefits.

Last year, the recreational greater amberjack season closed October 24, after the 1.368 million pound quota was exceeded. The Council has tentatively chosen a recreational seasonal closure of June 1 - July 31, as its preferred alternative, and is expected to take final action on the framework action during its October meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Public comments on the proposed regulatory framework action will be accepted via e-mail, fax, and U.S. mail until October 20, 2010. Comments may also be given during the public comment portion of the October Council meeting. To download a copy of the amendment, visit www.gulfcouncil.org. For more information, please call the Council toll free at 888-833-1844.

Committee Agenda
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
Embassy Suites
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
October 25 - 28, 2010

Monday October 25, 2010

Budget/Personnel Committee FULL COUNCIL - **CLOSED SESSION** - 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

SEDAR Selection Committee (Tab L) – FULL COUNCIL – **CLOSED SESSION** - 2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

SEDAR Selection Committee Report on Steering Committee - 2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee (Tab G) - 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm

- Options Paper for the Generic Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measures Amendment
- Crew Size Limit on For-Hire Vessels When Fishing Commercially
- Ecosystem Report

Tuesday October 26, 2010

Administrative Policy Committee (Tab E) - 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Shrimp Management Committee (Tab D) - 10:00 am – 11:00 am

- Review of the “Status and Health of the Shrimp Stocks for 2009”
- Review of the “Stock Assessment Report 2009 - Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery”
- Review of “A Biological Review of the Tortugas Pink Shrimp Fishery Through December 2009”
- Final Report on Shrimp Effort in 2009 & Preliminary Report of Shrimp Effort in 2010
- Report on Smalltooth Sawfish workshop
- Latent Permits

Data Collection (Tab F) - 11:00 am – 12:30 noon

- Discussion of a Fish Tag System for Recreational Grouper
- SEAMAP Report

Reef Fish Management Committee (Tab B) - 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm

- Status Report on Amendment 32 Gag/Red Grouper
- Discussion on the Pros and Cons of Regionalized Management
- IFQ Finance Program
- Final Regulatory Amendment for Red Snapper TAC in 2011 and 2012
- Final Framework Action for Greater Amberjack

Wednesday October 27, 2010

Reef Fish Management Committee – Continued (Tab B) - 8:30 am – Noon

Budget/Personnel Committee (Tab K) - 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

- Year-to-Date 2010 Budget Review

Spiny Lobster/Stone Crab Management Committee (Tab I) - 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

- Report on SAFMC Actions on Joint Amendment 10 for Spiny Lobster
- Analysis to Repeal Stone Crab FMP

Habitat Protection Committee (Tab J) - 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm

- Final Essential Fish Habitat Update

Mackerel Management Committee (Tab C) - 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- Scoping Document for King Mackerel Latent Permits
- Report on Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 18
- Selection of Public Hearing Locations for Amendment 18

Immediately Following Committee Recess will be the Informal Question & Answer Session on Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Issues.

Thursday October 28, 2010

Law Enforcement Committee/LEAP/LEC - 8:30 am – 12:00 noon

- Status Report on Council Activities
- Status Report on GSMFC Activities
- Review and Approval of 2011-2012 Operational Plan
- State/Federal Enforcement Reports

Council Agenda
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
 Embassy Suites
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana
 October 27 - 29, 2010

Thursday October 28, 2010

- I. Call to Order and Introductions - Shipp
- II. Adoption of Agenda¹- Shipp
- III. Approval of Minutes - Shipp
(1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.)
- IV. Fisheries 101 - Bortone
- V. U.S. Navy Environmental Impact Statement Presentation - Watterson
(1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.)
- VI. Public Testimony^{2,3,4,5} - Shipp
 - a. Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP) (if any)
 - b. Final Framework Action for Greater Amberjack
 - c. Final Regulatory Amendment for Red Snapper Total Allowable Catch for 2011 and 2012
 - d. Open Public Comment Period^{2,6}
(2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

Friday October 29, 2010

- VII. Committee Reports
 - a. Reef Fish Management Committee - Minton
 - b. Administrative Policy - Riechers
 - c. Shrimp Management - Perret
 - d. Data Collection - Riechers
 - e. SEDAR Selection Committee - Perret
 - f. Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem - Riechers
 - g. Habitat - Hendrix
 - h. Budget/Personnel - McIlwain
 - i. Spiny Lobster/Stone Crab - Teehan
 - j. Mackerel Management - Fischer
 - k. Law Enforcement Committee - Pearce
(8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.)
- VIII. Other Business - Shipp
 - a. Report from the Southeast Area Monitoring & Assessment Program Meeting - Froeschke
 - b. Report from the South Atlantic Council Meeting - Shipp
 - c. Report from the HMS Meeting - Sapp
 - d. Report from the National Scientific & Statistical Committee Meeting - Froeschke
 - e. Report from the ICCAT Meeting - Sapp
 - f. Report from Caribbean Council Meeting - Shipp
(4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

¹The established times for addressing items on the Council and committee agendas, except for those setting times for public testimony or open public comment, may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from, or completed prior to the date established by these agendas.

²Persons wishing to testify for either public testimony or open public comment must submit a registration card before the beginning of public testimony; otherwise persons wishing to testify may be denied. One card must be completed for each issue on which persons wish to testify.

³Persons wishing Council members to have copies of written testimony or information should provide 30 copies to staff for distribution. All written information shall include a statement of the source and date of such information. Any oral or written statement shall include a brief description of the background and interests of the person testifying.

⁴Oral or written communications provided to the Council, its members or its staff that relate to matters within the Council's purview are public in nature. 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.

⁵Anyone wishing to use electronic visual aids during public testimony must provide staff with a copy of the material at least one hour before testimony begins to allow for a virus scan of said material.

⁶The Council has set aside this time for open public comment regarding any fishery issue or concern. People wishing to speak before the Council should complete a public comment card, making sure to check the box marked Open Public Comment. In the interest of giving everyone an opportunity to speak, speakers are asked to limit comments to three minutes. If your sentiments are reflected in comments made by others, please state so and allow the next speaker to address the Council. Individuals may be asked to reduce speaking time in order to accommodate all who wish to speak. Open public comment will end no later than the time scheduled on the agenda regardless of the number of persons wishing to comment.

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Send us Your Fishing Photos

We want to see your favorite fishing and fishery related photos! Whether from a spear fishing adventure, a charter trip, or a commercial effort, we'd like to see your photos and possibly use them on our web site or in our newsletter.

Send us your photos and help us build a photo library! To submit your photos, please send an e-mail with "Photo Library" in the subject line to gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org. Be sure to include your contact information along with a description and proper photo credit, then simply attached the image and send. Photo descriptions may be edited for grammar, clarity, or length. Photos must be in jpg format and not exceed 1.5 MB.

NOTE: By submitting photos, you understand that if we decide to use your photo, it can be used anywhere on the web site, in our newsletter or other publications.



Photo courtesy of Paul Gabriel

Florida Chef Wins Great American Seafood Cook-Off

Chef Dean Max of Fort Lauderdale captured top honors at the Great American Seafood Cook-off on August 7 in New Orleans. He was crowned "King of American Seafood" after besting 13 other teams from across the country. Each team prepared a domestic seafood dish that reflected the cuisine of their home state. Chef Dean's winning entry was "Sebastian Inlet Clams BBLT (Bacon, Basil, Lettuce, and Tomato)."

With the recent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, interest in the New Orleans-based cook-off was especially intense this year. Chef Dean said he was pleased to have the chance to celebrate Florida seafood at such a high-profile event and expressed confidence in the safety of Gulf seafood, pointing out that the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies are constantly monitoring seafood quality.

"The majority of the Gulf is considered pristine, hosting many varieties of seafood that remain a healthy delicacy," he said. "With the focus of so many organizations testing the waters, I feel that eating Gulf seafood has never been safer."

Florida Agriculture Commissioner Charles H. Bronson said the cook-off was a great opportunity to showcase Florida seafood on the national stage.

"This event helped get out the message that Florida seafood is safe, plentiful and available," Bronson said. "Our state's commercial fishermen are bringing in their quality catch daily. Add to that the creativity of Chef Dean Max, and you've got a winning combination."



Chef Dean Max of Ft. Lauderdale won first place

In addition to Florida, competing chefs represented Alabama, Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, and West Virginia.

The panel of judges included Chef Rick Tramonto of Chicago's Tru restaurant,

[See COOKOFF, next page](#)

Cookoff *continued*

Tramonto Steak and Seafood, and Osteria di Tramonto; Chef Jeff Tunks of Ceiba in Washington, D.C.; Chandra Ram, executive editor of Plate magazine; Beverly Stephen, executive editor of Food Arts magazine; and Chef Justin Timineri, winner of the 2006 Great American Seafood Cook-off and executive chef for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This year's cook-off was hosted by Jeff Corwin of Animal Planet and the Food Network's Extreme Cuisine, with co-host Chef John Folse, Louisiana's Culinary Ambassador.

Dean James Max is the executive chef at 3030 Ocean. The restaurant opened in 2000 and is located at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort and Spa on Fort Lauderdale Beach. Earlier in his career, Chef Dean was an executive chef and part owner of Atlanta's popular Mumbo Jumbo restaurant and executive chef at Woodside in Brentwood, California. He is classically trained in French cooking. His cookbook, "A Life by the Sea," was published in 2006.

Chef Dean Max's Winning Recipe - Sebastian Inlet Clams BBLT

Fish Stock (you can substitute canned clam broth for this if necessary):

1 pound halibut fish bones	pinch of salt
1 rib celery	1 quart water
1 onion	

Rinse fish bones clean and place in a pot with the chopped celery and onion. Cover with the water and salt. Bring to a boil then reduce to simmer for 40 minutes. Let rest for 20 minutes before straining. Cool and refrigerate.

Tomato Sauce:

6 large red tomatoes	2 minced shallots
1 tablespoon chopped garlic	2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon minced Calabrese peppers	2 tablespoons reserved bacon fat

Halve, seed, and grate the flesh of the tomatoes. Discard skin. Sauté garlic, peppers, and shallots in olive oil and bacon fat. Add tomato. Cook until it becomes thick. Refrigerate until needed.

Bacon:

1/4 pound double-smoked bacon (Chef Max uses Benton's Family Farm)

Over medium heat, render off the bacon 75 percent of the way (meaning don't cook it until all the fat is released) then reserve the bacon pieces separate from the fat.

Basil Bubbles:

2 cups basil leaves (stems removed)
1/4 cup reserved hot fish stock

Plunge the basil leaves in small pot of boiling water and shock for 20 seconds. Transfer to a bowl of ice water to cool. In a blender, combine the hot fish stock and the blanched basil. Blend until smooth. Strain through a fine mesh strainer, and scoop the bubbles from the top and serve on the clams.

Steaming the Clams:

6 dozen littleneck clams	1/2 pound butter
2 tablespoons garlic	1 pint cherry tomatoes (peeled of their skin)
1/2 bottle white wine	4 tablespoons basil chiffanade
1 quart fish stock	2 lemons
salt	

Clean clams and discard any open dead ones. In large pot, sauté garlic with four tablespoons of the butter. Add clams and tomato sauce. Cook for 2 minutes. Deglaze with white wine. Add in the fish stock. Cover clams until they open. Scoop equal portions into 6 bowls. Reduce the sauce by half and add remaining butter, cherry tomatoes, and basil. Lightly season with salt and add lemon juice.

Ready to Serve:

1 ciabatta bread loaf	24 micro red romaine leaves tossed in a bit of olive oil and lemon juice (optional)
6 each baby romaine lettuce heads	salt and pepper
4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil	2 tablespoons lemon juice

Cut ciabatta into 6 equal lengthwise portions and brush with half the olive oil. Season with salt and pepper. In a mixing bowl, toss romaine with remaining olive oil, lemon juice, salt, and pepper. On hot grill, mark bread and romaine for 45 seconds each side, reserve.

Place grilled bread in a large bowl-style plate. Top with the wilted romaine. Scatter clams on and around the bread. Spoon tomato broth from the clams over the dish. Scatter some crispy bacon. Garnish with micro romaine. Spoon basil bubbles over the clams and serve.



Winning Recipe - Sebastian Inlet Clams BBLT

Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Conference - Call for Abstracts

The University of South Florida, Florida Institute of Oceanography, Mote Marine Laboratory, and the State of Florida Oil Spill Academic Task Force will host a major oil spill research conference, February 9-11, 2011, at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Oral or poster presentations are invited on substantial and original research on all aspects of the Gulf Oil Spill disaster and its impact. Abstract submission deadline is October 25, 2010. Abstracts may be submitted online at <http://oilspill.usf.edu/>.

The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill will forever change the Gulf of Mexico, significantly impacting its citizens, environment, economy and policy of the region—and beyond. As efforts are considered to mitigate effects of the spill, plans must also be made to prepare for a different Gulf of Mexico—5, 10 and 20 years out. This disaster is of global importance and demands new approaches and methods, as well as the shared experience and insight of those who have been engaged in such disasters world-wide (e.g., from Alaska, Brazil, India, Europe, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Nigeria). One goal is to ensure that the tools and models are in place to deal with similar crises globally.

To deliberate these issues, the conference will bring together representatives from academia, government, NGOs and the private sector to inform each other about the state of research in relevant topical areas and to translate research into policy and management for predicting and adapting to a changed future, the extent of which is unknown.

Key Topics:

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Regional Oceanography
- Chemical Weathering – Biological Consumption
- Dispersants
- Ecological Consequences and Toxicity
- Economic and Social Impacts
- Human Health Issues
- Stakeholders, Science and Policy

The conference co-chairs are Robert H. Weisberg, Distinguished University Professor of Physical Oceanography, University of South Florida; William T. Hogarth, Dean, USF College of Marine Science and Acting Director Florida Institute of Oceanography; and Michael P. Crosby, Senior Vice President for Research, Mote Marine Laboratory.

Upcoming Meetings

SEDAR Spiny Lobster Stock Assessment
September 28 - 30, 2010
Key West, Florida

Gulf Council Meeting
October 25 - 29, 2010
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Ecosystem Scientific and Statistical Committee
and Socioeconomic Panel
November 3 - 4, 2010
Tampa, Florida

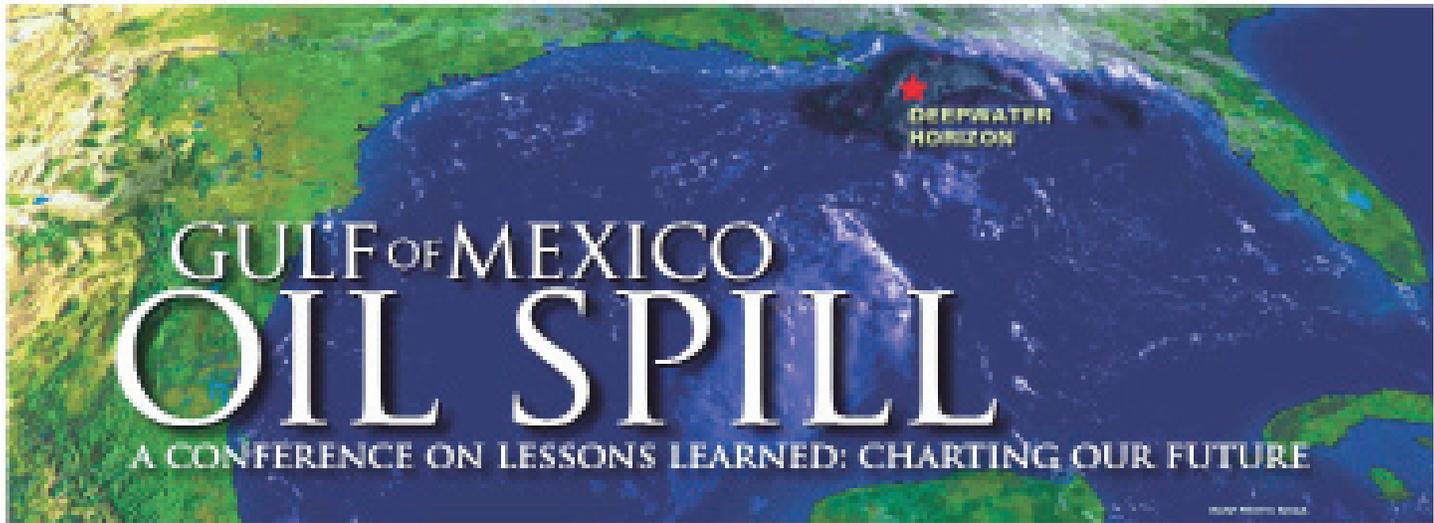
Sector Separation Workshop
November 8 - 10, 2010
Tampa, Florida

SEDAR23 Goliath Review Update
November 15 - 17, 2010
Key West, Florida

SEDAR Spiny Lobster Stock Assessment Update
November 18 - 19, 2010
Key West, Florida

For more information please call the
Gulf Council at 813-348-1630 or visit
www.gulfcouncil.org.





CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS



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Dean, USF College of Marine Science
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Senior Vice President for
Research, Mote Marine
Laboratory

KEY TOPICS

- GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
- REGIONAL OCEANOGRAPHY
- CHEMICAL WEATHERING - BIOLOGICAL CONSUMPTION
- DISPERSANTS
- ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES AND TOXICITY
- ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACTS
- HUMAN HEALTH ISSUES
- STAKEHOLDERS, SCIENCE AND POLICY

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2011

HILTON ST. PETERSBURG BAYFRONT, ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER GO TO:

www.oilspill.usf.edu

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The Gulf Council would like to hear from you! Please contact us regarding fishery questions, comments, or concerns you would like to see covered in the ***Gulf Fishery News***. Anyone interested in submitting information, such as articles, editorials, or photographs pertaining to fishing or fisheries management is encouraged to do so. Submissions may be mailed to Charlene Ponce, Public Information Officer, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607. Materials can also be sent via fax to 813-348-1711, or by e-mail to charlene.ponce@gulfcouncil.org.

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is one of eight regional fishery management councils established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Council is responsible for the development and modification of fishery management plans (FMPs) that are designed to manage fishery resources in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Mexico from state boundaries to the 200-mile limit.

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