



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

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REVISED
Meeting Notice
January 18, 2011

Contact: Charlene Ponce
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Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to Meet in Gulfport, Mississippi

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will meet February 7 – 10, 2011, at the Courtyard Marriott in Gulfport, Mississippi. Council Committees will convene Monday at 8:30 a.m. and will meet through most of Wednesday. The full Council will convene at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday afternoon. The Council is expected to adjourn by 5:15 p.m. Thursday. Agenda highlights are summarized below. For a copy of the detailed agenda or to review briefing book materials, please visit the Council web site at www.gulfcouncil.org or call 888-833-1844.

The Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee will meet Monday morning. The Committee will receive a report on the Sector Separation workshop held in November. Other items up for discussion include:

- Update on Ecosystem activities
- Review of the Generic Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures amendment
- Review of a draft scoping document for a Generic Earned Income Requirement/Crew Size amendment

The Habitat Protection Committee will meet to hear summaries and recommendations of the Habitat Protection Advisory Panels regarding the Essential Fish Habitat Five-Year Review. That Committee meeting will be followed by the Data Collection Committee, which will meet to receive a summary and recommendations of the Vessel Monitoring System Advisory Panel.

Also on Monday, the SEDAR Selection Committee and the Advisory Panel Selection Committee will meet. The SEDAR Selection Committee, with full Council, will receive a report on the SEDAR Steering Committee meeting. The Advisory Panel Selection Committee, with full Council, will discuss the makeup of the new Ad Hoc Individual Fishing Quota Review Advisory Panel.

Beginning Tuesday morning at 8:30, the Budget Committee will meet to review the fourth quarter budget, followed by the Shrimp Management Committee, which will review the 2010 Texas Closure and consider the 2011 Texas closure. Other items up for discussion include:

- Summary report of the Shrimp Advisory Panel Meeting
- Preliminary report on 2010 shrimp effort
- Report of the Sawfish Workshop

The Reef Fish Management Committee meets to receive an update of the 2010 red snapper landings and status of the regulatory amendment. The Committee will also review and discuss the following:

- Mutton snapper and goliath grouper benchmark assessments
- Re-run of the gag update assessment
- Goliath grouper assessment
- Impact of observed discard estimates on the red grouper stock assessment
- Final Action – Regulatory Amendment for Greater Amberjack
- Options paper for red snapper to adjust the closing date and allow for weekend openings
- Report on the Limited Access Privilege Program Advisory Panel meeting

- Individual fishing quota finance program
- Individual fishing quota discussion paper

Immediately following committee recess on Wednesday, the Council and NOAA Fisheries will host an informal Question and Answer Session on Gulf of Mexico fishery management issues.

Meeting on Wednesday are the Spiny Lobster/Stone Crab Committee, which will review actions of the South Atlantic Council for Join Amendment 10 for Spiny Lobster, and the Mackerel Management Committee, to review a draft of Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 18.

The Outreach and Education Committee will hear a report on the Outreach and Education Advisory Panel meeting, and the Coral Management Committee will hear a presentation – “*Ecology and Conservation of Deep-sea Coral Habitats and Communities in the Gulf of Mexico.*”

The full Council will convene Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. beginning with *Fisheries 101*. Public testimony will begin at 4:00 p.m., and will be accepted on exempted fishing permits (if any), and final action on a regulatory amendment for greater amberjack. The Council will also hold an open public comment session to give members of the public an opportunity to address the Council on fishery issues that may not be on the agenda. Open public comment will be taken immediately following public testimony until 6:00 p.m. Comment cards must be completed before the start of public testimony.

Beginning Thursday at 8:30 a.m., the Council will deliberate and take action on committee recommendations made earlier in the week. The meeting is expected to conclude by 5:15 p.m.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the Council and Committees for discussion, in accordance with the M-SFCMA, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the Council and Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the M-SFCMA, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency.

The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to allow for such adjustments and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice. Meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Trish Kennedy at the Council office five days prior to the meeting.

XXX

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