



# Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100

Tampa, FL 33607

Phone: 813.348.1630 • Toll free: 888.833.1844 • Fax: 813.348.1711

[www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org)

## **For Immediate Release**

March 30, 2011

Contact: Charlene Ponce

813-348-1630

## **Reminder: Gulf grouper recreational season opens April 1, 2011**

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council reminds the public that the recreational harvest of shallow-water groupers in the Gulf of Mexico federal waters **reopens April 1**. Please note the recreational harvest of gag grouper is still prohibited.

The annual closure of Gulf recreational shallow-water grouper fishery, which includes gag, black, red, yellowfin, scamp, yellowmouth, rock hind and red hind, runs from February 1 through March 31, and it is designed to protect gag, which are often found and caught with the other grouper species. The two-month closure during spawning season helps reduce overfishing of gag and rebuild its populations so that larger annual harvests may be possible in the future.

For more information regarding federal fishing regulations, please visit:

[<http://www.gulfcouncil.org/fishing\\_regulations/index.php>](http://www.gulfcouncil.org/fishing_regulations/index.php).

You may also download our free regulations App by visiting App store from your iPhone or iPad, search for "Gulf Council," and click on the Council logo.

XXX

**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council**

2203 N. Lois Avenue  
Suite 1100  
Tampa, FL 33607

An Equal Opportunity Employer  
Official Business

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
TAMPA FL  
PERMIT NO. 1294

«FIRST NAME» «LAST NAME»  
«ADDRESS 1»  
«ADDRESS 2»  
«CITY», «STATE» «POSTAL CODE»