



# Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

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

For Immediate Release

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## Reminder - Gulf Council to Hold Scoping Workshops Around the Gulf of Mexico

A reminder that the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will hold a series of scoping workshops to discuss and take public comment on Reef Fish Amendments 41 and 42.

**Reef Fish Amendment 41** - Red Snapper Management for Federally Permitted Charter Vessels- examines red snapper management measures for federally permitted charter vessels that provide flexibility, reduce management uncertainty, improve economic conditions, and increase fishing opportunities for federal charter vessels and their angler passengers.

**Reef Fish Amendment 42** - Federal Headboat Reef Fish Management - explores ways to provide flexibility, reduce management uncertainty, and improve economic conditions for reef fish headboat operators/owners, and increase fishing opportunities for their angler passengers by establishing a management program for federally-permitted headboat vessels participating in the Southeast Region headboat Survey.

Potential management measures for both **Amendments 41 and 42** include traditional approaches and allocation-based management approaches.

Traditional Management measures under consideration include modifications to the size limits, bag limits, and to the fishing seasons. Adjustments to the fishing seasons may consider split seasons and regional seasons.

Allocation-based management measures considered would divide each annual catch limit among smaller groups of operators or individual operators. Fishing cooperatives and regional fishing organizations are examples of allocation-based measures granting fishing privileges to groups. Management measures that would distribute portions of the ACL to individual operators include programs such as individual fishing quota, permit fishing quota and fish tags.

The workshop schedule is as follows:

**Mon, October 19, 2015**

Courtyard Marriott Gulfport Beachfront  
1600 East Beach Blvd.  
Gulfport, MS 39501  
228-864-4310

**Wed, October 21, 2015**

Adult Activity Center  
26251 Canal Road  
Orange Beach, AL  
251-981-3440

**Thurs, October 22, 2015**

Embassy Suites  
570 Scenic Gulf Drive  
Destin, FL 32550  
850-337-7000

**Mon, October 26, 2015**

Marriott Clearwater Beach  
Sand Key  
1201 Gulf Blvd.  
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767  
727-596-1100

**Thurs, October 29, 2015**

Webinar  
[Click here to register!](#)

**Tues, November 3, 2015**

Courtyard Marriott  
142 Library Drive  
Houma, LA 70360  
985-223-8996

**Thurs, October 22, 2015**  
Hilton Galveston Island  
5400 Seawall Blvd.  
Galveston, TX 77551  
409-744-5000

**All in-person meetings begin at 6:00 pm local time and end no later than 9:00 pm local time. Webinars begin at 6:00 pm Eastern Time.**

Scoping Guides will be posted on the Council website at [http://gulfcouncil.org/fishery\\_management\\_plans/scoping-thru-implementation.php](http://gulfcouncil.org/fishery_management_plans/scoping-thru-implementation.php).

### **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](http://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. All comments submitted through the online form are automatically posted on our web site for Council review. Other comments are manually posted every couple of days.

There is also a thermometer for each issue that lets you know where the Council is in the process for that particular amendment, whether it's the scoping phase, final action, or implementation.



You can also find information on our Facebook page, blog, and YouTube channel.

