



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

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Meeting Announcement

March 9, 2015

Gulf Council to Meet in Biloxi, Mississippi

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will meet March 30 - April 2, 2015, at the Golden Nugget in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Committee meetings will convene Monday at 8:30 am, concluding at 10:00 am Wednesday. Some of the Committee highlights include:

The **Law Enforcement Management Committee**, which will meet to discuss a report from the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel. The **Data Collection Committee** will review a scoping/options paper for Electronic Charter Boat Reporting.

The **Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Management Committee** will review and discuss:

- NOAA Climate Change Strategy
- National Standard 1 Proposed Revisions
- Final Action of Decal Requirements for Charter Vessels and Headboats
- Ecosystem Scientific and Statistical Committee Report

The **Mackerel Management Committee** will review an options paper for a Mackerel Gillnet Framework Action, and the **Spiny Lobster Management Committee** will review recommendations made by the Spiny Lobster Scientific and Statistical Committee.

On Tuesday, the **Reef Fish Management Committee** will meet to review:

- Recreational Red Snapper Season Projections
- Presentation on the Headboat Collaborative Program
- Options Paper for Gag Annual Catch Limit, Annual Catch Target, and Seasons
- Take Final Action on a Greater Amberjack Framework Action
- Scoping Summaries on Amendment 36 - Red Snapper Individual Fishing Quota Modifications
- Draft Amendment 28 - Red Snapper Allocation
- Draft Amendment 39 - Regional Management of Recreational Red Snapper
- Joint South Florida Management Options
- Hogfish Overfishing Limits and Acceptable Biological Catch
- Charge to the Reef Fish Headboat Advisory Panel
- Report from the Scientific and Statistical Committee

Wednesday will begin with the **Shrimp Management Committee** to discuss:

- Biological Review of the Texas Closure
- Summary of the Shrimp Advisory Panel Meeting
- Report on Penaeid Shrimp Maximum Sustainable Yield Acceptable Biological Catch Rule Workshop
- Update on Shrimp Amendment 15

- Scoping document for Shrimp Amendment 17
- Report from the Standing and Special Shrimp Scientific and Statistical Committee

Other committees meetings include:

- Joint Administrative Policy/Budget
- Gulf SEDAR Committee

The full Council will convene in a **Closed Session** Wednesday at 10:15 am. to make make Advisory Panel appointments before breaking for lunch. The Council reconvenes at 1:00 pm to receive presentations on the following:

- Mandatory Safety Exams for All Commercial Fishing Vessels
- Notice of Intent for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Expansion of Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary
- Draft Environmental Assessment for Amendment 6 to the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan

The Council will hear public comment from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Public testimony will be taken on:

- Final Action - Framework Action on Greater Amberjack
- Final Action on Shrimp Amendment 15
- Final Action on Eliminating Charter Vessel/Headboat Decal Requirement
- Open Public Comment

The full Council will resume Thursday at 8:30 am to deliberate and take action on committee recommendations made earlier in the week.

For a copy of the detailed agendas, or to watch the meeting live, please visit http://gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/index.php or call 888-833-1844. Briefing materials can be downloaded from the Council FTP site at <https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi> - username and password are both gulfguest, or found on the Council website at http://gulfcouncil.org/council_meetings/Briefing%20Materials/BB-01-2015/March-April2015Index.php.