



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 Notice

April 5, 2011

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Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Convenes its Reef Fish Advisory Panel (Revised)

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene its Reef Fish Advisory Panel April 25, 2011 at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council office in Tampa, 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100.

The Advisory Panel will meet to review and provide recommendations to the Council on Reef Fish Amendment 32. This amendment contains the following actions:

- Establish a rebuilding plan for gag
- Set recreational bag limits, size limits, and closed seasons for gag and red grouper in 2012
- Consider a commercial gag and shallow-water grouper quota adjustment to account for dead discards; make adjustments to multi-use commercial individual fishing quota shares for grouper
- Reduce the commercial gag size limit
- Modify the offshore time and area closures
- Establish gag, red grouper, and shallow-water grouper accountability measures

The Panel will also review and provide recommendations on the Generic Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measures Amendment. This amendment contains the following actions:

- Delegate management of selected species to other agencies
- Remove selected species from the fishery management plans
- Group species for purposes of setting annual catch limits and annual catch targets
- Establish an acceptable biological catch control rule
- Establish an annual catch limit/annual catch target control rule
- Establish a generic framework procedure for implementing management changes
- Establish the initial specification of annual catch limits and annual catch targets for stocks and stock groups still in need of such specification
- Establish the apportionment of the black grouper, yellowtail snapper, and mutton snapper stocks between the Gulf and South Atlantic Council
- Set a commercial and recreational allocation of black
- Establish accountability measures to keep catch levels within their annual catch limits or take corrective action if limits are exceeded

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude no later than 5:00 p.m. Copies of the agenda and other related materials can be obtained by calling 813-348-1630.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kathy Pereira at the Council at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the advisory panel, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda.

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 of 1976. The Council prepares fishery management plans designed to manage fishery resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.

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