



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, Florida 33607 USA

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

www.gulfcouncil.org

Meeting Notice
May 6, 2013

For More Information Contact: Charlene Ponce
813-348-1630

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to Convene a Meeting of its Standing, Special Mackerel, and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSC)

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's Standing, Special Mackerel, and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committees will meet May 29 - 31, 2013, at the Renaissance International Plaza Hotel, 4200 Jim Walter Boulevard in Tampa, Florida. The meeting will begin at 8:30am Wednesday and will adjourn no later than noon Friday.

The Standing, Special Mackerel, and Special Reef Fish SSCs will meet jointly Wednesday, May 29, 2013, to elect a chair and vice chair. Afterwards, the Standing and Special Mackerel SSCs will review the final results of the SEDAR 28 cobia and Spanish mackerel benchmark stock assessments. The SSC previously reviewed the assessments at its March 27-28, 2013 meeting, but was unable to recommend acceptable biological catch levels because a number of questions remained on the use of certain parameters necessary to produce the probability distribution functions needed to determine overfishing limit and acceptable biological catch. Based on the completed analyses, the SSC will determine whether to accept the assessments. If accepted, the SSC will recommend acceptable biological catch for cobia and Spanish mackerel.

The SSC will also review terms of reference for the upcoming SEDAR 38 - king mackerel benchmark assessment - and will solicit for participants in the SEDAR 38 workshops.

Following the Standing and Special Mackerel SSC session, the Standing and Special Reef Fish SSC will meet for the remainder of the meeting Wednesday, May 29, 2013 through Friday, May 31, 2013.

During that time, the SSC will:

- Receive a presentation on SEDAR 31 - red snapper benchmark assessment;
- Determine whether to accept the assessment;
- Recommend acceptable biological catch for red snapper (if the assessment is accepted) that is consistent with the rebuilding plan.

The SSC will also discuss the impact of explosive oil and gas rig removals on the red snapper stock.

Copies of the agenda and other related materials can be obtained by calling 813-348-1630 or by downloading the information from the Council's ftp site, <ftp.gulfcouncil.org>.

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

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.

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.