



# Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

## Committees Schedule & Council Agenda<sup>i</sup> November 4 - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Hilton Bayfront, St. Petersburg, Florida & Virtual

### Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> – Full Council Session

**10:00 AM – 10:05 AM EST:** Review and Adoption of Proposed Council Committee Assignments November 2024 through August 2025 (**Tab A, No. 2a**) and Current Council Committee Assignments (**Tab A, No. 2b**) – *Mr. Dugas*

### Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> – Committee Sessions

**10:05 AM – 10:45 AM EST: Habitat Protection & Restoration (Tab P) – Chair**

- Final Essential Fish Habitat Contract Report

----- Break 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM EST -----

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST: Sustainable Fisheries (Tab E) – Chair**

- Presentation: Research and Monitoring Priorities for 2025-2028
- Presentation: Consideration of Wahoo for Federal Management

----- Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM EST -----

**1:30 PM – 3:30 PM EST: Shrimp (Tab D) – Chair**

- Draft Shrimp Framework Action: Modification of the Vessel Position Data Collection Program for the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery and Presentation

----- Break 3:30 PM – 3:45 PM EST -----

**3:45 PM – 5:00 PM EST: Reef Fish Committee (Tab B) – Chair**

- Review of Reef Fish and IFQ Program Landings, and State Program Landings for Red Snapper

– Recess –

### Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> – Committee Sessions, Continued

**8:30 AM – 8:45 AM EST:** Litigation Update – *Ms. Levy*

**8:45 AM – 10:15 AM EST: Reef Fish Committee (Tab B) – Chair**

- Draft Options: Reef Fish Amendment 58B: Modifications to Deep-water Grouper Management Measures

- Presentation: Modifications to Lane Snapper Minimum Size and Recreational Bag Limits

----- Break 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM EST -----

**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM EST: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Chair**

- Draft Options: Reef Fish Amendment 58A: Modifications to Shallow-water Grouper Management Measures

----- Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM EST -----

**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM EST: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Chair**

- Presentation: Reef Fish Amendment 60: Individual Fishing Quota Distributional Issues

----- Break 3:00 PM – 3:15 PM EST -----

**3:15 PM – 5:00 PM EST: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Chair**

- Draft Options: Federal For-hire Fishing Season for Red Snapper
- Discussion: Updated NMFS Bottom Longline Index for Gulf Red Snapper
- Request for an Update on the Greater Amberjack Count

– Recess –

**Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Committee Sessions, Continued**

**8:30 AM – 10:00 AM EST: Data Collection (Tab F) – Chair**

- Presentation on Highly Migratory Species Proposed Rule
- Discussion on For-hire Data Collection Amendment

----- Break 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM EST -----

**10:15 AM – 11:00 AM EST: Data Collection *continued* (Tab F) – Chair**

- Southeast Region Headboat Survey Report
- Updates on the MRIP Transition and Pilot Project

**Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Council Session**

- I. **11:00 AM – 11:05 AM EST:** Call to Order, Announcements, and Introductions – *Mr. Dugas*
- II. **11:05 AM – 11:10 AM EST:** Adoption of Agenda<sup>i</sup> and Approval of Minutes (**Tab A, No's 3 & 4**) – *Mr. Dugas*
- III. **11:10 AM – 11:15 AM EST:** Presentation of the 2023 Law Enforcement Team of the Year Award – *Dr. Sweetman / Mr. Dugas*
- IV. **11:15 AM – 12:00 PM EST:** Presentations:

- Update on National Seafood Strategy (**Tab A, No. 7**) – *Dr. Rubino*
- Update from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) on Wind Energy Development in the Gulf of Mexico (**Tab A, No. 8**) – *Ms. Lyncker*

V. **12:00 PM – 12:15 PM EST:** Presentation on Exempted Fishing Permit from Texas SeaGrant (**Tab A, No. 9**) – *Ms. Picariello*

----- Lunch 12:15 PM – 1:45 PM EST -----

**Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Council Session continued**

VI. **1:45 PM – 5:00 PM EST:** Public Comment <sup>ii, iii, iv, v</sup> – *Mr. Dugas*

- Open Testimony on other Fishery Issues or Concerns

– Recess –

**Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>– Council Session**

**Committee Reports:**

- A. **8:30 am – 8:45 AM EST:** Habitat Protection & Restoration (**Tab P**) – *Chair*
- B. **8:45 AM – 9:15 AM EST:** Sustainable Fisheries (**Tab E**) – *Chair*
- C. **9:15 AM – 10:15 AM EST:** Shrimp (**Tab D**) – *Chair*

----- Break 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM EST -----

D. **10:30 AM – 11:30 AM EST:** Data Collection (**Tab F**) – *Chair*

----- Lunch 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM EST -----

- E. **1:00 PM – 2:45 PM EST:** Reef Fish (**Tab B**) – *Chair*
- F. **2:45 PM – 3:00 PM EST:** Council Recommendation on Exempted Fishing Permit – *Mr. Dugas*

----- Break 3:00 PM – 3:15 PM EST -----

- 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM EST:** Supporting Agencies Update (**Tab R**) – *Mr. Dugas*
- South Atlantic Council Liaison (**Tab R, No. 1**) – *Mr. Griner*
  - Florida Law Enforcement Efforts (**Tab R, No. 2**) – *Capt. Pearce*
  - NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) Report (**Tab R, No. 3a**) and Presentation (**Tab R, No. 3b**) – *Mr. Walia*
  - Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (**Tab R, No. 4**) – *Mr. Donaldson*
  - U.S. Coast Guard (**Tab R, No. 5**) – *Lt. Morton*
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Department of State

**4:15 PM – 4:30 PM EST:** [Discussion of Council Planning and Primary Activities](#) (**Tab R, No. 6**) – *Dr. Simmons / Mr. Dugas*

**4:30 PM – 5:00 PM EST:** Other Business (**Tab U**) – *Mr. Dugas*

– Adjourn –

**Next Meeting**  
January 27-30, 2025  
[Renaissance](#)  
New Orleans, Louisiana

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**i** The established times for addressing items on the Council agendas may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. Public testimony may begin earlier than 1:45 pm EST on November 6, 2024, but will not conclude before that time. Public testimony may end before the published agenda time if all registered in-person and virtual participants have completed their testimony.

**ii** Persons wishing to give public testimony **virtually** must sign up on the Council website beginning on the first day of the Council meeting. Registration closes one hour before public testimony begins. During public testimony, the Council will hear testimony related to final actions of the Council and pertinent agenda items. Time constraints may limit individual speaking time as determined by the presiding officer.

**To help ensure that Council members have sufficient time to consider your written testimony, please submit your comments at least three business days prior to the start of the Council meeting.**

**iii** Any oral or written statement shall include a brief description of the background and interests of the person testifying and the source and date of any specific information. Persons wishing to submit written testimony or information can do so by emailing it to [gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org](mailto:gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org). All written comments will be posted on the Council's website for viewing by Council members and the public.

**iv** Oral or written communications provided to the Council are public documents. These communications will be made available to the public in their entirety and maintained by the Council as part of its permanent record. Further, knowingly and willfully submitting false information to the Council is a violation of Federal law.

**v** Anyone wishing to use electronic visual aids during public testimony must provide staff with a copy of the material at least one hour before comment begins to allow for a virus scan of said material.