



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

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

Committees Schedule & Council Agendaⁱ

August 23 – 26th, 2021

**Hilton Palacio del Rio Hotel
San Antonio, TX
&
Virtual**

Monday, August 23rd – Full Council Session

8:15 AM – 8:30 AM CDT: Induction of New and Reappointed Council Members – *Mr. Strelcheck*

Monday, August 23rd – Committee Sessions

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM CDT: Administrative/Budget Committee (Tab G) – *Mr. Dyskow*

- Discussion on Modification of Statement of Organization Practices and Procedures (SOPPs) for SSC Membership
- Discussion of the SSC's Best Practices and Voting Procedures
- Presentation of the 2019-2020 Audit Report
- Discussion of Scientific and Statistical Committee Stipends

----- Break 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM CDT -----

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM CDT: Shrimp Committee (Tab D) – *Ms. Bosarge*

- Update on Effort Data Collection for 2021
- Draft Framework Action: Modification of the Vessel Position Data Collection Program for the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery
- Section 7 Consultation on the Shrimp Industry and Protected Species

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

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM CDT: Mackerel Committee (Tab C) – *Mr. Riechers*

- Review of Coastal Migratory Pelagics Landings
- Public Hearing Draft Amendment 32: Modifications to the Gulf of Mexico Migratory Group Cobia Catch Limits, Possession Limits, Size Limits, and Framework Procedure
- Clarification on Gulf King Mackerel Commercial Historical Landings Data and SSC Recommendations
- Draft Amendment 33: Modifications to the Gulf of Mexico Migratory Group King Mackerel Catch Limits and Sector Allocations and CMP Advisory Panel Recommendations

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

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM CDT: Sustainable Fisheries Committee (Tab E) – Mr. Diaz

- Update on Historical Captain Permits Conversion
- NS1 Technical Guidance Subgroup 3 Technical Memo – Managing with Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) for Data-limited Stocks in Federal Fishery Management Plans and SSC Recommendations
- ~~Using Field Experiments to Assess Alternative Mechanisms for Distributing Fish to the Recreational Sector and SSC Recommendations~~

Monday, August 23rd – Full Council Closed Session

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM CDT: Closed Session Full Council (Tab T) – Dr. Frazer

- Selection of Special Coral, Mackerel, and Shrimp Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Members

– Recess –

Tuesday, August 24th – Committee Sessions, Continued

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM CDT: Reef Fish Committee (Tab B) – Ms. Guyas

- Review of Reef Fish Landings
- Draft Framework Action: Modification of Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper Catch Limits

----- Break 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM CDT -----

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM CDT: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Ms. Guyas

- ~~Presentation on Greater Amberjack Calibrated Landings and Catch Limits, and Proposed Management Alternatives~~
- Discussion of Implementation of the DESCEND Act of 2020

----- Lunch 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM CDT -----

12:00 PM – 2:30 PM CDT: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Ms. Guyas

- Updates of 2021 Red Snapper State Management Programs
- Discussion of Final Document – Framework Action: Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Recreational Data Calibration and Recreational Catch Limits

----- Break 2:30 PM – 2:45 PM CDT -----

2:45 PM – 5:30 PM CDT: Reef Fish Committee *continued* (Tab B) – Ms. Guyas

- Reef Fish Amendments 36B and 36C: Modifications to Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Programs
- Discussion: Draft Snapper Grouper Amendment 44 and Reef Fish Amendment 55: Modifications to Southeastern U.S. Yellowtail Snapper Jurisdictional Allocations, Catch Limits, and South Atlantic Sector Annual Catch Limits
- Presentation on Sector Separation for Four Reef Fish Species

– Recess –

Immediately following Reef Fish Committee Virtual and In-person GMFMC and NOAA Question and Answer Session – Dr. Frazer / Dr. Porch / Mr. Strelcheck/ Dr. Simmons

Wednesday, August 25th – Committee Sessions, Continued

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM CDT: Data Collection Committee (Tab F) – Mr. Anson

- Update on Southeast For-hire Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program
- Presentation: Draft Options for Electronic Reporting due to Equipment Failure

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

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM CDT: Habitat Protection and Restoration Committee (Tab P) – Mr. Banks

- Presentation from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) on Renewable Wind Energy
- Draft: Generic Essential Fish Habitat Amendment and SSC Recommendations

11:15 AM – 12:00 PM CDT: Law Enforcement Committee (Tab L) – Mr. Diaz

- Law Enforcement Technical Committee (LETC) Meeting Summary from March 2021 Meeting
- Approval of Cooperative Law Enforcement Strategic Plan 2021-2024
- Approval of Cooperative Law Enforcement Operations Plan 2021-2022

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

Wednesday, August 25th – Council Session

- I. **1:30 PM – 1:35 PM:** Call to Order, Announcements, and Introductions – *Dr. Frazer*
- II. **1:35 PM – 1:38 PM:** Presentation of the 2020 Law Enforcement Team of the Year Award – *Dr. Frazer/Mr. Diaz*
- III. **1:38 PM – 1:40 PM:** Adoption of Agendaⁱ and Approval of Minutes (**Tab A, No's. 3 & 4**) – *Dr. Frazer*
- IV. **1:40 PM – 2:30 PM:** Presentations:
 - Movement Patterns and Discard Mortality of Cobia in the Gulf of Mexico (**Tab A, No. 7**) – *Dr. Streich*
 - Assessing the Influence of *Sargassum* Habitat on Greater Amberjack Recruitment in the Gulf of Mexico (**Tab A, No. 8**) – *Dr. Hernandez*

----- Break 2:30 PM – 2:45 PM CDT -----

- V. **2:45 PM – 5:30 PM:** Public Comment ^{ii, iii, iv, v} – *Dr. Frazer*
 - A. Potential Reconsideration of Final Document – Framework Action: Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Recreational Data Calibration and Recreational Catch Limits

B. Open Testimony on Other Fishery Issues or Concerns

– Recess –

Thursday, August 26th – Council Session

Committee Reports:

- A. **8:30 AM – 9:00 AM:** Administrative/Budget (**Tab G**) – *Mr. Dyskow*
- B. **9:00 AM – 9:30 AM:** Shrimp (**Tab D**) – *Ms. Bosarge*
- C. **9:30 AM – 10:15 AM:** Mackerel (**Tab C**) – *Mr. Riechers*
- D. **10:15 AM – 10:30 AM:** Habitat Protection & Restoration (**Tab P**) – *Mr. Banks*

----- Break 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM CDT -----

- E. **10:45 AM – 11:15 AM:** Sustainable Fisheries (**Tab E**) – *Mr. Diaz*
- F. **11:15 AM – 11:45 AM:** Data Collection (**Tab F**) – *Mr. Anson*
- G. **11:45 AM – 12:00 PM:** Law Enforcement (**Tab L**) – *Mr. Diaz*

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

- H. **1:30 PM – 3:00 PM:** Reef Fish (**Tab B**) – *Ms. Guyas*

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

- I. **3:15 PM – 3:20 PM:** Report on Closed Session (**Tab T**) – *Dr. Frazer*
- J. **3:20 PM – 4:30 PM:** Supporting Agencies Update (**Tab R**) – *Dr. Frazer*
 - South Atlantic Council Liaison – *Ms. Marhefka*
 - Texas Law Enforcement Efforts (**Tab R, No. 2**) – *Lt. Casterline*
 - NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) (**Tab R, No. 3**) – *ASAC O'Malley*
 - Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission – *Mr. Donaldson*
 - U.S. Coast Guard – *LCDR Motoi*
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Department of State

4:30 PM – 4:45 PM: Other Business (**Tab U**) – *Dr. Frazer*

4:45 PM – 5:00 PM: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair – *Mr. Donaldson*

– Adjourn –

Next Meeting

October 25 – 28, 2021

Perdido Beach Resort

Orange Beach, Alabama

¹The 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 comment may begin earlier than 2:45 pm CDT on August 25, 2021 but will not conclude before that time.

ii Persons wishing to give public testimony **virtually** must sign up on the Council website on the day of public testimony. Registration closes one hour before public testimony begins. Persons wishing to give public testimony **in-person** must register at the registration kiosk in the meeting room before the beginning of the public comment period. During public comment, 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. 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.