

# Recreational Initiative

## Recreational Initiative Working Group Meeting 2 January 8-9, 2025

*Hyatt Centric New Orleans French Quarter*

800 Iberville Street  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
“Orleans Meeting Room”

Webinar Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2078486438579298910>

### **AGENDA**

#### ***Meeting Purpose***

Ensure collective understanding of stock status and management measures/history for each of the Recreational Initiative’s five focal species:

- Review the status of Federally managed species in the Gulf of Mexico that are highly sought after by recreational anglers, including recreational sources of directed and bycatch mortality (*Recreational Initiative Item #2*).
- Review and assess recreational management measures, including how management measures have changed over time (*Item #3*).
- Assess the performance and efficacy of recreational accountability measures and recommended improvements (*Item #4*).

**\*\*Times are Central Time and approximate\*\***

#### **DAY 1: Wednesday, January 8**

9:00 am: Welcome (Carrie Simmons, Gulf Council, and Andy Strelcheck, NOAA Fisheries)

9:05 am: Recap of Working Group Meeting 1 and review Working Group Meeting 2 purpose and agenda (Willy Goldsmith and Andy Loftus, consultants)

9:15 am: Overview of Public Engagement since Working Group Meeting 1 (Max Birdsong, Gulf Council)

9:30 am: Recreational Data in the Gulf of Mexico (Dave Donaldson, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission)

# Recreational Initiative

-----**10:15-10:30 am: BREAK**-----

10:30 am: The Federal Management Process and its Role in Gulf Council Management  
(Andy Strelcheck and Russ Dunn, NOAA Fisheries)

11:15 am: Accountability Measures: Requirements and Application (Gulf Council staff)

-----**12:00 pm - 1:30 pm: LUNCH**-----

1:30 pm: Management Outcomes: Changes in Landings and Discards Over Time (NOAA Fisheries staff)

2:00 pm: Management Overview—Red Snapper (Gulf Council staff)

-----**2:45-3:00 pm: BREAK**-----

3:00 pm: Breakout Session—Red Snapper

## *Questions for Discussion:*

- What are the benefits and challenges stemming from the key management decisions outlined in the presentation?
- What management decisions (or outcomes) have been the greatest sources of angler dissatisfaction?
- From an angler perspective, how well have the accountability measures in place been performing?
- Are there any elements of federal management for red snapper that have been going well?
- What management strategies do you think would have contributed the most to achieving the desired outcomes that you identified in Working Group Meeting 1?
- What are your thoughts on having separate management for the private and for-hire elements of the recreational red snapper fishery?

3:45 pm: Breakout Session Report-Out

4:15 pm: Discuss agenda for Day 2 and any remaining logistics (Willy Goldsmith and Andy Loftus, consultants)

4:30 pm: Adjourn

# Recreational Initiative

## **DAY 2: Thursday, January 9**

9:00 am: Review Agenda for Day 2 (Willy Goldsmith and Andy Loftus, consultants)

9:15 am: Management Overview—Gag and Red Grouper (Gulf Council staff)

10:00 am: Breakout Session—Gag and Red Grouper

### *Questions for Discussion:*

- What are the benefits and challenges stemming from the key management decisions outlined in the presentation?
- What management decisions (or outcomes) have been the greatest sources of angler dissatisfaction?
- From an angler perspective, how well have the accountability measures in place been performing?
- Are there any elements of federal management that have been going well?
- What management strategies do you think would have contributed the most to achieving the desired outcomes that you identified in Working Group Meeting 1?

-----**10:45-11:00 am: BREAK**-----

11:00 am: Breakout Session Report-Out

-----**11:30 am - 1:00 pm: LUNCH**-----

1:00 pm: Management Overview—Greater Amberjack and Gray Triggerfish (Gulf Council staff)

1:45 pm: Breakout Session—Greater Amberjack and Gray Triggerfish

### *Questions for Discussion:*

- What are the benefits and challenges stemming from the key management decisions outlined in the presentation?
- What management decisions (or outcomes) have been the greatest sources of angler dissatisfaction?
- From an angler perspective, how well have the accountability measures in place been performing?
- Are there any elements of federal management that have been going well?
- What management strategies do you think would have contributed the most to achieving the desired outcomes that you identified in Working Group Meeting 1?

# Recreational Initiative



-----2:30-2:45 pm: BREAK-----

2:45 pm: Breakout Session Report-Out

3:15: Putting It All Together—A Synthesis of Messages Heard During Working Group Meetings 1 and 2 (Willy Goldsmith and Andy Loftus, consultants)

3:45 pm: Closing remarks and logistics (Council staff)

4:00 pm: Adjourn