

Updating descriptions of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for federally managed Gulf of Mexico finfish and shrimp species

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The objective of this project was to compile contemporary spatial habitat data layers across the Gulf of Mexico from various sources, in accordance with the requirements set out by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Please find below the link to the Google Drive, GMFMC, which includes all spatial data and metadata collected thus far on Essential Fish Habitat. The drive is organized into folders per Gulf State, and within each state folder, there are subfolders containing all shapefiles for each habitat type and associated metadata. Additionally, there is a folder with links to two example StoryMaps, illustrating potential ways to visualize the data. The Google Sheet named 'Contact Log' lists everyone contacted during the project and the outcomes, while the sheet titled 'Email Contacts and Shapefiles of Used Data' is a running list of all data collected and their sources.

Google Drive Link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qx9lop8Wgq2YAcRRIYJ-kR-YH9KWSdtF?usp=sharing>