

MEDIA ADVISORY



**Gulf of Mexico
Fishery
Management
Council**



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Nation's Federal Marine Fisheries Managers to Host Fisheries Conference November 13-15

Registration Now Online; Organizers Accepting Abstracts for Poster Sessions

It's time to register for the first-ever fisheries management conference, co-sponsored by the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries). The conference is open to the public and will be held in Washington, D.C., Nov. 13-15, 2003. The conference Web site and registration are now online at: www.managingfisheries.org.

This conference, *Managing Our Nation's Marine Fisheries - Past, Present, and Future*, aims to educate the public, policy makers and media on the fishery management process; highlight successful management by region and current management and research initiatives; help bridge the gap between perception and reality regarding fisheries management; and provide a forum for information exchange and solicit a wide range of perspectives on future management and marine research directions.

Whether you are a fisherman, an environmental advocate, a policymaker or a reporter who covers the fisheries beat, you will find the conference sessions to be pertinent and informative as Congress considers re-authorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, which governs management decisions for our nation's marine fisheries. The conference will provide a nice backdrop for topics covered by the Pew Commission and U.S. Ocean Commission reports.

Visit the conference Web site at www.managingfisheries.org to preview the agenda and a list of invited panelists and speakers, and to register to attend.

Conference Logistics

When: November 13-15, 2003
Where: Omni-Shoreham Hotel and Conference Center, 2500 Calvert Street, Washington D.C.
Registration: Advanced registration requested. Attendance is free of charge. To register, go to: www.managingfisheries.org.

Poster sessions and panel discussions will run concurrently with other activities. The deadline for submission of poster abstracts is September 15. Abstracts are limited to 500 words. Please submit abstract in accordance with guidelines posted at www.managingfisheries.org, to: David.Witherell@noaa.gov.

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