

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN: 0648-XC93

**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene its Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (LEAP).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2007, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Grand Hotel Marriott, 1 Grand Blvd., Point Clear, AL 36564; telephone: (251) 928-9201.

*Council address:* Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Richard Leard, Deputy Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council will convene the LEAP to review a generic amendment that would potentially allow offshore aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico. The LEAP will also review Amendment 30A to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that would establish restrictions on the harvest of gray triggerfish and a rebuilding plan for this overfished stock, as well as additional restrictions on greater amberjack to maintain its rebuilding target. Furthermore, the LEAP will review an Options Paper that will likely result in the development of Amendment 30B to the Reef Fish FMP to further restrict the harvest of gag and possibly relax some of the current restrictions on the harvest of red grouper. Finally, the LEAP will consider an options paper that could potentially result in the implementation of a limited access privilege program (LAPP) for groupers and possibly other reef fish.

The LEAP consists of principal law enforcement officers in each of the Gulf States, as well as the NMFS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the U.S. Coast Guard, and NOAA General Counsel. A copy of the agenda and related materials can be obtained by calling the Council office at (813) 348-1630.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the LEAP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Actions of the LEAP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency.

**Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: September 26, 2007.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN: 0648-XC96

**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council), its Joint Dogfish Committee, Research Set-Aside Committee (RSA), Law Enforcement Committee, and Executive Committee will hold public meetings.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 through Thursday, October 18, 2007. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the New Bern Convention Center, 203 South Front St, New Bern, NC 28563; telephone: (252) 637-1551.

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: (302) 674-2331.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 674-2331, ext. 19.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On

Tuesday, October 16, the Joint Dogfish Committee will meet from 10 a.m. until noon. The RSA Committee will meet from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. The Law Enforcement Committee will meet from 4 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. The Council will convene at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 17 and remain in session until 4:15 p.m. at which time the Executive Committee will meet until 5:30 p.m. On Thursday October 18, the Council will convene at 9 a.m. and remain in session until approximately 1 p.m.

Agenda items by day for the Council's committees and the Council itself are:

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16** - the Joint Dogfish Committee will review and develop the Dogfish Monitoring Committee's recommendations regarding the 2008/09 fishing year quota and related management measures for Council consideration and action. The Research Set-Aside Committee (RSA) will review the New England Council's policy for incorporation of research results into fishery management programs. The Law Enforcement Committee will review Fisheries Achievement Award (FAA) nominations, recommend recipient(s) for that award recognition, and review the Council's Award Recognition Program Survey results.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17** - the Council will swear in new and reappointed Council members and elect Council officers. The Council will receive a report by Dr. Jim Weinberg on the recent Monkfish Stock Assessment. The Council will consider adjustments to the current Monkfish Management Program and discuss the need for a new framework for the 2008 fishing year and if necessary initiate such a framework. The Council will review and discuss the Dogfish Committee's recommendations for the dogfish quota and related management measures for the 2008/09 fishing year and adopt the quota and related management measures for the 2008/09 fishing year and beyond. The Council will then receive a presentation by Dr. Mike Fogarty on the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's current ecosystem activities. The Council will conduct its business session, receive organizational reports, receive the New England Council liaison report, the Executive Director's report, status of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Fishery Management Plans (FMP), and Committee reports. The