

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council) will hold five Ecosystem Working Group meetings throughout the Gulf.

**DATES:** The meetings will take place from Monday, March 23 through Friday, April 17, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., CDT or EDT (local time).

**ADDRESSES:** These will be in-person meetings only, virtual listen-in options will not be available. See Supplementary Information for dates and locations. More information will be available on the Council's website by visiting [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) and clicking on the Ecosystem Working Group meeting on the calendar.

*Council address:* Gulf Council, 4107 W. Spruce Street, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Verena Wang, Ecosystem Analyst, Gulf Council; [verena.wang@gulfcouncil.org](mailto:verena.wang@gulfcouncil.org), telephone: (813) 348-1630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the five in-person meetings is to provide Ecosystem Working Group members in each region with an opportunity to share their views on Fishery Ecosystem Issues of concern. Fishery Ecosystem Issues will shape the Gulf Fishery Ecosystem Plan, which is a non-regulatory document developed by the Council to explore ecosystem-informed management decisions. Working Group-identified Fishery Ecosystem Issues will undergo a Council prioritization process. The meetings will begin with an overview of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan and the goals and objectives of the Working Group meetings. Working Group members will participate in a facilitated discussion to map the system of key factors that affect Gulf fisheries, identify concerns relative to the fishery ecosystem and how they impact the fishery, businesses, and communities. Working Group members will also participate in sector- or issue-specific breakout sessions for in-depth discussions of ecosystem concerns.

Dates and locations are as follows:

- Monday, March 23, 2026, Courtyard by Marriott, 1600 East Beach Blvd., Gulfport, MS 36501, (228) 864-4310.

- Wednesday, March 25, 2026, Courtyard by Marriott, 142 Library Drive, Houma, LA 70360 (985) 223-8996.

- Friday, March 27, 2026, The Lodge, 21196 East Beach Blvd. Gulf Shores, AL 36542 (251) 540-4000.

- Monday, April 13, 2026, Hyatt Place at Forum, 2600 Champion Ring

Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905 (239) 417-1844.

- Friday, April 17, 2026, Holiday Inn Resort 5002 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX 77551 (409) 744-1500.

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version along with other meeting materials will be posted on [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) as they become available.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 4, 2026.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF577]

#### Fisheries of the Gulf of America; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Southeast Data Assessment and Review 105 Topical Working Groups Scoping Webinar for Gulf Gag Grouper.

**SUMMARY:** The Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) 105 assessment process of Gulf gag grouper will consist of a series of assessment webinars. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The SEDAR 105 Topical Working Groups Scoping webinar will be held March 19, 2026, from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. EST.

**ADDRESSES:** *Meeting address:* The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar. *SEDAR address:* 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571-4366. Email: [Julie.neer@safmc.net](mailto:Julie.neer@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Atlantic and Gulf States

Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the SEDAR process. SEDAR is a participatory process for developing, evaluating and reviewing information used for fisheries management advice. This multi-step process for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region may include (1) a Data stage, and (2) an Assessment stage, and (3) a Review stage. Each stage produces a report summarizing decisions made during that stage. A final stock assessment report is produced at the end of a SEDAR process documenting data sets used, model configurations and the opinions from the independent peer review. Participants for SEDAR projects are appointed by the Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants may include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and Federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the SEDAR 105 Topical Working Groups Scoping webinar are as follows:

Participants will discuss the data and assessment topics and why they are being considered. The panel may request analyses needed to address the topic.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 five business days prior to each workshop.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 3, 2026.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2026-04401 Filed 3-5-26; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Vessel Logbooks and Cost-Earnings Data Reports**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection, request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing, information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before May 5, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at [NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov](mailto:NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 0648-0371 in the subject line of your comments. All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov> without change. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Cliff Hutt, Fisheries Management Specialist, NOAA Fisheries, (301) 427-8503, [Cliff.Hutt@noaa.gov](mailto:Cliff.Hutt@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

This request is for renewal and extension without revision of a current information collection (ICR). This request is being submitted early in anticipation of a final rulemaking that will modify the reporting requirements but may not be finalized before the current ICR expiration date. Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the nation's marine fisheries. In addition, NMFS must comply with the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*), under which the agency implements binding recommendations by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

NMFS collects information via vessel logbooks to monitor the United States (U.S.) catch of Atlantic swordfish, sharks, billfish, and tunas in relation to the quotas, thereby ensuring that the U.S. complies with its domestic and international obligations. The Highly Migratory Species (HMS) logbook program, OMB Control No. 0648-0371, was specifically designed to collect the vessel-level information needed for the management of Atlantic HMS, and includes set forms, trip forms, negative reports, and cost-earning requirements for both commercial and recreational vessels. The information supplied through the HMS logbook program provides the catch and effort data on a per-set or per-trip level of resolution for both directed and incidental species. In addition to HMS fisheries, the HMS logbook program is also used to report catches of dolphin and wahoo by commercial permit holders that do not hold any other federal permits. Additionally, the HMS logbook collects data on incidental species, such as sea turtles, which is necessary to evaluate the fisheries in terms of bycatch and encounters with protected species. While most HMS fishermen use the HMS logbook program, HMS can also be reported as part of several other logbook collections including the Northeast Region Fishing Vessel Trip Reports (0648-0212) and Southeast Region Coastal Logbook (0648-0016).

These data are necessary to assess the status of HMS, dolphins, and wahoo in each fishery. International stock assessments for tunas, swordfish, billfish, and some species of sharks are conducted through ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics periodically and provide, in part, the basis for ICCAT management

recommendations, which become binding on member nations. Domestic stock assessments for most species of sharks and for dolphin and wahoo are used as the basis of managing these species.

Supplementary information on fishing costs and earnings has been collected via the HMS logbook program. This economic information enables NMFS to assess the economic impacts of regulatory programs on small businesses and fishing communities, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Order 12866, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and other domestic laws.

**II. Method of Collection**

Paper logbooks have historically been the primary mode of reporting, but electronic logbooks, including mobile applications, will be offered on a voluntary basis for the HMS logbook in the near future.

**III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0371.

*Form Number(s):* NOAA Form 88-191.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (renewal of a current information collection).

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit (vessel owners).

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 6,223.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 10 minutes for cost/earnings summaries attached to logbook reports, 30 minutes for annual expenditure forms, 12 minutes for logbook catch trip and set reports, 2 minutes for negative logbook catch reports.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 22,906 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$89 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*).

**IV. Request for Comments**

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality,