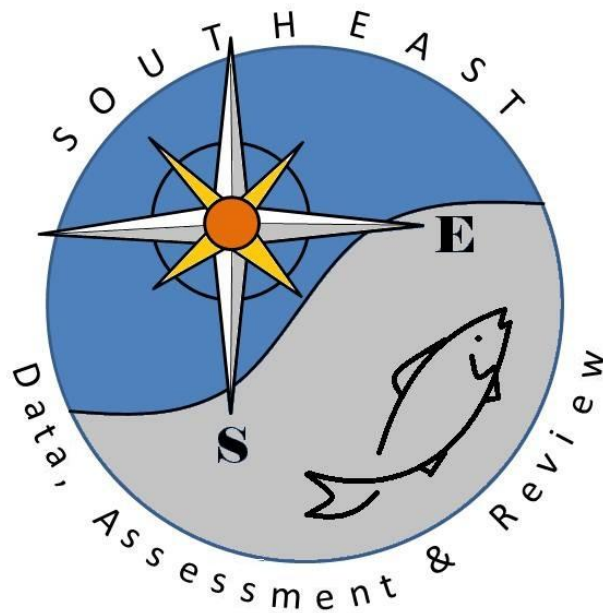


# Gulf of Mexico Gag Management History

GMFMC

## SEDAR33-RD06

8 March 2013



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## 2. Gag Management Overview

### 2.1. Fishery Management Plan and Amendments

The following summary describes only those management actions that likely affect gag fisheries and harvest.

*Original GMFMC FMP:*

The Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan was implemented in November 1984. The regulations, designed to rebuild declining reef fish stocks, included: (1) prohibitions on the use of fish traps, roller trawls, and powerhead-equipped spear guns within an inshore stressed area; (2) a minimum size limit of 13 inches total length (TL) for red snapper with the exceptions that for-hire boats were exempted until 1987 and each angler could keep 5 undersize fish; and, (3) data reporting requirements.

*GMFMC FMP Amendments affecting gag:*

Description of Action	FMP/Amendment	Effective Date
Set a 20-inch total length minimum size limit on red Nassau, yellowfin, black, and gag groupers. Set a 5-grouper recreational bag limit, with a 2-day possession limit allowed for qualified charter vessels and head boats on trips that extend beyond 24 hours. Set an 11.0 million-pound commercial quota for groupers, with the commercial quota divided into a 9.2 million pound shallow-water grouper quota and a 1.8 million-pound deepwater grouper quota. Shallow-water grouper were defined as black grouper, gag, red grouper, Nassau grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, rock hind, red hind, speckled hind, and scamp (until the shallow-water grouper quota is filled). Goliath grouper (jewfish) are not included in the quotas. Established a longline and buoy gear boundary and expanded the stressed area to the entire Gulf coast. Established a commercial reef fish permit.	Amendment 1	1990
Established a moratorium on the issuance of new reef fish permits for a maximum period of three years; established an allowance for permit transfers	Amendment 4	1992
Created an Alabama special management zone (SMZ) with fishing gear restricted to no more	Amendment 5	1994

than three hooks within the SMZ, and a framework procedure for future specification of SMZs. Established restrictions on the use of fish traps in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ, and implemented a three-year moratorium on the use of fish traps by creating a fish trap endorsement. Required that finfish be landed head and tails intact		
Established reef fish dealer permitting and record keeping.	Amendment 7	1994
Extended the reef fish permit moratorium through December 31, 1995 and allowed collections of commercial landings data for initial allocation of individual transferable quota (ITQ) shares. Established historical captain status for purposes of ITQ allocation.	Amendment 9	1994
Attempted to establish an ITQ system, which was then repealed by Congress	Amendment 8	1995
Implemented a new commercial reef fish permit moratorium for no more than five years or until December 31, 2000, permitted dealers can only buy reef fish from permitted vessels and permitted vessels can only sell to permitted dealers, established a charter and headboat reef fish permit.	Amendment 11	1996
Initiated a 10-year phase-out on the use of fish traps in the EEZ from February 7, 1997 to February 7, 2007, after which fish traps would be prohibited, and prohibited the use of fish traps west of Cape San Blas, Florida.	Amendment 14	1997
Prohibited harvest of reef fish from traps other than permitted reef fish traps, stone crab traps, or spiny lobster traps. Established 2-tier red snapper license system (Class 1 & 2). Comm. season split, with 2/3 of quota allocated for Feb 1 opening and remaining quota for Sept 1 opening	Amendment 15	1998
(1) The possession of reef fish exhibiting the condition of trap rash on board any vessel with a reef fish permit that is fishing spiny lobster or stone crab traps is prima facie evidence of illegal trap use and is prohibited except for vessels possessing a valid fish trap endorsement; (2) that NOAA Fisheries establish a system design, implementation schedule, and protocol to require implementation of a vessel monitoring system (VMS) for vessels engaged in the fish trap	Amendment 16A	1998

<p>fishery, with the cost of the vessel equipment, installation, and maintenance to be paid or arranged by the owners as appropriate; and, (3) that fish trap vessels submit trip initiation and trip termination reports. Prior to implementing this additional reporting requirement, there will be a one-month fish trap inspection/compliance/education period, at a time determined by the NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator and published in the <i>Federal Register</i>. During this window of opportunity, fish trap fishermen will be required to have an appointment with NMFS enforcement for the purpose of having their trap gear, permits, and vessels available for inspection. The disapproved measure was a proposal to prohibit fish traps south of 25.05 degrees north latitude beginning February 7, 2001. The status quo 10-year phase-out of fish traps in areas in the Gulf EEZ is therefore maintained.</p>		
<p>Extended the commercial reef fish permit moratorium for another five years, from its previous expiration date of December 31, 2000 to December 31, 2005</p>	<p>Amendment 17</p>	<p>2000</p>
<p>Prohibited vessels with commercial harvests of reef fish aboard from also retaining fish caught under recreational bag and possession limits. Vessels with both for-hire and commercial permits were limited to the minimum crew size outlined in its Certificate of Inspection when fishing commercially. Prohibited the use of reef fish other than sand perches for bait. Required commercially permitted reef fish vessels to be equipped with VMS.</p>	<p>Amendment 18A</p>	<p>2006</p>
<p>Established two marine reserve areas off the Tortugas area and prohibits fishing for any species and anchoring by fishing vessels inside the two marine reserves.</p>	<p>Amendment 19</p>	<p>2002</p>
<p>Established a 3-year moratorium on the issuance of new charter and headboat vessel permits in the recreational for hire fisheries in the Gulf EEZ. Allowed transfer of permits. Required vessel captains/owners to participate in data collection efforts.</p>	<p>Amendment 20</p>	<p>2002</p>
<p>Continues the Madison-Swanson and Steamboat Lumps marine reserves for an additional 6 years,</p>	<p>Amendment 21</p>	<p>2004</p>

until July 2010. Modified the fishing restrictions within the reserves to allow surface trolling during May – October.		
It also established bycatch reporting methodologies for the reef fish fishery.	Amendment 22	2005
Extended the commercial reef fish permit moratorium indefinitely. Established a permanent limited access system for the commercial fishery for Gulf reef fish. Permits issued under the limited access system are renewable and transferable.	Amendment 24	2005
Extended the recreational for-hire reef fish permit moratorium indefinitely. Established a limited access system on for-hire reef fish and CMP permits. Permits are renewable and transferable in the same manner as currently prescribed for such permits.	Amendment 25	2006
Requires all commercial and recreational reef fish fisheries to use non-stainless steel circle hooks when using natural baits, as well as venting tools and dehooking devices.	Amendment 27	2008
Established an individual fishing quota (IFQ) system for the commercial grouper and tilefish fishery, which began January 1, 2010.	Amendment 29	2009
<p>Addresses the overfishing of Gag grouper, and defines its maximum stock size threshold (MSST) and optimum yield (OY). Sets interim allocations of gag and red grouper catches between recreational and commercial fisheries. Establishes annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) for the commercial and recreational gag fisheries, and commercial aggregate shallow-water grouper fishery.</p> <p>For the commercial sector, the amendment for 2009 reduces the aggregate shallow-water grouper quota from 8.80 mp to 7.8 mp and sets a gag quota of 1.32 mp. The gag and shallow-water grouper quotas are scheduled to increase in subsequent years as the gag stock rebuilds.</p> <p>Repeals the commercial closed season of February 15 to March 15 on gag, black and red grouper, and replaces it with a January through April seasonal area closure to all fishing at the</p>	Amendment 30B	2009

<p>Edges 40 fathom contour, a 390 nautical square mile gag spawning region northwest of Steamboat Lumps. In addition, the Steamboat Lumps and Madison-Swanson fishing area restrictions will be continued indefinitely.</p> <p>For the recreational sector, the amendment reduces the aggregate grouper bag limit from five fish to four and sets a two-fish bag limit for gag. A recreational closed season on shallow-water grouper was established from February 1 through March 31.</p> <p>Finally, the amendment requires that all vessels with federal commercial or charter reef fish permits must comply with the more restrictive of state or federal reef fish regulations when fishing in state waters.</p>		
<p>Longline endorsement requirement - Vessels must have average annual reef fish landings of 40,000 pounds gutted weight or more from 1999 through 2007. The longline boundary in the eastern Gulf is extended from the 20-fathom depth contour to the 35-fathom depth contour from June - August. Vessels are limited to 1000 hooks of which no more than 750 of which can be rigged for fishing or fished.</p>	Amendment 31	2010
<p>Established annual catch limits and annual catch targets for 2012 to 2015 for gag. Establishes a rebuilding plan for gag, and sets recreational bag limits, size limits and closed seasons for gag/red grouper in 2012. Contains a commercial gag and shallow-water grouper quota adjustment to account for dead discards, and makes adjustments to multi-use IFQ shares in the grouper individual fishing quota program. Reduces the commercial gag size limit, modifies the offshore time and areas closures, and revises gag, red grouper, and shallow-water grouper accountability measures.</p>	Amendment 32	2012

## *GMFMC Regulatory Amendments:*

### **July 1991:**

The 1991 quota for shallow-water groupers was increased to 9.9 million pounds whole weight (using a revised gutted to whole weight conversion factor of 1.05 rather than 1.18, this corresponded to 8.8 million pounds whole weight). This action was taken to provide the commercial sector an opportunity to harvest 0.7 million pounds that went unharvested in 1990 due to an early closure of the fishery in 1990. NMFS had projected that the 9.2 million pound whole weight quota would be reached on November 7, but subsequent data showed that the actual harvest was 8.5 million pounds whole weight (or 7.6 million pounds whole weight using the revised gutted to whole weight conversion factor).

### **November 1991:**

Set the 1992 commercial quota for shallow-water groupers at 9.8 million pounds in adjusted whole weights. This reflected an increase of 1.6 million pounds plus an adjustment in the gutted to whole weight conversion factor from 1.18 to 1.05.

### **August 1999:**

Implemented June 19, 2000- Increased the commercial size limit for gag from 20 to 24 inches TL, increased the recreational size limit for gag from 20 to 22 inches TL, prohibited commercial sale of gag, black, and red grouper each year from February 15 to March 15 (during the peak of gag spawning season), and established two marine reserves (Madison-Swanson and Steamboat Lumps) on areas suitable for gag and other reef fish spawning aggregations sites that are closed year-round to fishing for all species under the Council's jurisdiction. The two sites cover 219 square nautical miles near the 40-fathom contour, off west central Florida.

### **October 2005:**

Implemented January 2006 – Established an aggregate commercial trip limit of 6,000 pounds gutted weight for both deep-water grouper and shallow-water grouper combined.

### **March 2006:**

Implemented July 2006 - Established a one-fish recreational bag limit for red grouper; a closed recreational season for red, gag, and black grouper from February 15 - March 15 ;and prohibits captain and crew of for-hire vessels from retaining grouper when under charter. The purpose of the amendment is to return red grouper landings to levels specified in the red grouper rebuilding plan, and prevent or minimize impacts on gag and other grouper resulting from more restrictive recreational red grouper regulations.

### **August 2010:**

Effective January 2011- Provides a more specific definition of buoy gear by limiting the number of hooks, limiting the terminal end weight, restricting materials used for the line, restricting the length of the drop line, and where the hooks may be attached. In addition, the Council requested that each buoy must display the official number of the vessel (USCG documentation number or state registration number) to assist law enforcement in monitoring the use of the gear, which requires rulemaking.



## 2.2. Emergency and Interim Rules

**December 17, 2002-** The National Marine Fisheries Service published an emergency rule that extended certain permit-related deadlines contained in the final rule implementing the for-hire (charter vessel/headboat) permit moratorium for reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic fish in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf). This emergency rule was implemented because the final rule implementing the for-hire permit moratorium contained an error regarding eligibility that needed to be resolved as soon as possible. In addition, the regulations that implemented the moratorium required all for-hire vessels operating in the Gulf reef fish or coastal migratory pelagic fisheries in federal waters to have a valid "moratorium permit," as opposed to the prior open access charter permit, beginning December 26, 2002.

**March 3, 2005** – An emergency rule established a commercial trip limit of 10,000 pounds for all grouper combined; reduce the trip limit to 7,500 pounds when 50 percent of either the shallow-water grouper or red grouper quota was reached; and reduce the trip limit to 5,500 pounds when 75 percent of either the shallow-water grouper or red grouper quota was reached. Fifty percent of the quota was reached on June 9 and trip limits were reduced to 7,500 pounds. The deep-water grouper quota was reached on June 23 and that component was closed. Seventy-five percent of the shallow-water grouper quota was reached on August 4 and trip limits were reduced to 5,500 pounds. The shallow-water grouper component closed on October 10.

**April 1, 2005** - The National Marine Fisheries Service published an emergency rule to reopen the application process for obtaining Gulf charter vessel/headboat permits under moratorium. Permit owners who received their Gulf charter vessel/headboat permits under the moratorium, or a letter of eligibility for such a permit, need not reapply. This reopening is extended to historical participants in the fishery who, for whatever reason, failed to apply during the moratorium application period.

**August 9, 2005** - NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published a temporary rule in the Federal Register implementing management measures for the recreational grouper fishery in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico, as requested by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, to reduce overfishing of red grouper. This rule establishes a seasonal closure of the recreational fishery for all Gulf grouper species from November 1 through December 31, 2005 and reduces both the recreational bag limit for red grouper and the aggregate grouper bag limit. The intended effects are to reduce overfishing of red grouper in the Gulf of Mexico and to minimize potential adverse impacts on other grouper stocks that could result from a shift in fishing effort from red grouper to other grouper species. ( A legal challenge resulted in a ruling that the November 1 through December 31 seasonal closure could, under an interim rule, only be applied to the stock that was undergoing overfishing, i.e., red grouper.)

**January 1, 2009** - NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) has published a final rule implementing interim measures in the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery. The rule published in the Federal Register on December 2, 2008, and the measures are effective January 1, 2009. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) requested a temporary rule be effective at the beginning of 2009 to address overfishing of gag, as well as red snapper, greater amberjack, and gray triggerfish until more permanent measures can be

implemented through Amendment 30B to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico. The Council developed Amendment 30B to end overfishing of gag, revise shallow-water grouper management measures in light of new information on gag and red grouper stocks, and improve the effectiveness of federal management measures. NOAA Fisheries Service is presently reviewing Amendment 30B with subsequent rulemaking occurring later in 2009. New Management Measures The interim rule will: 1) Establish a two-fish gag recreational bag limit (recreational grouper aggregate bag limit will remain at 5 fish); 2) Adjust the recreational closed season for gag to February 1 through March 31 (the recreational closed season for red and black groupers will remain February 15 to March 15); 3) Establish a 1.32 million pound commercial quota for gag; and 4) Require operators of federally permitted Gulf of Mexico commercial and for-hire reef fish vessels to comply with the more restrictive of federal or state reef fish regulations when fishing in state waters for red snapper, greater amberjack, gray triggerfish, and gag.

**May 18, 2009** - NOAA Fisheries Service implemented an emergency rule, effective May 18, 2009, through October 28, 2009, to reduce the sea turtle bycatch in the Gulf of Mexico bottom longline reef fish fishery. The emergency rule prohibits bottom longlining for Gulf reef fish east of 85° 30'W longitude (near Cape San Blas, Florida) in a portion of the Exclusive Economic Zone shoreward of the 50-fathom depth contour. Once the deepwater grouper and tilefish quotas have been filled, the use of bottom longline gear to harvest reef fish in water of all depths east of 85° 30'W longitude will be prohibited. During transit no reef fish may be possessed unless bottom longline gear is appropriately stowed meaning that a longline may be left on the drum if all gangions and hooks are disconnected and stowed below deck; hooks cannot be baited, and all buoys must be disconnected from the gear, but may remain on deck.

**May 2, 2010** - NOAA Fisheries Service is enacting emergency regulations to close a portion of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) exclusive economic zone (EEZ) to all fishing, in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The closure will be in effect for 10 days, from May 2, 2010, through 12:01 a.m. local time May 12, 2010, unless conditions allow NOAA Fisheries Service to terminate it sooner. NOAA Fisheries Service will continue to monitor and evaluate the oil spill and its impacts on Gulf fisheries and will take immediate and appropriate action to extend or reduce this closed area. This closure is implemented for public safety. (subsequent frequent adjustments were made to the closed area during the summer of 2010).

**January 1, 2011** - NMFS implemented a temporary rule that sets the recreational gag bag limit to zero. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council requested that NMFS implement this temporary rule to address overfishing while they developed a long term rebuilding plan through Amendment 32 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico.

**June 1, 2011** - A temporary rule increases the 2011 commercial quota from 100,000 pounds to 430,000 pounds, and continues the suspension of the use of red grouper IFQ multiuse allocation, which could be used to harvest gag. For the recreational sector, the rule establishes a 2011 recreational season from September 16 through November 15. The current bag limit of two gag within the four fish aggregate grouper bag limit and the minimum size of 22 inches total length will be in effect during the fishing season.

## 2.3. Secretarial Amendments

### **Secretarial Amendment 1 (2004)**

Implemented July 15, 2004- Set a recreational bag limit of two red grouper out of the five aggregate grouper bag limit per person, with a double bag limit allowed for persons on qualified for-hire boats that are out over 24 hours. Changed the quota for deep-water grouper from 1.6 million pounds whole weight (equal to 1.35 million pounds landed weight) to a gutted weight quota of 1.02 million pounds (equal to the average annual harvest 1996-2000). A commercial red grouper quota of 5.31 million pounds gutted weight was set with the stipulation that the commercial shallow-water grouper fishery close when either the shallow-water grouper quota or red grouper quota is reached, whichever occurs first.

## 2.4. Control Date Notices

Control date notices are used to inform fishermen that a license limitation system or other method of limiting access to a particular fishery or fishing method is under consideration. If a program to limit access is established, anyone not participating in the fishery or using the fishing method by the published control date may be ineligible for initial access to participate in the fishery or to use that fishing method. However, a person who does not receive an initial eligibility may be able to enter the fishery or fishing method after the limited access system is established by transfer of the eligibility from a current participant, provided the limited access system allows such transfer. Publication of a control date does not obligate the Council to use that date as an initial eligibility criteria. A different date could be used, and additional qualification criteria could be established. The announcement of a control date is primarily intended to discourage entry into the fishery or use of a particular gear based on economic speculation during the Council's deliberation on the issues. The following summarizes control dates that have been established for the Reef Fish FMP. A reference to the full *Federal Register* notice is included with each summary.

### **November 1, 1989:**

Anyone entering the commercial reef fish fishery in the Gulf and South Atlantic after November 1, 1989, may not be assured of future access to the reef fish resource if a management regime is developed and implemented that limits the number of participants in the fishery [54 FR 46755].

### **November 18, 1998:**

The Council is considering whether there is a need to impose additional management measures limiting entry into the recreational-for-hire (i.e., charter vessel and headboat) fisheries for reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic fish in the EEZ of the Gulf and, if there is a need, what management measures should be imposed. Possible measures include the establishment of a limited entry program to control participation or effort in the recreational-for-hire fisheries for reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic [63 FR 64031] (In Amendment 20 to the Reef Fish FMP, a qualifying date of March 29, 2001, was adopted).

**July 12, 2000:**

The Council is considering whether there is a need to limit participation by gear type in the commercial reef fish fisheries in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf and, if there is a need, what management measures should be imposed to accomplish this. Possible measures include modifications to the existing limited entry program to control fishery participation, or effort, based on gear type, such as a requirement for a gear endorsement on the commercial reef fish vessel permit for the appropriate gear. Gear types which may be included are longlines, buoy gear, handlines, rod-and-reel, bandit gear, spear fishing gear, and powerheads used with spears [65 FR 42978].

**October 15, 2004:**

The Council is considering the establishment of an individual fishing quota program to control participation or effort in the commercial grouper fisheries of the Gulf. If an individual fishing quota program is established, the Council is considering October 15, 2004, as a possible control date regarding the eligibility of catch histories in the commercial grouper fishery [69 FR 67106].

**December 31, 2008:**

The Council voted to establish a control date for all Gulf commercial reef fish vessel permits. The control date will allow the Council to evaluate fishery participation and address any level of overcapacity. The establishment of this control date does not commit the Council or NOAA Fisheries Service to any particular management regime or criteria for entry into this fishery. Fishermen would not be guaranteed future participation in the fishery regardless of their entry date or intensity of participation in the fishery before or after the control date under consideration. Comments were requested by close of business April 17, 2009 [74 FR 11517].

**2.5. Management Program Specifications**

**Table 2.5.1. General Management Information**

**Gulf of Mexico**

Species	Gag
Management Unit	Gulf of Mexico
Management Unit Definition	Gulf of Mexico EEZ
Management Entity	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
Management Contacts	Steven Atran
SERO / Council	Dr. Carrie Simmons
Current stock exploitation status	Overfished, undergoing overfishing (2009)
Current spawning stock biomass status	9.58 million pounds, gutted weight (2009 SEDAR Gag Update, using data through 2008)

**Table 2.5.2. Specific Management Criteria**

Criteria	Gulf of Mexico - Current (2009)		Gulf of Mexico - Proposed	
	Definition	Value	Definition	Value
MSST	$(1-M)*SSB_{MAX}$ M=0.15	20.41 mp gw	SEDAR 33	SEDAR 33
MFMT	$F_{MAX}$	0.22	SEDAR 33	SEDAR 33
MSY	$F_{MAX}$	0.22	SEDAR 33	SEDAR 33
$F_{MSY}$	$F_{MAX}$	0.22	SEDAR 33	SEDAR 33
OY	Equilibrium Yield @ $F_{OY}$	4.17 mp gw	SEDAR 33	SEDAR 33
$F_{OY}$	75% of $F_{MAX}$	0.16	$F_{OY} = 65\%, 75\%, 85\% F_{MSY}$	SEDAR 33
M	n/a	0.15	M	SEDAR 33

*NOTE: "Proposed" columns are for indicating any definitions that may exist in FMPs or amendments that are currently under development and should therefore be evaluated in the current assessment. "Current" is those definitions in place now. Please clarify whether landings parameters are 'landings' or 'catch' (Landings + Discard). If 'landings', please indicate how discards are addressed.*

### **Stock Rebuilding Information**

New measures for gag were approved in Reef Fish FMP Amendment 32:

- Incrementally increasing ACLs and ACTs through 2015.
- Setting a four-month recreational season from July 1 through October 31.
- Incrementally increasing the commercial quota through 2015.
- Adjusting the commercial quota to 86% of the ACT to account for dead discards.
- Revising how gag multi-use shares are allocated in the commercial grouper/tilefish individual fishing quota program.
- Making the grouper/tilefish individual fishing program the commercial accountability measure.
- Revising the recreational accountability measures to include an overage adjustment and in-season measures.
  - An overage adjustment is if the ACL is exceeded, the amount of the overage is deducted from the following year's ACL and ACT.
  - Gag and red grouper in-season measures are if the ACL is exceeded or projected to be exceeded during the fishing year, fishing for that species will be prohibited for the remainder of the year.

**Table 2.5.4. Stock projection information**

*(This provides the basic information necessary to bridge the gap between the terminal year of the assessment and the year in which any changes may take place or specific alternative exploitation rates should be evaluated)*

*Gulf of Mexico*

Requested Information	Value
First Year of Management	2014
Projection Criteria during interim years should be based on (e.g., exploitation or harvest)	Fixed Exploitation
Projection criteria values for interim years should be determined from (e.g., terminal year, avg of X years)	Average of previous 3 years

\*Fixed Exploitation would be  $F=F_{MSY}$  (or  $F<F_{MSY}$ ) that would rebuild overfished stock to  $B_{MSY}$  in the allowable timeframe. Modified Exploitation would be allow for adjustment in  $F<=F_{MSY}$ , which would allow for the largest landings that would rebuild the stock to  $B_{MSY}$  in the allowable timeframe. Fixed harvest would be maximum fixed harvest with  $F<=F_{MSY}$  that would allow the stock to rebuild to  $B_{MSY}$  in the allowable timeframe.

Projections:

Project future stock conditions and develop rebuilding schedules if warranted, including estimated generation time. Develop stock projections in accordance with the following:

- A) If stock is overfished:
  - $F=0, F_{Current}, F_{MSY}, F_{OY}$
  - $F=F_{Rebuild}$  (max that permits rebuild in allowed time)
- B) If stock is undergoing overfishing:
  - $F= F_{Current}, F_{MSY}, F_{OY}$
- C) If stock is neither overfished nor undergoing overfishing:
  - $F= F_{Current}, F_{MSY}, F_{OY}$
- D) If data limitations preclude classic projections (i.e. A, B, C above), explore alternate models to provide management advice

**Table 2.5.5. Quota Calculation Details**

If the stock is managed by quota, please provide the following information

Current Quota Value	2.11 mp gw
Next Scheduled Quota Change	2014
Annual or averaged quota ?	Annual
If averaged, number of years to average	n/a
Does the quota include bycatch/discard ?	Not specified

## 2.6. Management and Regulatory Timeline

The following tables provide a timeline of Federal management actions by fishery.

**Table 2.6.1. Annual Commercial Gag Regulatory Summary** (*Note: SWG = Shallow Water Grouper, ww = whole weight, gw = gutted weight*)

	<u>Fishing Year</u>	<u>Size Limit</u>	<u>Possession Limit</u>	<u>Open date</u>	<u>Close date</u>
1990	311 days	20" TL	9.2 mp ww SWG quota	Jan 1	Nov 7
1991	365 days	"	9.9 mp ww SWG quota	"	Dec 31
1992	"	"	9.8 mp ww SWG quota	"	"
1993	"	"	"	"	"
1994	"	"	15.1 mp ww SWG quota	"	"
1995	"	"	"	"	"
1996	"	"	"	"	"
1997	"	"	"	"	"
1998	"	"	"	"	"
1999	320 days	24" TL	"	Jan 1, Mar 16	Feb 15, Dec 31
2000	"	"	"	"	"
2001	"	"	"	"	"
2002	"	"	"	"	"
2003	"	"	"	"	"
2004	275 days	"	8.8 mp gw SWG quota	"	Feb 15, Nov 15
2005	320 days	"	"	"	Feb 15, Dec 31
2006	"	"	"	"	"
2007	"	"	"	"	"
2008	"	"	"	"	"
2009	"	"	1.32 mp ww	"	"
2010	365 IFQ	"	"	Jan 1	Dec 31
2011	"	"	0.430 mp ww	"	"
2012	"	22" TL	0.567 mp ww	"	"

**Table 2.6.2. Annual Recreational Gag Regulatory Summary** (Note: SWG = Shallow Water Grouper, ww = whole weight, gw = gutted weight)

	<u># Fishing Days</u>	<u>Size Limit</u>	<u>Bag Limit</u>	<u>Open date</u>	<u>Close date</u>
Pre-1990	365 days	20" TL	5 fish/person/day	Jan 1	Dec 31
1990	"	"	"	"	"
1991	"	"	"	"	"
1992	"	"	"	"	"
1993	"	"	"	"	"
1994	"	"	"	"	"
1995	"	"	"	"	"
1996	"	"	"	"	"
1997	"	"	"	"	"
1998	"	"	"	"	"
1999	"	22" TL	"	"	"
2000	"	"	"	"	"
2001	"	"	"	"	"
2002	"	"	"	"	"
2003	"	"	"	"	"
2004	"	"	"	"	"
2005	320 days	"	"	Jan 1, Mar 16	Feb 15, Dec 31
2006	"	"	"	"	"
2007	"	"	2 fish/person/day	"	"
2008	"	"	"	"	"
2009	305 days	"	"	Jan 1, Apr 1	Feb 1, Dec 31
2010	"	"	"	"	"
2011	61	"	"	Sep 16	Nov 15
2012	123	"	"	Jul 1	Oct 31