



December had some wonderful volunteers. My thanks to:

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**56<sup>th</sup> Annual Houston Boat Show**  
January 6-15, 2011 @ Reliant Center  
<http://www.houstonboatshows.com/>

**Marine Debris Summit:** January 13, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at *Moody Gardens on Galveston Island.*  
<http://www.glo.texas.gov/adopt-a-beach/participate.html>

**Texas Aquaculture Association**  
41st Annual Conference & Trade Show, *Bay City Civic Center*  
January 25-27, 2012. Details at:  
<http://www.texasaquaculture.org/Conference%202012/2012%20Information%20Brochure.pdf>

11th Annual New Partners for **Smart Growth Conference** will be held February 2-4, 2012, in **San Diego, CA.**  
<http://www.newpartners.org/>

**Social Science for Coastal Decision-Making:** February 15 to 16, 2012  
Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina  
<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/socialcoastforum/index.html>



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## *Coastal & Marine Resource News*

Calhoun County  
January 2012

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



### **Tiger Prawn**

With the number of reports of captures increasing from 32 in 2010 to more than 160 in 2011, it is probable that a breeding population may be present. At the present time, the impacts are unknown. However, nonnative aquaculture shrimp could present a disease threat to native wild stocks. It is not known whether the increased occurrences in US are from more individuals or are the result of better reporting from increased outreach efforts to commercial shrimpers.  
<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/factsheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1209>

From the Hooked on Seafood Cookbook:

## TEXAS OYSTER NACHOS

1 pint fresh oysters  
1/2 cup spicy red sauce  
1/2 cup grated cheese  
broken, salted tortilla chips  
sliced jalapeno peppers

Drain oysters or shuck fresh ones. Place a few chip pieces in each shell, then an oyster on top. Add a dollop of red sauce and some grated cheese. Broil until the cheese melts and the edges of oysters curl. Top each nacho with a jalapeno slice. Serve hot, then make another batch. Makes 4 generous servings.

### Sea Grant Focus Area #3

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#### Safe Sustainable Seafood Supply:

Rising demand for seafood, coupled with the decline of many major U.S. fisheries, has led to a seafood trade deficit of \$9 billion per year (estimated to be increasing at an average annual rate of 6% per year). Aquaculture creates important new opportunities to meet the increased demand for seafood, but a number of questions and concerns must be addressed for its full potential to be realized. With international seafood imports on the rise, and fish diseases and contamination escalating, the safety of our seafood is a growing concern. Sea

Grant works to ensure the technology is available to develop environmentally-sustainable practices here in the U.S.

Sea Grant works to ensure a sustainable supply of safe seafood for our nation. A dynamic link between scientific information providers and information users, Sea Grant leads innovative research and outreach programs, and furthers the effectiveness of the efforts of our federal, state, and local partners. Located within the communities they serve, Sea Grant experts are an integral and trusted resource for coastal residents and decision-makers.

#### Fishing Action Plans

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NOAA has released the first regional saltwater recreational fishing action plans designed to help improve fishing opportunities and address recreational fishing priorities in each of the nation's six coastal regions and for the angling community that fishes for tunas and other highly migratory species. The new action agendas mark the first time NOAA has both national and regional strategies in place to address the priorities of the nation's estimated 11 million saltwater anglers who took approximately 73 million fishing trips in 2010. The plans are based on goals and objectives identified by participants at the 2010 Saltwater Recreational Fishing Summit. Learn more [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter/2011/12/06\\_regional\\_rec\\_agendas.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter/2011/12/06_regional_rec_agendas.pdf)

#### Shrimp Advisory Panel

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The Gulf Council's Shrimp Advisory Panel will meet Tuesday January 17, 2012 via telephone conference. The conference call will begin at 9 a.m. eastern time and conclude by noon.

The Advisory Panel will receive the following reports:

- Biological Review of the 2011 Cooperative Texas Closure
- Change in Yield

The Shrimp Advisory Panel will then consider recommendations to the Council for a 2012 closure.

Finally, the Advisory Panel will receive an update of the new stock assessments being developed for shrimp stocks in the Gulf of Mexico.

Copies of the agenda can be obtained by calling the Council office at 813-348-1630. Information on how to participate in the conference call will be posted on the Council web site - [http://gulfcouncil.org/council\\_meeting\\_s/panel\\_committee\\_meetings.php](http://gulfcouncil.org/council_meeting_s/panel_committee_meetings.php) - when available.

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