

JANUARY 2014

# COASTAL & MARINE RESOURCE NEWS

CALHOUN COUNTY

## UPCOMING MEETINGS THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Coastal Fisheries Division is hosting scoping meetings to discuss **potential changes to Texas saltwater fishing regulations**. Changes are being considered to the current flounder and spotted sea trout regulations to improve overall numbers in these fisheries. For more information call 361-825-3356 or visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/newsmedia/releases/?req=20131218a&nrtype=all&nrspace=2013&nsearch=>

January 7, 2014 – 6pm to 8 pm  
Bauer Exhibit Building—Fairgrounds  
186 County Road 101  
Port Lavaca, TX 77979

January 8, 2014 – 6pm to 8 pm  
Aransas County Court Room  
301 N. Live Oak Street  
Rockport, TX 78382

January 9, 2014 – 6pm to 8 pm  
TPWD Dickinson Marine Lab  
1502 Pine Drive (FM 517)  
Dickinson, TX 77539

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council is holding RAP (recreational angler participation) Sessions in Texas to hear about the **challenges you, as a recreational angler, have with current federal fisheries management** (think “red snapper”). If you want to voice your concerns or play a role in shaping future management decisions, attend one of the in person meetings, you can join the webinar. Call 813-348-1630 for more information.

January 13, 2014 – 6 pm to 9 pm  
University of Texas  
Marine Science Institute  
Visitors Center  
630 E. Cotter Street  
Port Aransas, TX 78373

January 14, 2014 – 6 pm to 9 pm  
Bass Pro Shops  
1000 Bass Pro Drive  
Houston, TX 77047

January 27, 2014 – 6 pm to 9 pm  
To join the webinar, visit  
[www4.gotomeeting.com/register/390667327](http://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/390667327)

The Deepwater Horizon oil spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees have released a draft plan that proposes \$627 million in **early restoration projects** across the Gulf states. The draft is available at [www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov](http://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov). There is a 60-day public comment period that runs through February 4. Comments can be submitted through the website above or at one of the public meetings to be held. Meetings will consist of a 30-minute open house followed by a formal presentation and public comment time.

January 21, 2014 – 6pm  
Port Arthur Civic Center, Hall E  
34041 Cultural Center Drive  
Port Arthur, TX 77642

January 22, 2014 – 6 pm  
Texas A&M University at Galveston  
Seawolf Parkway on Pelican Island  
Auditorium, Class Room Lab Bldg. 3007  
Galveston, TX 77554

January 23, 2014 – 6 pm  
Harte Research Institute  
Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi  
6300 Ocean Drive  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

## COOKING WITH SEAFOOD—RETURNS

These popular cooking demonstrations will be continued in 2014 with more guest cooks showcasing local seafood and other fare. Classes will be held at the Fairgrounds in the Bauer Exhibit Building. Topics are in the process of being chosen and confirmed. **If you are interested in being a cook or educational presenter, contact me.**

January 20th – 6 pm: Sister Josephine returns with Karen Lyssy to teach us how to make our own eggrolls in preparation for Lunar New Year.

February 20th – 6 pm: Oyster stew will be prepared by Gary Cunningham and we will learn about the business side of the oyster industry.

March 17th – 6 pm: Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Ralph Cormier's special creole Jambalaya. It's all about safe and sustainable seafood.

For more information, contact:

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<http://calhoun.agrilife.org>  
<http://texasseagrant.org>

## SHRIMP AND BLACK BEAN SOUP

[HTTP://TEXAS-SEA-GRANT.TAMU.EDU/WHATWEDO/ONLINE%20PUBLICATIONS/SHRIMPANDBLACKBEANSOUP.HTML](http://TEXAS-SEA-GRANT.TAMU.EDU/WHATWEDO/ONLINE%20PUBLICATIONS/SHRIMPANDBLACKBEANSOUP.HTML)

As delicious as it is colorful, this one-pot meal features our favorite seafood and a medley of vegetables in a savory and spicy broth – southwestern style.

1 pound small to medium shrimp, about 31/35 count  
 2 cans (14.5 each) chicken broth  
 1 green bell pepper, cubed  
 1 medium chopped onion  
 1 yellow bell pepper, cubed  
 1 tablespoon canola oil  
 1/3 cup prepared picante sauce  
 1 can (16 ounces) black beans, drained and rinsed  
 1 teaspoon cumin  
 1/2 teaspoon dried basil  
 1 can (1 pound 12 ounces) whole tomatoes, cut up, with juice

In a large Dutch oven or stew pot, sauté onion in oil until tender. Add remaining ingredients except shrimp and cook over medium heat for 10 minutes. Add shrimp and simmer for 5 minutes. Serve with grated cheese and hot Mexican cornbread. Makes 4 to 6 servings



## LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES:



An avid reader, I was intrigued by this unique way to strengthen neighborhoods, build communities, encourage reading, and much, much more. The basic idea is to put “a box full of books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and bring back another book to share.” What a cool project this would be for 4-H members, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or anyone else to do in their neighborhoods.

Find more details at <http://littlefreelibrary.org/>. Or watch the two minute video which explains how the program works at <http://vimeo.com/72957294>. I did an image search and was amazed by the many examples that are posted online. You will be too!

## MANY THANKS TO LAST MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS:

My sincerest thanks to December's volunteers, from cooking to cleaning monofilament to building a greenhouse, many hands make it all possible: Jack LaBarge, Charlie Jones, Tresa Martel, Karen Lyssy, Tom Crenshaw, Vern Lyssy, Veva Saylor, Cristy Tuazon, Diane & Gerald Carter. Sue Crober, Kay Hornsley, Jim Munroe, Leslie Hartman, Don & Gracie Cook, Theresa Dent, Ryan & Ashley Damborsky, Tom & Norma Gallagher, Richard Meyer, Gaylyn Franke, John & Katherine Sutherland, Erin Dent, Chris Scroggs, Debbie Dugan, Laurie Weaver, Greg Lowe, Derek Garcia, Melbourne Motl, Aidan Holford, Jenny Pham, Mary Kalafatis, Emily Pfeifer, Emily Llanes, Martin Hernandez, Jonluke Estrada, Marissa Crowley, Dylan Alva, Trent DelaGarza, Gavin DelaGarza, Ryan Franke, Janie Ortega, Kim Blinka, Tom Andrews, Jamie Weaver, Robin & Sarah Villarreal, Kristina & Christopher Villarreal, Cora King, Jeanna Weaver, Ben Chen, John Hernandez, Lucia Hernandez, Kylee Cormier, Carla Thigpen, Rebecca Kalafatis, Emily Obregon, Kristen Pham, Jenny Thigpen, Bill Cordell, and students in the Hope Environmental Club.

*"And now let us welcome the new year, full of things that have never been." —  
 Rainer Maria Rilke*

This newsletter is available online @ <http://calhoun.agrilife.org/newsletters/coastal-and-marine-resources/>