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## Not Your Common Shrimp

A common crustacean in the waters of the Gulf, the mantis shrimp is a truly remarkable creature.

Despite their common name they are neither mantis nor shrimp. In fact, they are most closely related to crabs and lobsters and are members of the order Stomatopoda. Their lineage can be traced back around 500 million years, and there are around 400 different species worldwide.

The mantis shrimp is perhaps best known for the pair of hinged arms which it holds under its head. Some species have arms ending in a barbed point and are called “speakers” while others have club-like structures and are termed “smashers.” The arms are used as defense mechanisms against predators, rivals and to kill their prey.

Smashers can deliver 50 mile per hour punches where their arms move so fast that they generate a pressure wave which causes the water around their fists to boil. It even emits a flash of light. The clubs are tougher than silicon carbide and strike their target with a force equal to a bullet fired from a rifle. They have been known to smash through panes of glass a quarter of an inch thick.

Another amazing feature of the mantis shrimp is its eyes which are some of the most complex in the animal kingdom. They can see both ultraviolet and polarized light as well as 10 times more colors than our own. Some species can grow to over 12 inches in length and reportedly live for 30 years.

– Damen Pheiffer



Mantis Shrimp: Tomas Willems

For more information:

[www.aqua.org/explore/animals/mantis-shrimp](http://www.aqua.org/explore/animals/mantis-shrimp)

[www.louisianasportsman.com/details.php?id=1273](http://www.louisianasportsman.com/details.php?id=1273)

[www.livescience.com/47718-giant-alien-shrimp-caught-off-florida.html](http://www.livescience.com/47718-giant-alien-shrimp-caught-off-florida.html)

<http://phenomena.nationalgeographic.com/2008/07/19/the-mantis-shrimp-has-the-worlds-fastest-punch/>

<http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/notrocketscience/2012/06/07/how-mantis-shrimps-deliver-armour-shattering-punches-without-breaking-their-fists/#.W2HGzChKhPY>

## Louisiana Red Snapper Landings Estimates through July 15

The latest catch statistics for recreational red snapper recorded by LA Creel, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' near real-time landings data collection program, are 506,360 pounds, or 68 percent of Louisiana's annual private recreational allocation of 743,000 pounds. The current weekends-only season will continue to run until recreational landings approach or reach Louisiana's allocation.

This year, state and federal seasons are running concurrently because federal fisheries managers approved LDWF's application for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) to manage the private recreational snapper season in state and federal waters in 2018 and 2019. Under the EFP, participating anglers are allowed to fish red snapper in the state territorial seas and adjoining federal waters, from shore to 200 nautical miles.

LDWF requests that recreational red snapper fishermen try out the tool developed to report catch electronically through the ROLP website or app. Though voluntary, reporting electronically will help test this method of harvest data collection. The goal is to continually improve the harvest data collection techniques to ensure the fishery resources are managed precisely and the fishermen have every possible opportunity to go out and catch fish.

To get started on electronic reporting, go to <http://wlf.louisiana.gov/snapper-efp-faqs> and see question #14 (If I opt to participate in voluntary electronic reporting, how do I report my catch?).

## Three New Gulf Council Final Rules

### *Coral Habitat Areas Considered for Habitat Area of Particular Concern Designation in the Gulf of Mexico (Coral Amendment 9)*

<http://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/N-4b-Final-Coral-9-DEIS-06062018.pdf>

The council is considering developing fishing regulations for coral protection in the 15 priority areas to conserve essential fish habitats and support sustainable fisheries. These areas are becoming rarer and need to be preserved as they provide important ecological function and can be very sensitive to outside stressors. This includes reviewing current regulations within existing habitat areas of particular concern (HAPCs), making sure the regulations are sufficient and appropriate.

If you are interested in learning more about these actions and want to give your input, the meetings for public input have already passed, but you can submit comments online by visiting the following site: <http://tinyurl.com/CoralComments>.

### *Modifications to the Sea Turtle Release Gear and Framework Procedure for the Reef Fish Fishery (Amendment 49)*

[http://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/E-4b-Final-Sea-Turtle-Release-Gear-and-Framework-Procedure-06\\_01\\_18.pdf](http://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/E-4b-Final-Sea-Turtle-Release-Gear-and-Framework-Procedure-06_01_18.pdf)

Amendment 49 to the Fishery Management Plan consists of two management actions, one involving sea turtles. It would allow other sea turtle release gear options for fishermen to choose as part of their requirement for their permit. This would lead to more flexibility and better compliance of fishermen which would hopefully lead to an increased survival rate of incidentally caught sea turtles. The purpose of this action would be to allow use of three new sea turtle release gear types and establish a new length limit for a currently required gear to release turtles and other protected species that were incidentally hooked.



Photo of Hawksbill Sea Turtle: Julie Lively

### *Modifications to Charter Vessel and Headboat Reporting Requirements*

<http://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/Electronic-Reporting-for-For-Hire-Vessels-5-23-17.pdf>

For-hire boats contribute a significant portion of the recreational sector harvests and recreational annual catch limits for many of the federally managed species in the Gulf. The council is considering the method, frequency, and required data that is reported by boat operators to improve data used for management, monitoring, and compliance. The council is looking at alternatives which would require electronic reporting of information from for-hire vessels that possess at coastal migratory pelagics permit. This could reduce the likelihood that catch limits are exceeded and accountability measures are triggered. It could also help to improve estimates of bycatch and discard mortality rates.

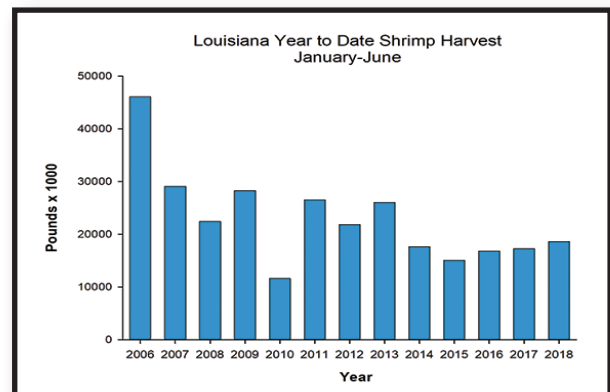
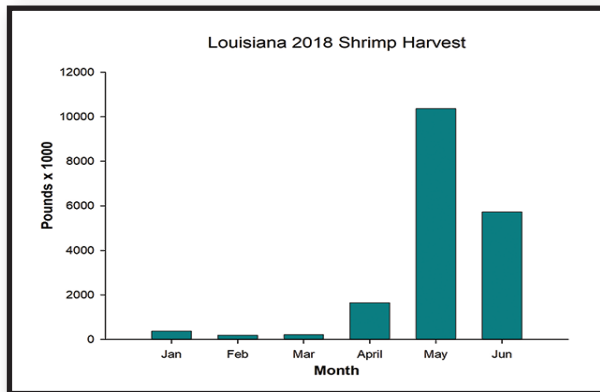
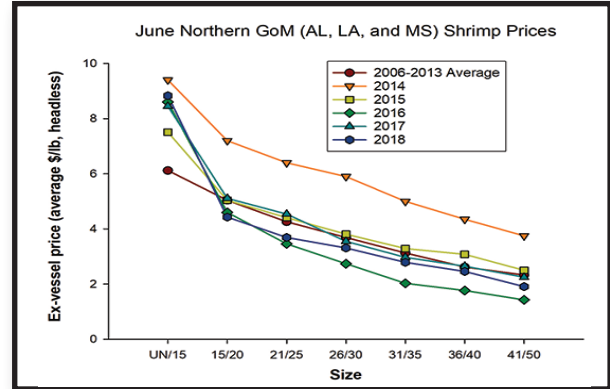
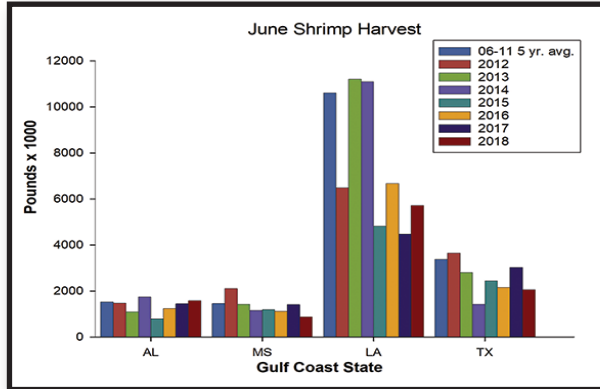
All of these amendments under development can be found at the Gulf Council website or the link is provided below:

<http://gulfcouncil.org/fishery-management/proposed-amendments/>

## Louisiana Shrimp Watch

Louisiana specific data portrayed in the graphics are selected from preliminary data posted by NOAA on its website. All data portrayed are subject to final revision and approval by NOAA. Shrimp landings are ex-vessel prices, inclusive of all species harvested. Missing, inadequate or withheld reports are portrayed as “zero” in these graphics. Price graphics reflect central Gulf states only (Texas and Florida are reported independently).

For more information, please refer to: [www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market\\_news/index.html](http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/st1/market_news/index.html).



## Important Dates & Upcoming Events

### AUGUST

**Aug. 1, 2018** – Recreational Gray Triggerfish and Greater Amberjack season reopens in federal Gulf of Mexico waters.

**Aug. 15-19, 2018** – Delcambre Shrimp Festival, [www.shrimpfestival.net/](http://www.shrimpfestival.net/).

### SEPTEMBER

**Sept. 1, 2018** – Delcambre Seafood and Farmers Market, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Sept. 6, 2018** – Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Meeting, LDWF Building, Quail Dr., Baton Rouge, 9:30 am

**Sept. 8, 2018** – St. Bernard Seafood Market, Delacroix

**Sept. 22, 2018** – Shrimp Boat Boogie & Seafood Market, Delcambre

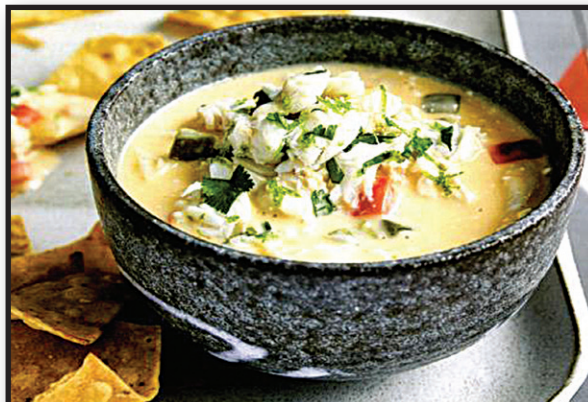
**Sept. 26, 2018** – Shrimp Task Force, Terrebonne Council Meeting Room, 8026 Main Street, Houma, 10:00 am

# THE GUMBO POT

## CRAB QUESO

Recipe courtesy of *Louisiana Kitchen & Culture*.

For more recipes or to subscribe to their magazine or free newsletter, please visit <http://louisiana.kitchenandculture.com/>



### Ingredients:

2 tablespoons unsalted butter  
 ¼ cup diced yellow onion  
 ½ red bell pepper, seeded and diced  
 2 jalapeños, seeded and diced  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 1 cup lager  
 1 cup water

8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature  
 1 pound white American cheese, shredded  
 1 pound Louisiana lump crabmeat  
 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro  
 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice, plus 1 teaspoon grated lime zest  
 ½ teaspoon kosher salt ¼ teaspoon cayenne  
 Tortilla chips, for serving

### Method:

In a medium saucepan, melt the butter over medium-low heat. Add the onion, bell pepper, and jalapeños and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for 30 seconds longer. Add the lager, water, cream cheese, and American cheese. Turn down the heat to low and cook, stirring, until the cheese has melted. Reserve ¼ cup of crabmeat for garnish and stir in the remaining crab with the cilantro, lime juice, salt, and cayenne. Cook until the crabmeat is warm, a couple of minutes.

Taste and adjust the seasonings, if you like. Transfer the queso to a serving bowl, a small slow cooker, or a chafing dish over a flame. Sprinkle with the lime zest, spoon guacamole onto the center of the queso, and top with the reserved crab. Serve warm with tortilla chips.

Be sure to visit the *Lagniappe* blog for additional news and timely events between issues.  
<https://louisianalagniappe.wordpress.com/>

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We would like to hear from you! Please contact us regarding fishery questions, comments or concerns you would like to see covered in the Lagniappe. Anyone interested in submitting information, such as articles, editorials or photographs pertaining to fishing or fisheries management is encouraged to do so.

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