



Updated Information on Response to COVID-19 Outbreak, Request for Information, and Resources Available

Greetings Members,

I hope that you are all well and safe. The situation and response to COVID-19 is evolving at breakneck speed and we continue to gather information about resources available to commercial fishermen and seafood businesses. [The Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance](#) has been in constant communication with representatives, industry groups, and regulators to stay up to date on what's happening and what assistance may be available to the seafood industry.

Request to Share How COVID-19 Outbreak is Impacting You

We have been asked to provide information about how commercial fishermen and seafood businesses in the Gulf of Mexico are being impacted by the current situation. This provides Congress and regulators a clearer picture of what's happening and how future bills could provide aid. If you would like to share how you are being affected, you can reply to this email.

List of Resources

We are keeping a running list of resources that are currently available. As new aid or updated information becomes available, we will distribute that to you.

- **Small Business Administration Disaster Loans.** Right now, small businesses can apply for loans up to \$2 million, but that cap is likely to increase in the next Congressional stimulus package.
 - [More about SBA disaster assistance.](#)
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- **Expanded access to emergency paid sick leave for employees at small companies.** This is for companies with less than 500 employees. It should be noted that the employer must front the cost of the sick leave, but they are eligible for a reimbursement.
 - [More information on Bill expanding access to emergency paid sick leave.](#)
- **Tax filing and payment extension.** Just yesterday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin announced that the tax filing deadline has been extended to July 15.
- **National Fisherman compiling companies doing direct-to-consumer sales.** If you are a fish house or commercial fisherman who is able to sell directly to the public, [National Fisherman](#) is compiling a list of businesses who can ship or are selling fish at pick up points.
 - [Submit your business information to National Fisherman.](#)

Federal Update

Congress has been working on stimulus packages over the last week, with another likely to follow next week. As more information becomes available, we will keep you posted.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call me.

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The Shareholders' Alliance is the largest organization of commercial snapper and grouper fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico. We work hard to ensure that our fisheries are sustainably managed so our fishing businesses can thrive and our fishing communities can exist for future generations. We are the harvesters that provide much of the American public with a reliable source of domestically caught wild Gulf seafood, and we do this through a philosophy that sustainable seafood and profitable fishing businesses depend on healthy fish populations.

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