

**Gulf States Marine
Fisheries Commission**
2404 Government Street
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

David M. Donaldson, Executive Director



**ADCNR/Marine
Resources Division**
P.O. Box 189
Dauphin Island, AL 36528

Chris Blankenship, GSMFC Chairman

MEETING NOTICE

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION 67th Annual Spring Meeting

March 13-16, 2017 – Gulfport, Mississippi

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's 67th Annual Spring Meeting will be held March 13-16, 2017 at the Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront. This notice contains meeting details, including the preliminary meeting schedule. All of the business meetings scheduled during this week are open to the public, free of charge. Please note the preliminary schedule is subject to change. Chris Blankenship, ADCNR/Marine Resources Division, is the presiding Chairman of the Commission.

ACCOMODATIONS: Mississippi is our host state and arrangements have been made to convene at the Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront (1600 East Beach Boulevard, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501). Poised among 26 miles of pristine beaches along the Gulf of Mexico the Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront makes your stay on the Gulf Coast unforgettable. Enjoy deluxe amenities with access to many recreational activities, from championship golfing and world-class culinary experiences to premier shopping & exciting nightlife with casinos. The spacious guest rooms feature complimentary WIFI, workspace ideal for business travelers, luxurious bedding & a mini-fridge. After a day at the beach or long meetings, relax in the swimming pool or stay fit in the fully equipped fitness center. In the evening, enjoy dinner in the Bistro restaurant or a cocktail at the lobby bar.

A block of rooms is being held at the negotiated room rate of **\$91.00** plus state/local tax (currently 12%). Reservations can be made online using this booking link: [Book your group rate for Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission](#). You can also contact the hotel directly at 228.864.4310. Hotel reservations must be made before **February 20, 2017**. **Room availability will not be guaranteed beyond this date.** Please be aware that you must guarantee your room reservation with a major credit card or one night's advance payment and you must notify the hotel of any cancellation **48 hours prior to arrival** or you will be billed one night's room plus tax. **If you have any problems regarding accommodations, please contact Nancy Marcellus at 228.875.5912 or nmarcellus@gsmfc.org.**

TRANSPORTATION: The Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront Hotel is conveniently located on highway 90 across from the beach and the beautiful Gulf of Mexico. It is five miles from the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport and six miles from I-10. There are numerous taxi and limousine services available at the airport. Complimentary on-site parking is available at the hotel.

REGISTRATION: Pre-registration assists us in planning a successful meeting and saves you money on your registration fee. The meeting registration fee is \$95/per participant and \$25/per spouse or guest **if you register by March 1, 2017**. After **March 1st** and in Gulfport the fees will be \$110 per participant. You may register online by visiting our website at www.gsmfc.org and selecting GSMFC Upcoming Meetings. If you prefer, you can still pre-register by returning the attached form to our office. Please do not register co-workers or associates as guests. We accept cash, checks, or PAYPAL. **Please note if the Commission pays for your travel, you will only be reimbursed for the regular registration fee; late fees will not be reimbursed.**

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, March 13, 2017

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Early Registration	<i>Coastal Ballroom Lobby</i>
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Tuesday, March 14, 2017

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration	<i>Coastal Ballroom Lobby</i>
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8:30 am – 5:00 pm	FIN Meeting	<i>Coastal 1</i>
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8:00 am – 12 noon	TCC SEAMAP Subcommittee	<i>Bay Room</i>
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1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	SFFMC Menhaden Advisory	<i>Bay Room</i>
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5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Committee Reception	<i>Coastal 3</i>
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Wednesday, March 15, 2017

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration	<i>Coastal Ballroom Lobby</i>
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8:30 am – 12 noon	General Session – “Recreational Fisheries Issues”	<i>Coastal 1</i>
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12 noon – 1:00 pm	Luncheon	<i>Coastal 3</i>
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1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Sea Grant Extension Program	<i>Bay Room</i>
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1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Technical Coordinating Committee	<i>Coastal 1 & 2</i>
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5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Reception	<i>Coastal 3</i>
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Thursday, March 16, 2017

8:00 am – 12 noon	Registration	<i>Coastal Ballroom Lobby</i>
8:30 am – 12 noon	Commission Business Meeting	<i>Coastal 1 & 2</i>
12 noon – 1:00 pm	<i>Commissioner's Luncheon</i>	<i>Bay Room</i>
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Commission Business Meeting	<i>Coastal 1 & 2</i>

The final agenda and meeting materials will be available March 1, 2017 on the Commission website at www.gsmfc.org – Upcoming Meetings: GSMFC Annual Meeting. In the interim, if there are any questions concerning the 67th Annual Spring Meeting of the Commission, please contact Nancy Marcellus at 228.875.5912 or nmarcellus@gsmfc.org. We look forward to seeing you all in Gulfport in March!

**GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
67th ANNUAL SPRING MEETING
March 13 – 16, 2017**



Please complete and return **with** or **without** your registration fee payable to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, 2404 Government Street, Ocean Springs, MS 39564. Your registration packet will be ready for you in the registration area on your arrival at the Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront in Gulfport, MS. **Reminder: A \$15.00 late fee will be added after March 1.**

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Telephone/E-Mail _____

Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____

- Registration fee of \$95.00 is enclosed.
- Please pre-register me. I will pay upon arrival at the Registration Desk.

Please check events that you plan to attend:

- Reception (Tuesday, March 14)
- Luncheon (Wednesday, March 15)
- Reception (Wednesday, March 15)

SPOUSE/GUEST REGISTRATION: (Do not register co-workers or associates as guests)

Spouse/Guest _____

- \$25.00 registration fee is enclosed.
- Please pre-register my spouse/guest. I will pay upon arrival at the Registration Desk.

Please check events that your spouse/guest plan to attend:

- Reception (Tuesday, March 14)
- Luncheon (Wednesday, March 15)
- Reception (Wednesday, March 15)