



MEETING NOTICE

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

Release Catch Workshop

November 7-8, 2017 – New Orleans, LA

Recreational releases are becoming a large area of importance for many species across the country. In response to stock declines, fishery managers have taken regulatory steps to reduce harvest in the recreational sector, including increased size limits and reduced bag limits, and recreational fishing seasons have been reduced to ensure harvest levels do not exceed management targets. This has translated into a growing portion of recreational catch that is released at sea and unavailable for direct observation in dockside surveys. Numbers of released fish are more difficult to quantify with precision than harvested catch, due largely to the fact that current methods rely on angler recall sometime after the trip has occurred. Due to the importance of this issue GulfFIN, ACCSP, Pacific RecFIN and NOAA Fisheries MRIP are collaborating on a National workshop looking at the utility of current methods for collecting recreational released catch data and possible new methods that could be tested and potentially improved released catch data for use in science and management.

ACCOMODATIONS: Arrangements have been made to convene at Courtyard New Orleans French Quarter/Iberville (901 Iberville St, New Orleans, LA 70112). The Courtyard French Quarter/Iberville is in the heart of The Big Easy. Southern comfort awaits as rooms and suites boast comfortable beds and cotton-rich lines. Feel immersed in the city's culture with locally inspired décor and scenic views.

A block of rooms is being held at the negotiated room rate of **\$124.00** plus state/local tax. A room block has been setup in the name of Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Released Catch Workshop. The group rate is \$124 per night and reservations can be made through this link [Book your group rate for Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission National Released Catch Workshop](#) or by calling the hotel at 877.702.7072. Hotel reservations must be made before **Monday, October 16, 2017**. **Room availability will not be guaranteed beyond this date.** If you have *any* problems regarding accommodations, please contact Gregg Bray at 228.875.5912 or gbray@gsmfc.org.

Courtyard New Orleans French Quarter/Iberville
901 Iberville St
New Orleans, LA 70112

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/msyci-courtyard-new-orleans-french-quarter-iberville/>

Recreational Released Catch Data Workshop

Draft Agenda

Day 1

- 8:30 a.m. Introductions and opening remarks
- 9:00 a.m. Discussion of need and current uses of recreational released catch data by state and federal agencies
- Enumeration of catch, validation of released catch, release mortality, is it necessary for all species, is it necessary every year for every angler interview, others?
- 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45 a.m. Continued discussion of need and uses
- Noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. Determine criterion for evaluating existing and future collection methods
- What kinds of information/criterion are necessary to properly utilize released catch data
 - o Scope in time/space of data collection
 - o Statistical design constraints (sampling frame, other?)
 - o Statistical precision
 - o Biological data elements
 - o Validation
 - o Outreach
 - o Timeliness of data availability
 - o Integration into expanded estimates
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- 3:00 p.m. **Break**
- 3:15 p.m. Continued discussion of determination of criterion for evaluation
- 4:30 p.m. Summarize day 1

Recreational Released Catch Data Workshop Draft Agenda, con't

Day 2

- 8:30 a.m. Presentations on existing data collection methods to collect released catch data
- Overview of all released catch data programs (presentation)
 - A few regionally important presentations on current methods
 - How well do existing programs fit with current needs, discuss potential concerns/problems with current methods
- 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45 a.m. Proposed new methods for collecting recreational released catch data
- Open session for brainstorming potential new methods for addressing current need and uses
- Noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. Continued discussion of proposed new methods
- Identify potential methods to improve released catch data collection, recommend those most promising for development
 - Identify candidate fisheries for pilot testing of promising released catch data collection methods
- 3:00 p.m. **Break**
- 3:15 p.m. How to evaluate if proposed and existing methods meet Day 1 criterion
- 4:30 p.m. Summarize day 2