

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION



Photo courtesy Mississippi DMR

**69th ANNUAL SPRING MEETING
MARCH 18-21, 2019**

**JW MARRIOTT
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
69th Annual Spring Meeting

Louisiana is our host state and arrangements have been made to convene at the JW Marriott (614 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130) which is nestled in the heart of the illustrious French Quarter, steps from celebrated restaurants, legendary live music venues and thrilling Bourbon Street nightlife. Just moments away, stroll through beautiful Jackson Square, shop at the sprawling French Market and brush up on your history at The National WWII Museum.

***GENERAL SESSION: OFF-BOTTOM OYSTER AQUACULTURE IN THE GULF OF MEXICO** – Join the seven 2018 Aquaculture Small Grants Program award recipients as they present the results of their current projects funded through the Commission’s cooperative effort with NOAA’s Office of Aquaculture. The small grants program was developed to address the technical and regulatory opportunities and challenges of oyster farming in the Gulf region such as spatial planning and siting, regulatory constraints, and production challenges.

***GENERAL SESSION: UPDATE ON STATE MANAGED OYSTER RESOURCES IN THE GULF OF MEXICO** - Oysters in the Gulf of Mexico continue to comprise an important fishery, but in many states stocks have dwindled over the past decade threatening both the livelihoods of fishermen and the health and stability of estuarine systems. This session will engage all participants in a discussion on how to meaningfully restore and recover oyster stocks as both a fishery and an essential coastal habitat through collaborative, integrated planning and action.

**Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
69th Annual Spring Meeting**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, March 18, 2019

Room

3:00pm – 5:00pm Early Registration Ile de France Foyer

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Room

8:00am – 5:00pm Registration Ile de France Foyer

8:30am – 5:00pm FIN Committee Meeting
Justin Esslinger, Chairman Ile de France III

8:30am – 12:00pm TCC Crab Subcommittee
Ryan Gandy, Chairman Maurepas

8:30am – 12:00pm TCC SEAMAP Subcommittee
Ted Switzer, Chairman St. Jerome

1:00pm – 5:00pm S/FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee
Ray Mroch, Chairman Maurepas

5:30pm – 6:30pm Reception Rex Room

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Room

8:00am – 5:00pm Registration Ile de France Foyer

8:30am – 12:00pm General Session:
*“Off-Bottom Oyster Aquaculture
in the Gulf of Mexico”*
Steve VanderKooy, Facilitator Ile de France III

8:30am – 5:00pm GSMFC Law Enforcement Committee/
GMFMC Law Enforcement Technical Committee
Patrick Carron, Chairman
Jason Downey, Vice-Chairman Maurepas

12:00pm – 1:00pm Luncheon Conde/Frontenac

**Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
69th Annual Spring Meeting**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 20, 2019 (continued)

Room

1:00pm – 5:00pm	Sea Grant – Fisheries Extension Advisory Panel <i>Julie Lively, Chairman</i>	St. Jerome
1:00pm – 5:00pm	Gulf of Mexico Alliance Special Session: “Update on State Managed Oyster Resources in the Gulf of Mexico” <i>Seth Blich, Facilitator</i>	Ile de France III
5:30pm – 6:30pm	Reception	Rex Room

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Room

8:00am – 12:00pm	Registration	Ile de France Foyer
8:30am – 10:00am	Technical Coordinating Committee <i>Darin Topping, Chairman</i>	Ile de France III
10:30am – 12:00pm	Commission Business Meeting <i>Joe Spraggins, Chairman</i>	Ile de France III
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Commissioners’ Luncheon	Frontenac
1:00pm – 5:00pm	Commission Business Meeting <i>Joe Spraggins, Chairman</i>	Ile de France III

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

**FIN Committee Meeting
8:30am – 5:00pm**

1. Call to Order/Introductions – *J. Esslinger, Chairman*
2. Adoption of Agenda – *All*
3. Approval of Minutes (March 13, 2018) – *All*
4. MRIP Update – *T. Sminkey/R. Cody*
- 2019 APAIS Form Proposed Changes – *G. Bray/T. Sminkey*
5. SEFHIER Presentation – *J. Stephen*
6. Red Snapper Calibration Workshop Summary – *R. Cody*

--BREAK--

7. Modern Fish Act Discussion – *All*
8. Open Ocean TIG/Barotrauma Workshop Update – *D. Donaldson*
9. Review of FIN Website – *All*

--LUNCH--

10. State Updates on FIN Related Activities – *All*
11. Ongoing Activities
 - a. VESL Update from TPWD – *J. Esslinger*
 - b. Progress on VESL and Florida Swipe Card Project – *S. Brown*
 - c. Progress on GSMFC FIS Proposals – *G. Bray*
 - d. Discussion of Shrimp Conversion Factor Research – *All*
 - e. FIN Data Management System (DMS) Issues
 1. Review of List of Personnel with Access to Confidential Data – *D. Bellais/D. Gloeckner*
 2. Status of FIN DMS – *D. Bellais*
12. Status of Puerto Rico Commercial Fisheries – *D. Matos*
13. Review of 2018 FIN Annual Report – *All*
14. Subcommittee and Work Group Reports – *All*
 - a. Otolith Processors Training Workshop
 - b. Gulf Geographic Subcommittee

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

**FIN Committee Meeting
8:30am – 5:00pm (continued)**

15. Operations Plan – *All*
 - a. Status of 2019 Activities
 1. Data Collection and Management Activities
 2. Program Activities
 - b. Review/Approval of 2020 Operations Plan

 - BREAK--

 16. Discussion of FIN 2020 Funding Priorities – *All*
 17. Election of Officers
 18. Hoshin Working Group Session
 - a. Define Recreational Data Standards and Collection Approaches
(Recreational Technical Workgroup)
 - b. Define Partner Needs, Requirements, and Process
- Adjourn

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

**TCC Crab Subcommittee
8:30am – 12:00pm**

1. Call to Order – *R. Gandy, Chairman*
2. Adoption of Agenda – *All*
3. Approval of Minutes (October 16, 2018) – *All*
4. Public Comment
5. Range Wide Population Genetics Update – *L. Hurtado*
6. New Tagging Information – *Z. Darnell*
7. Alternative Models – *L. Lee/Y. Li*
 - a. NC Catch-Survey
 - b. NC Traffic Light

--BREAK--

8. Next Steps Toward GDAR – *All*
 - a. Available Funding
 - b. Rough Timeline (1 Year Effort or 2 Year Effort)
 - c. Development of a Working Group (Members and Assessment Lead)
 1. Are we working within each state's assessment capacity like last time?
 2. Are we contracting out?
 9. SARP and Seafood Watch – *S. VanderKooy*
 10. State Report Highlights (Written Reports Requested)
 11. Other Business
- Adjourn

Meeting Room: Maurepas

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

**TCC SEAMAP Subcommittee
8:30am – 12:00pm**

1. Call to Order – *T. Switzer, Chairman*
 2. Adoption of Agenda – *All*
 3. Approval of Minutes (October 16, 2018) – *All*
 4. Administrative Report – *J. Rester*
 5. Fishery Independent Sampling in the Gulf of Mexico
 - a. Commission Optimizing Sampling in the Gulf – *E. Hoffmayer/J. Rester*
 - b. Future of NFWF Sampling – *T. Switzer*
 6. Shrimp/Groundfish Trawl Surveys – *All*
 - a. Avoiding Hard Bottom Habitats
 - b. Sensors and Cameras on Trawls
 - c. Measuring Shrimp During the Summer Shrimp/Groundfish Survey
 - d. Vessel Pool Funding
 7. Use of Cameras to Characterize Bottom Habitat in All SEAMAP Surveys – *E. Hoffmayer*
 8. SEAMAP Side Scan Sonar Use – *T. Switzer*
 9. Review of Annual Reef Fish Video Survey Workshop – *T. Switzer*
 10. Other Business
- Adjourn

Meeting Room: St. Jerome

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

S/FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee

1:00pm – 5:00pm

1. Call to Order – *R. Mroch, Chairman*
2. Adoption of Agenda – *All*
3. Approval of Minutes (October 16, 2018) – *All*
4. Public Comment
5. Review of 2018 Gulf Menhaden Season and Forecast for 2019 – *R. Mroch*
6. Update on the Atlantic Menhaden Fishery – *R. Mroch*
7. Updated Indices of Abundance from Louisiana Fishery-Independent Sampling
– *J. Adriance*

--BREAK--

8. Summary of Reference Points Workshop – *S. VanderKooy*
 - a. State by State Management Process
 - b. Planning for MSE Reference Point Exploration Workshop
9. MSE Analysis of Reference Points for Gulf Menhaden: An Initial Illustrative Example
– *R. Leaf/P. Himchak*
10. Marine Stewardship Certification of Gulf Menhaden – *R. Leaf/P. Himchak*
11. Other Business
Adjourn

Meeting Room: Maurepas

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

**General Session
“Off-Bottom Oyster Aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico”
8:30am – 12:00pm**

1. Welcome and Program Overview – *D. Donaldson/S. VanderKooy*
2. Experimentation of Different Oyster Growing Methods and Spat Retention in Oyster Bay – *B. Ballard*
3. Induction of Oyster Tetraploid Founders to Address the Triploid Seed Production for the Gulf Oyster Industry – *H. Yang*
4. Identifying Potential User Conflicts and Solutions for the Off-Bottom Oyster Culture in Texas – *J. Scarpa*
5. Lessons from the ‘Dirty Dozen’ – *B. Walton*

--BREAK--

6. Regulatory Solutions to Stimulate Off-Bottom Oyster Farming in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico Region – *L. Marino*
7. Creation of a Mobile Single Set Production System for the Eastern Oyster – *D. Diaz*
8. Testing Causes of Triploid Oyster Summer Mortality – *B. Walton*
9. General Q & A on Off-Bottom Oyster Culture – *All*
Adjourn

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

**GSMFC Law Enforcement Committee/
GMFMC Law Enforcement Technical Committee
8:30am – 5:00pm**

1. Call to Order/Introductions – *P. Carron, Chairman/J. Downey, Vice-Chairman*
2. Adoption of Agenda – *P. Carron/J. Downey*
3. Approval of Minutes (October 17, 2018) – *P. Carron/J. Downey*
4. Recreational Red Snapper State Management Programs – New Action for Federal Water Closures and Update on Final Action – *A. Lasseter*

--BREAK--

5. Historical Captain Endorsement Action - Update – *A. Lasseter*
6. Review of Council Actions to Determine Law Enforcement Implications – *A. Lasseter*
7. Issue of State-Licensed For-Hire Boats and Privately Owned Boats Taking Paying Passengers to Fish for Red Snapper in Federal Waters – *A. Lasseter*

--LUNCH--

8. Developing a Possible Team of the Year Award – *A. Lasseter*
9. LETC Other Business – *A. Lasseter*
10. Future of JEAs and JEA Funding Discussion – *All*
11. Status of Law Enforcement Post-Shutdown – *All*
12. IJF Program Activity – *S. VanderKooy*
 - a. Cobia Profile
 - b. Red Drum Profile
 - c. Officers' Pocket Guide
 - d. Annual License and Fees
 - e. Law Summary (Red Book)

--BREAK--

13. State Report Highlights – *All*
 - a. Florida
 - b. Alabama
 - c. Mississippi
 - d. Louisiana
 - e. Texas
 - f. USCG
 - g. NOAA OLE
 - h. USFWS
 14. Other Business
- Adjourn

Meeting Room: Maurepas

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

**Sea Grant – Fisheries Extension Advisory Panel
1:00pm – 5:00pm**

1. Call to Order/Introductions – *J. Lively, Chairman*
 2. Election of Vice-Chair – *J. Lively*
 3. Review of Members – *All*
 4. Approval of Minutes (October 17, 2018) – *All*
 5. Seafood Rating Systems – *All*
 6. Gulf Sea Grant Fisheries Extension State Reports
 - a. Florida – *S. Jackson*
 - b. Mississippi/Alabama – *M. Drymon*
 - c. Louisiana – *J. Lively/D. Seibert*
 - d. Texas – *L. Picariello*
 7. Guest Reports
 8. Other Business
 - Next Meeting Topic
- Adjourn

Meeting Room: St. Jerome

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

**Gulf of Mexico Alliance Special Session
“Update on State Managed Oyster Resources in the Gulf of Mexico”
1:00pm – 5:00pm**

1. Introduction of Session and State Panel Presenters – *S. Blicht*
2. State Presentations
 - a. Florida – *FWC*
 - b. Alabama – *ADCNR/MRD*
 - c. Mississippi – *MDMR*
 - d. Louisiana – *LDWF*
 - e. Texas – *TPWD*
3. Roundtable Q&A – *All*
Adjourn

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Technical Coordinating Committee

8:30am – 10:00am

1. Call to Order/Introductions – *D. Topping, Chairman*
2. Adoption of Agenda – *All*
3. Approval of Minutes (October 17, 2018) – *All*
4. Discussion/Final Approval of the Cobia Profile – *S. VanderKooy*
5. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Artificial Reef
 - b. Crab
 - c. GulfFIN
 - d. SEAMAP
6. State/Federal Reports
– Questions/Comments
7. Discussion About Future TCC Meetings
8. Other Business
Adjourn

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

Thursday, March 21, 2019

**Commission Business Meeting
10:30am – 5:00pm**

1. Call to Order, Introductions, Opening Comments – *J. Spraggins, Chairman*
- Brief Overview of Commission Voting Procedures – *D. Donaldson*
2. Adoption of Agenda – *J. Spraggins*
3. Approval of Minutes (October 18, 2018) – *J. Spraggins*
4. Public Comment
5. GSMFC Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Law Enforcement Committee – *P. Carron*
 - b. Technical Coordinating Committee – *D. Topping*
 1. GulfFIN Committee
 2. SEAMAP Subcommittee
 3. Artificial Reef Subcommittee
 - c. State-Federal Fisheries Management Committee
– Menhaden Advisory Committee – *S. VanderKooy*
6. Sea Grant Fisheries Extension Meeting Report – *J. Lively*

--BREAK--

7. NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office Comments – *R. Crabtree*
8. USFWS Region 4 Office Comments – *G. Constant*
9. Update on GSMFC Aquaculture Activities
 - a. Briefing on Oyster Symposium – *S. VanderKooy*
 - b. Status and Overview of Aquaculture RFPs – *S. VanderKooy*
 1. Oyster Aquaculture
 2. Regional Pilot Projects
10. NOAA Fisheries & Fish and Wildlife Service Budget Update – *D. Donaldson*
11. Discussion of Legislative Issues and Actions – *D. Donaldson*
– PL No: 115-405: Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act
12. Review and Approval of Changes to GSMFC Administrative Manual – *All*

--LUNCH--

13. Discussion of Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program
– *J. Stephen*

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

Thursday, March 21, 2019

**Commission Business Meeting
10:30am – 5:00pm (continued)**

14. Presentation of NOAA Fisheries Stock Assessment Improvement Plan – *C. Werner*
15. Presentation of NOAA Fisheries Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Road Map – *M. Karnauskas*
16. Deepwater Horizon NRDA Open Ocean Update – *L. Rounds/J. Reinhardt*

--BREAK--

17. ***Lyles-Simpson Award*** Recipient Selection for 2019 – *All*
 18. GSMFC Program Reports
 - a. Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program – *S. VanderKoooy*
 - b. SEAMAP – *J. Rester*
 - c. Sportfish Restoration Program – *J. Ballard*
 - d. Fisheries Information Network – *G. Bray*
 - e. Aquatic Nuisance Species Program – *J. Ballard*
 19. State Directors' Reports
 - a. Florida – *D. Ellinor*
 - b. Alabama – *S. Bannon*
 - c. Mississippi – *J. Spraggins*
 - d. Louisiana – *J. Froeba*
 - e. Texas – *L. Robinson*
 20. Future Meetings – *N. Marcellus*
 - a. October 15-17, 2019 – Mississippi
 - b. March 17-19, 2020 – Alabama
 21. Review of Committee Listings – *All*
 22. Publications List and Web Statistics
 - a. Publications – *D. Donaldson*
 - b. GSMFC Web Site – *J. Ferrer*
 23. Other Business
- Adjourn

Meeting Room: Ile de France III

SOCIAL EVENTS*

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Room

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Reception

Rex Room

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Luncheon

Conde/Frontenac

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Reception

Rex Room

***You must be registered for the meeting to attend these functions.**

Name badge required.

STAFF

David M. Donaldson

Nancy K. Marcellus

Cheryl R. Noble

Steven J. VanderKooy

Jeffrey K. Rester

Gregory S. Bray

Joseph P. Ferrer, III

Deanna L. Valentine

Douglas J. Snyder

Donna B. Bellais

James R. Ballard

Lloyd W. Kirk

Debora K. McIntyre

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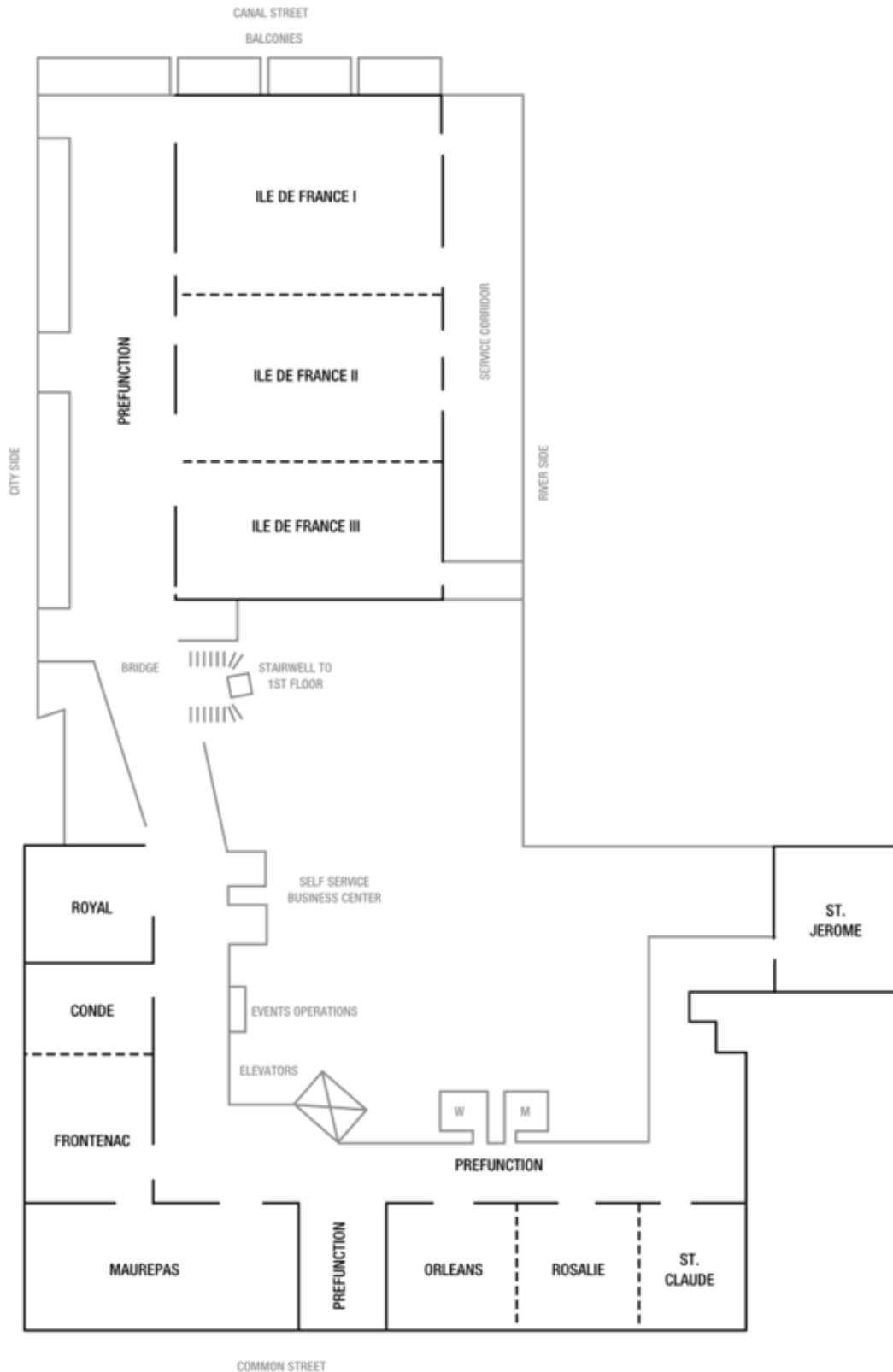
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NOTES

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