

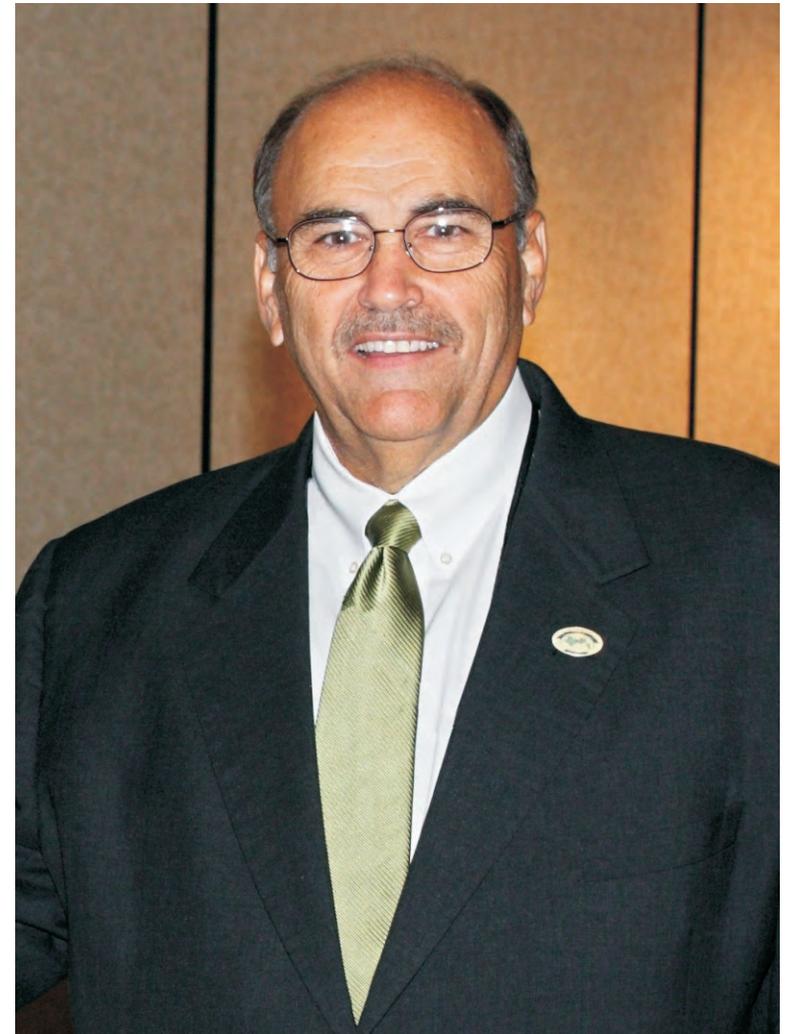
# Charles H. Lyles Award Recipient 2013

## Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Past Charles H. Lyles Award Recipients

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<i>Charles H. Lyles</i>	1984
<i>Theodore B. Ford</i>	1985
<i>J.Y. Christmas</i>	1986
<i>John Breaux</i>	1987
<i>John Ray Nelson</i>	1988
<i>I.B. "Buck" Byrd</i>	1989
<i>Hugh A. Swingle</i>	1990
<i>John A. Mehos</i>	1991
<i>J. Burton Angelle</i>	1992
<i>Louis A. Villanova</i>	1993
<i>Theodore H. Shepard</i>	1994
<i>Edwin A. Joyce, Jr.</i>	1995
<i>Tommy D. Candies</i>	1996
<i>Walter M. Tatum</i>	1997
<i>Thomas L. Heffernan</i>	1998
<i>Trent Lott</i>	1999
<i>James M. Barkuloo</i>	2000
<i>Walter W. Fondren, III</i>	2001
<i>Jerald K. Waller</i>	2002
<i>Andrew J. Kemmerer</i>	2003
<i>Hal R. Osborn</i>	2004
<i>Leroy Kiffe</i>	2005
<i>Robert P. Jones</i>	2006
<i>Wayne E. Swingle</i>	2007
<i>Ralph Rayburn</i>	2008
<i>William S. "Corky" Perret</i>	2009
<i>Albert L. King</i>	2010
<i>Virginia A. Vail</i>	2011
<i>R. Vernon Minton</i>	2012

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*Larry B. Simpson*

## Larry B. Simpson

It is with great pleasure that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission presents this year's *Charles H. Lyles Award* to our very own Larry B. Simpson. This prestigious award is presented annually to an individual, agency, or organization which has contributed to the betterment of the fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico through significant biological, industrial, legislative, enforcement, or administrative activities. Larry and his wife Pam have been married for 43 years and have two daughters and four grandchildren. Their daughter, Beth, married to Jason Quave and Trisha, married to Stephen Prewitt.

Mr. Simpson earned his B.S. from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1970 and his M.S. from the University of South Alabama in 1978. Before getting involved in the fisheries world, he worked in the education field, molding and teaching young minds at Live Oak Academy. In 1978, he decided to delve into the fisheries arena and began his career at the Commission. He began this profession working for Charles H. Lyles who was his mentor and is the namesake of this award.

Upon Mr. Lyles' retirement, Mr. Simpson was named the Executive Director of the Commission and has served in that position from 1983 to present. As the chief executive officer, Mr. Simpson is responsible for managing all affairs and activities for the Commission and has been integral in expanding the Commission's programs and responsibilities over the last 30 years. Under his guidance, the Commission has worked in the interest of the Gulf States to promote the conservation, development, and full utilization of the fishery resources of the Gulf of Mexico to provide food, employment, income, and recreation to the people of the United States.

Mr. Simpson has been a key player in the development, coordination, and administration of a variety of cooperative programs, including the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program, Interjurisdictional Fisheries Program, Sportfish Restoration Program, Fisheries Information Network Program, and Economics





Recovery Program. He has also authored and co-authored numerous publications related to management and conservation of the marine fisheries resources.

In addition to the day-to-day operations of the Commission, Mr. Simpson is a member of many professional organizations and associations including the American Fisheries Society, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Department of Commerce Marine Advisory Committee, the MARFIN Board, State Federal Fisheries Management Committee, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (where he is the longest standing member of any of the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils).

Mr. Simpson is a lifetime Baptist and currently serves as Chairman of the Deacons at the First Baptist Church in Vancleave. In addition, he has been a member of the Gautier Rotary Club since 1990 where he served on the Board of Directors and as Club President in 2010.

Mr. Simpson has been involved in the fisheries realm for over 34 years and has been a staunch supporter of the fisheries resources in the Gulf of Mexico. His no-nonsense approach has been very effective, and he is appreciated by those who have had the pleasure of working with him. It is with great pride that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission presents this year's *Charles H. Lyles Award* to such a deserving recipient.



