

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

*David M. Donaldson, Executive Director*



**State of Texas  
Private Citizen Commissioner**

*Doug W. Boyd, GSMFC Chairman*

# MEETING NOTICE

## GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

### 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Meeting

March 14 - 17, 2022

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Meeting will be held March 14-17, 2022 at the Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort in Panama City, Florida. 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. Mr. Doug Boyd, State of Texas Private Citizen Appointee, is the presiding Chairman of the Commission.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Florida is our host state and arrangements have been made to convene at the Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort (4114 Jan Cooley Drive, Panama City Beach, Florida 32408). Surrounded by the emerald green waters of St. Andrews Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, the Sheraton Resort sits nestled within a 1,100 acre wildlife sanctuary. Boasting a \$30-million renovation and AAA Four Diamond rating, the hotel is a dazzling, award-winning beachfront destination. Amenities include several heated pools, a full-service spa, a 24-hour fitness center and 36 holes of championship golf, including the only Nicklaus Design course in Northwest Florida.

A block of rooms is being held at the negotiated room rate of **\$165.00** plus state/local taxes (currently 12% guest room occupancy tax and 7% sales tax). The \$30.00 Resort Fee is waived for our group and includes guestroom internet, self-parking, access to 24-hour fitness center, private bay beach and resort pools. Reservations can be made online using this booking link: [Book your group rate for Gulf State Marine Fisheries](#) You can also contact the hotel directly at 866.912.1042. Hotel reservations must be made before **Friday, February 25, 2022**. **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 **72 hours prior to arrival** or you will be billed for 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](mailto:nmarcellus@gsmfc.org).**

## **LYLES – SIMPSON AWARD**

***(Luncheon and Award Presentation Postponed until October 2022 Annual Meeting)***

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission previously announced that the 2020 Lyles-Simpson Award had been awarded to Harriet MacGill Perry. 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. Due to the importance and prestige of this award, we will again be postponing the ceremony until the October 2022 Annual Meeting.

**TRANSPORTATION**: The Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort is located 38 minutes away from Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport (ECP). Taxi services are available at the airport. Complimentary self-parking is available at the hotel.

**REGISTRATION**: Pre-registration assists us in planning a successful meeting. Due to uncertainties regarding COVID, the meeting registration fee will be waived for this meeting. Even though we will not charge a registration fee, PLEASE continue to register online by visiting our website at [www.gsmfc.org](http://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.

### **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

#### **Monday, March 14, 2022**

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm                      Early Registration

#### **Tuesday, March 15, 2022**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm                      Registration

8:30 am – 5:00 pm                      FIN Meeting

8:30 pm – 12 noon                      Molluscan Shellfish Committee

8:30 am – 12 noon                      SFFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm                      TCC SEAMAP Subcommittee

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm                      TCC Crab Subcommittee

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm                      Reception

**Wednesday, March 16, 2022**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration
8:30 am – 5:00 pm	Technical Coordinating Committee
8:30 am – 12:00 noon	*General Session – “ANS Small Grants Program”
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Business Meeting
12 noon – 1:00 pm	Luncheon
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Sea Grant Extension Program
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Reception

**Thursday, March 17, 2022**

8:00 am – 12 noon	Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am	<i>Commissioners’ Breakfast</i>
9:15 am – 12 noon	Commission Business Meeting

**\*GENERAL SESSION:** In 2014 the Commission started a partnership with the Region 4 USFWS Aquatic Nuisance Species Program to help administer their Small Grants Program. Over the last seven years, the program has been able to fund 43 projects totaling over \$1,000,000. These projects have addressed numerous aquatic nuisance species and issues that are negatively impacting the southeast region and the U.S. as a whole.

The final agenda and meeting materials will be available March 1, 2022 on the Commission website at [www.gsmfc.org](http://www.gsmfc.org) – Upcoming Meetings: GSMFC Annual Meeting. In the interim, if there are any questions concerning the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Meeting of the Commission, please contact Nancy Marcellus at 228.875.5912 or [nmarcellus@gsmfc.org](mailto:nmarcellus@gsmfc.org). We look forward to seeing you all in Panama City in March!

**GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM  
72<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SPRING MEETING  
March 14-17, 2022**



Please complete and return 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 upon your arrival at the Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort in Panama City, Florida.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Departure \_\_\_\_\_

Please check events that you plan to attend:

- Reception (Tuesday, March 15)
- Luncheon (Wednesday, March 16)
- Reception (Wednesday, March 16)

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

Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

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

- Reception (Tuesday, March 15)
- Reception (Wednesday, March 16)