

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

*David M. Donaldson, Executive Director*



**State of Alabama  
Department of Conservation  
& Natural Resources  
Marine Resources Division**

*Scott Bannon, GSMFC Chairman*

# MEETING NOTICE

## GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

### 74th Annual Meeting

October 16 - 19, 2023

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's 74th Annual Meeting will be held October 16-19, 2023 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside in New Orleans, Louisiana. This notice contains meeting details, including the preliminary meeting schedule. All of the business meetings scheduled during this week are open to the public. Please note the preliminary schedule is subject to change. Mr. Scott Bannon, State of Alabama DCNR/MRD, is the presiding Chairman of the Commission.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Louisiana is our host state and arrangements have been made to convene at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside (Two Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70130). The hotel is connected to the Riverwalk outlets in New Orleans' central business district. They are also a block from Harrah's Casino and within a mile of the French Quarter, Jackson Square, and the Aquarium of the Americas.

A block of rooms is being held at the negotiated room rate of **\$136.00** plus state/local taxes. Reservations can be made online using this booking link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50615837>. You can also contact the hotel directly at 504.561.0500. Reservations must be confirmed with a valid credit card and individuals may cancel their reservation without penalty up until 72 hours prior to arrival date. Hotel reservations must be made before **Friday, September 15, 2023**. **Room availability will not be guaranteed beyond this date.** 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 – 2022 & 2023**

It is with great pleasure that the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission presents the 2022 Lyles-Simpson Award to Thomas McIlwain and the 2023 Lyles-Simpson Award to Joseph Shepard. 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.

A luncheon to present the 2022 award and honor Tom is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17 beginning at 12:00 noon.

A luncheon to present the 2023 award and honor Joey is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18 beginning at 12:00 noon.

**TRANSPORTATION:** The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY) is located 14 miles away and is about a 25-minute drive to the hotel. There are many transport companies that operate from the airport such as Uber, Lyft and taxis. Valet parking is \$49 per day and self-parking is \$44 per day.

**REGISTRATION:** Pre-registration assists us in planning a successful meeting. The meeting registration fee is \$200/per participant and \$75/per spouse or guest. If you receive a GSMFC Travel Authorization you will not be required to pay the registration fee, as your attendance to participate in meetings is included in the grant work plan – but please continue to register so your name tag, etc. will be available at the registration desk. You may 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 regular mail or FAX by returning the registration form to our office. Please do not register co-workers or associates as guests. We accept cash, checks, credit card, or PAYPAL.

## **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

### **Monday, October 16, 2023**

10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration	Riverside Registration
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Artificial Reef Meeting	Quarterdeck A
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Derelict Crab Workshop	Chart C

### **Tuesday, October 17, 2023**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration	Riverside Registration
8:30 am – 5:00 pm	GulfFIN Committee	Quarterdeck B-C
8:30 am – 12 noon	Artificial Reef Meeting	Quarterdeck A
8:30 pm – 12 noon	TCC Crab Subcommittee	Chart C
8:30 am – 12 noon	TCC SEAMAP Subcommittee	Steering
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Reef Fish Extension Meeting	Compass

12 noon – 1:30 pm	Awards Luncheon <i>“2022 Lyles-Simpson Award”</i> – Thomas McIlwain	Chart A-B
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	S/FFMC Menhaden Advisory Committee	Chart C
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	TCC Molluscan Shellfish Committee	Quarterdeck A
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Reception	Port/Starboard

**Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Registration	Riverside Registration
8:30 am – 5:00 pm	LEC/LETC Meetings	Quarterdeck A
8:30 am – 5:00 pm	Technical Coordinating Committee	Quarterdeck B-C
8:30 am – 12:00 noon	*General Session – <i>“Aquaculture Regional Pilot Projects in the Gulf of Mexico”</i>	
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Business Meeting	
12 noon – 1:30 pm	Awards Luncheon <i>“2023 Lyles-Simpson Award”</i> – Joseph Shepard	Chart A-B
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Sea Grant Extension Program	Chart C
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Reception	Chart A-B

**Thursday, October 19, 2023**

8:00 am – 12 noon	Registration	Riverside Registration
7:00 am – 8:30 am	Executive Committee Breakfast	Chart C
8:30 am – 12 noon	State/Federal Fisheries Management Committee	Quarterdeck B-C
12 noon – 1:00 pm	Commissioners Luncheon	Chart A-B
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Commission Business Meeting	Quarterdeck B-C

**\*GENERAL SESSION: AQUACULTURE REGIONAL PILOT PROJECTS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO** – On Wednesday, October 18, join the six 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 support commercial aquaculture start-ups with production in mind.

The final agenda and meeting materials will be available October 1, 2023 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 74<sup>th</sup> Annual 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 New Orleans in October!

**GULF STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM  
74<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
October 16-19, 2023**



Please complete and return **with** or **without** your registration fee 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 Hilton New Orleans Riverside in New Orleans, LA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please check events that you plan to attend:

- Luncheon (Tuesday, October 17)
- Reception (Tuesday, October 17)
- Luncheon (Wednesday, October 18)
- Reception (Wednesday, October 18)

**SPOUSE/GUEST REGISTRATION: (Do Not Register Co-workers or Associates as Guests)**

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

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

- Luncheon (Tuesday, October 17)
- Reception (Tuesday, October 17)
- Luncheon (Wednesday, October 18)
- Reception (Wednesday, October 18)