

GULF OF MEXICO CONFERENCE 2024

Monday Workshops

Monday, February 19

Pre-Conference Workshops (conference registration required to attend)

All Day (8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

GCOOS Staff Retreat (Open to GCOOS staff members)

Host: Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System

Staff will discuss their work providing on-demand information about the Gulf's coastal and ocean waters.

Morning (8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

Offshore Wind in the Gulf of Mexico (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: WSP

This workshop will explore current and future offshore wind development opportunities in the Gulf.

Louisiana Coastal Carbon Policy and Legal Advisory Panel Meeting (Open to advisory panel members)

Host: Water Institute of the Gulf

Advisory panel members will meet to prepare for the afternoon Blue Carbon Research Working Group Meeting.

Morning (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

Seagrass Monitoring Workplan Development (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: Gulf of Mexico Seagrass Community of Practice

This workshop will focus on developing the basic structure, outline, and process for the 2030 Seagrass Status and Trends Report with an additional discussion on incorporating Florida data into the Tier II Matrix.

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Afternoon (12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Science + Art Collaborations: Engaging Communities in the Gulf (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: NASEM Gulf Research Program

This workshop will explore creative problem solving, ways to understand and engage with complex topics through creative practices, and how art/science collaborations can elevate community voices.

Pre-registration required for this workshop. Contact sforrest@nas.edu for more information.

Afternoon (1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Cross-TIG Monitoring and Adaptive Management Workgroup Meeting (Open to workgroup members)

Host: DWH Cross-TIG Monitoring and Adaptive Management Workgroup

Workgroup members from Natural Resource Trustee agencies will meet to discuss responsibilities, coordination, and compatibility across monitoring and adaptive management products and procedures.

Afternoon (1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Exploring Connectivity in the Deep Gulf from Key Insights to Key Gaps (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: NOAA

Attendees will lean on the growing body of knowledge around the deep Gulf of Mexico to identify potential indicators of species population and health change and identify key data that are missing.

Oyster Restoration Success Criteria (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: Gulf of Mexico Oyster Management Community of Practice

Oyster restoration practitioners, managers, researchers, aquaculturists, and others will explore how success is defined for oyster restoration projects.

Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program Meeting (Open to CERGP members)

Host: Centers of Excellence Research Grants Program

Program administrators and key partners will meet to discuss ongoing and emerging topics related to implementation of their work.

Blue Carbon Research Working Group Meeting (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: The Water Institute

Attendees will explore collaborative and strategic actions to address critical science gaps and policy issues associated with developing blue carbon as a conservation and management tool for the northern Gulf.

Pre-registration required for this workshop: tinyurl.com/talkcarbon

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Afternoon (1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) - continued

Economic Guidance for Coastal Management Professionals (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: NOAA

This training will facilitate discussions with economists to serve community needs and provide information on types of analyses, terminology, and tools to complete an economic analysis for federal funding proposals.

Pre-registration required for this workshop. Contact polina.dineva@noaa.gov for more information.

Offshore Wind Suitability Modeling in ArcGIS (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: ESRI

Participants will discuss criteria for offshore wind suitability maps, how maps are created, application of different weighting based on personas, and how results can be saved and shared with others.

Offshore Wind Regional Science Planning (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: National Wildlife Federation

Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative partners will meet to discuss work related to monitoring and research that supports environmentally responsible and cost-efficient offshore wind development.

Pre-registration required for this workshop. Contact pattersonh@nwf.org for more information.

Gulf of Mexico Monitoring Forum Meeting (Open to Monitoring Forum Members)

Host: GOMA Data & Monitoring Team

Gulf of Mexico Monitoring Forum members will meet to discuss details of a new project that provides an in-depth analysis of water quality programs, monitoring needs, and collaborative data sharing.

Designing Living Shorelines (Open to all registered attendees)

Host: Ecosphere Restoration Institute

This workshop will include information on site assessment, design options, permitting challenges, and installation. Monitoring and maintenance will also be discussed. *Ecosphere Restoration also will host a walking tour to visit a nearby living shoreline site (10 min walk) on Tuesday, Feb. 20 during the lunch break. Contact tries@ecosphererestoration.org for more information.*