

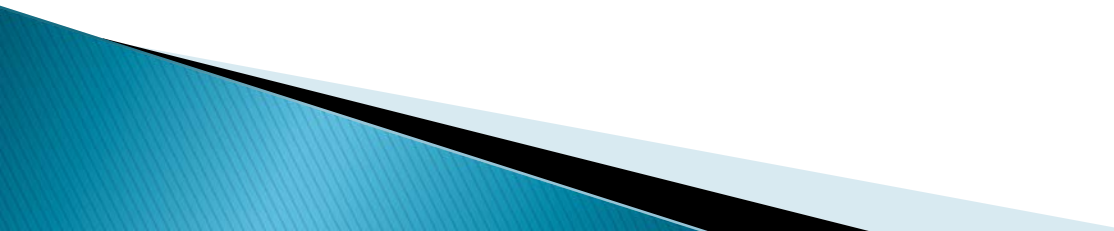
# Lionfish and Coordination



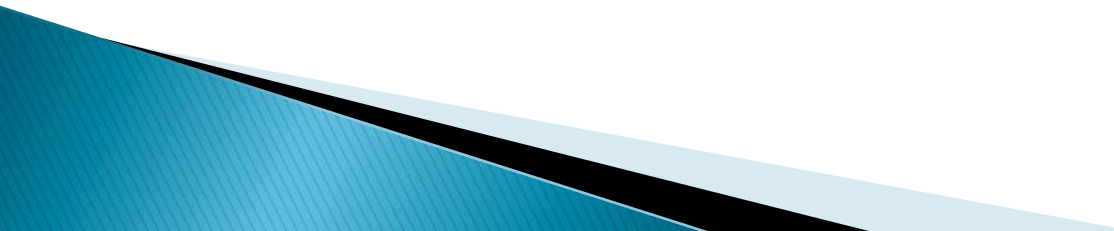
Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel  
Charleston, SC

April 12-13, 2011


# Our Discussion Today

- ▶ Introduce the Team
  - ▶ Presentations on Lionfish
  - ▶ Discussion and Action
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# Team

- ▶ Pam Schofield, USGS
  - ▶ James Morris, NOAA
  - ▶ Lad Atkins, REEF
  - ▶ Chris Furqueron, NPS
  - ▶ Jeffrey Herod, USFWS
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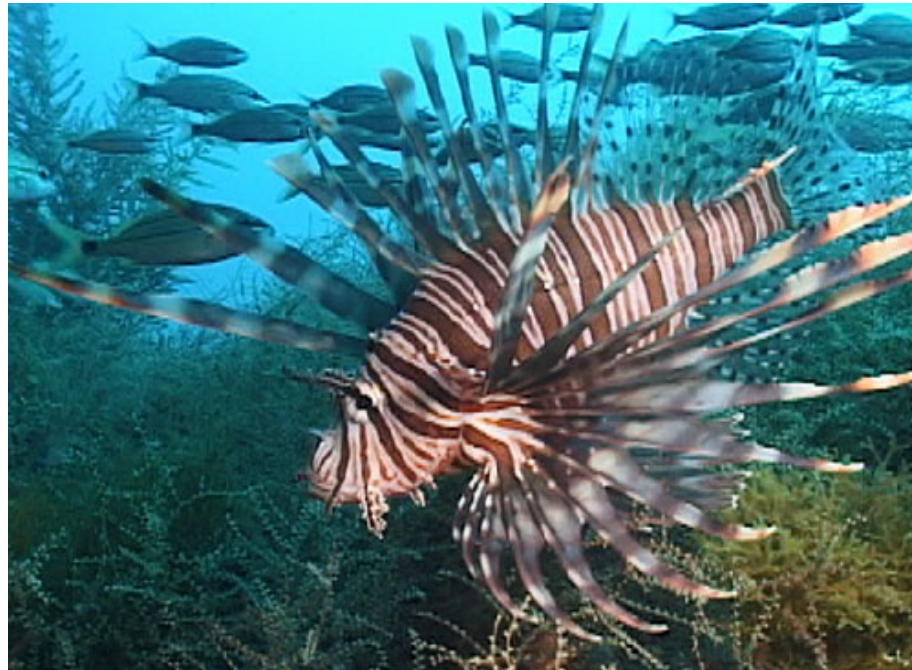
# Presentations on Lionfish

- ▶ Pam - Current distribution of lionfish from USGS-NAS database
  - ▶ James- An overview of lionfish biology, ecology, and impacts
  - ▶ James - Congressional and International activities on lionfish/Manual for lionfish research and control in Wider Caribbean
  - ▶ Lad - REEF's outreach/training on lionfish in the US and abroad
  - ▶ Chris - NPS lionfish control activities
  - ▶ Jeff - The process for developing U.S. lionfish control strategies and a motion to create a lionfish working group
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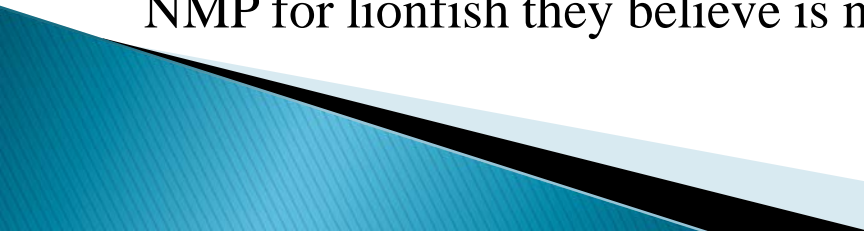
# Discussion and Action

- ▶ **ACTION ITEM:** GSARP recommends to the ANSTF the formation of the Lionfish CWG.

# The process for developing U.S. lionfish control strategies and a motion to create a lionfish working group



# Road Map

- ▶ The process is to present background information to GSARP and get consensus that GSARP will ask the ANSTF to take action on approving the formation of a lionfish control working group.
  - ▶ After GSARP approval, James Ballard on behalf of GSARP will ask at the May ANSTF meeting for the ANSTF to approve the formation of the Lionfish CWG.
  - ▶ If this recommendation is approved, then a Lionfish CWG will be formed.
  - ▶ The Lionfish CWG will compile literature and request from agencies/ partners lionfish work related to informational gaps, R&D, and impacts by lionfish.
  - ▶ The process would be a report to the ANSTF by November 2011 on "yes" or "no" there is a need for a Lionfish National Management Plan.
  - ▶ If the CWG recommends "yes" and the ANSTF supports the development of a Lionfish NMP, then the CWG would work in writing teams to develop the best NMP for lionfish they believe is needed.
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# First Step- GSARP

- ▶ Based on the background information presented at this GSARP meeting, we (group of presenters) request that "GSARP recommend to the ANSTF the formation of the Lionfish CWG".
- ▶ **ACTION ITEM: GSARP recommends to the ANSTF the formation of the Lionfish CWG.**
- ▶ The purpose of this team presentation was to show the amount of collaboration and cooperation that is focused on the Lionfish issue. The first step in the process of seeking a National or Regional Species Control Plan is to define the issue as important in the region, i.e., GSAR, and have the Regional Panel express the importance and provide specific recommendations to the ANSTF.

# Second Step- ANSTF

- ▶ GSARP recommends to the ANSTF the formation of the Lionfish CWG.
- ▶ **ACTION ITEM: The ANSTF approves the GSARP recommendation to form a Lionfish CWG.**
- ▶ The purpose of Lionfish Control Working Group is to scope the issues related to prevention, control, and management of lionfish. If the formation of a Lionfish CWG is approved by the ANSTF, then it is further recommended that the CWG provide a final report by the next ANSTF meeting (November 2011). This report would contain supporting information for a recommendation on whether or not a National Lionfish Control Plan is needed. The purpose of a Lionfish National Management Plan (NMP) would be to serve as a guide to the ANSTF and other interested parties involved in managing lionfish and natural resources in U.S. waters.