

GULF & SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL PANEL ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

November 18th – 19th 2025

Tides Folly Beach Hotel
1 Center Street
Folly Beach, SC 29439

Microsoft Teams Meeting

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Call-In:

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

[All times stated in the agenda are in Eastern Daylight Time. * Indicates virtual presentation]

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

8:30 Call to Order – *Matt Phillips, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FL FWCC)*, Panel Chair

- Introductions
- Public Comment

8:45 Review and Adoption of Agenda – *Matt Phillips, FL FWCC*

8:50 Review and Approval of Minutes from the Spring GSARP Meeting [Orlando, Florida, April 22nd-23rd] – *Matt Phillips, FL FWCC*

9:00 USFWS State and Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan (SIANSMP) funding to the SCDNR Marine Resources Research Institute: From FY2014 to the present day – *Peter Kingsley-Smith, SCDNR*

9:20 The SC Aquatic Nuisance Plants Program at the Department of Environmental Services – *Julie Holling, SC Department of Environmental Services (SC DES)*

9:40 Aquatic invasive plant management activities on the Santee Cooper Lakes – *Chad Holbrook, Santee Cooper (a.k.a. South Carolina Public Service Authority)*

10:00 BREAK

10:20 An overview of the aquatic, invasive herpetofauna of South Carolina – *Andrew Grosse, SCDNR*

10:40 Update on New ANS Introductions – *Wesley Daniel, US Geological Survey (USGS)*

11:00 The genetic legacy of a global marine invader; the Pacific oyster, *Crassostrea gigas* – Erik Sotka, College of Charleston

11:20 Invasive eel swimbladder nematode, *Anguillicola crassus* research – Jordan Parish, SCDNR

11:40 Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) Update *– Susan Pasko, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

12:00 LUNCH (on your own)

1:00 Tracking an invasion: How the distribution and abundance of lionfish (*Pterois* spp.) has changed along the U.S. Atlantic coast – Margaret Walker Finch, SCDNR

1:20 Impacts of Alabama bass invading South Atlantic Slope waterways – Mark Scott, SCDNR

1:40 Impacts of flathead catfish established in South Atlantic Slope Waterways – Kevin Kubach, SCDNR

2:00 White spot syndrome virus; pathways for invasion – Daniel Sasson, SCDNR

2:20 Investigating the geographic distribution of the blue land crab, *Cardisoma guanhumi*, by leveraging citizen science – Daniel Sasson, SCDNR

2:40 Caribbean creeping crabs: Implications of the continued spread of the green porcelain crab, *Petrolisthes armatus* up the southeast US coast – April Blakeslee, East Carolina University (ECU)

3:00 BREAK

3:15 Non-native symbionts – Greg Rothman, SCDNR

3:35 Quantifying occupancy of non-native aquatic species in South Carolina's coastal plain using eDNA and electrofishing – Catherine Masatani, Clemson University

3:55 Seasonal variation in thermal refugia use and angler participation in removal efforts of suckermouth armored catfish in San Felipe Creek, Val Verde County, Texas *– Matthew Troia, University of Texas – San Antonio

4:15 Understanding boater behavior to prevent aquatic invasive species: A multistate test of Protection Motivation Theory *– Ben Ghasemi, Ohio State University

4:35 Soft coral presentation *– Nilda Marrero / Maria Rodriguez, Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources – TBC

4:55 Other business

RECESS @ 5pm

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

8:30 Call to Order – *Matt Phillips*

- Public Comment

8:45 Overview of aquatic invasive plants in SC – *Keith Bradley, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR)*

9:05 USGS Aquatic Disease and Pathogen Database Update – *Wesley Daniel, USGS*

9:25 GSARP Business updates – *Jim Page, Georgia Department of Natural Resources*

9:30 State Reports / Members Forum

10:00 BREAK

10:15 State Reports / Members Forum – *cont'd*

11:30 Other Business – *Matt Phillips, FL FWCC*

- Next Meeting (spring 2026, Alabama?)

11:45 Public Comment

ADJOURN @ 12:00 PM

Afternoon free to enjoy the sights, sounds and flavors of Charleston.