



## MINUTES OF THE 2024 FALL GSARP MEETING (Nov 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>)

### AUSTIN, TEXAS

GSARP Member Name	Agency	Present
Jessica Marchant	AL DCNR	X
Pam Fuller	Member-At-Large	X
Chuck Jacoby	FL Flood Hub	X
Matt Phillips	FL FWCC	X
Sarah Funck	FL FWCC	X
Jim Page	GA DNR	X
Charlie Robertson	GSMFC	X
Robert Bourgeois	LDWF	X
Michael Pursley	MS DMR	X
Dennis Riecke	MS DWFP	X
Rob Emens	NC DEQ	X
Tim Ellis	NC Alb-Pam NEP	X
Anna Toline	NPS	
Dana Wusinich-Mendez	NOAA	X
Nida Jimenez	Puerto Rico	X
Dr. Ruber Rodriguez Barreras	Puerto Rico	
Lad Akins	Frost Science	X

GSARP Member Name	Agency	Present
Julie Holling	SC DNR	X
Peter Kingsley-Smith	SC DNR	X
Michael Kendrick	SCDNR-MRRI	X
Monica McGarrity	TPWD	X
Michael Sipos	FL SeaGrant	X
Marcel Bozas	Tribal	
Jon Lane	USACE	PROXY
Zanethia Barnett	USDA Forest Service	X
James Ballard	USFWS	X
Barak Shemai	USFWS	
Don MacLean	USFWS	
Robert McMahon	UT Arlington	X
Wesley Daniel	USGS	X

**Others:** Cayla Morningstar (USGS); John Findeisen (TPWD); Lance Williams (UT Tyler); Marsha Williams (UT Tyler); Jane Rogosch (USGS/TTU); Polly Hajovsky (TPWD); Jake Edwards (USACE Proxy); Gary Ervin (MS State); Ashley Morgan-Olvera (TexasInvasives); Susan Pasko (USFWS); Astrid Schwalb (TX State); Ryan Shartau (UT Tyler); Chris Riggins (Meadows Ctr/TX State); Jeffrey Hutchinson (UTSA); Erin Tucker (SC DES); James Tenney (SC DES); Kristen Sommers (USFWS); Paul Evans (UF-IFAS); Ashley Graham (SC DES); Lenny Yong (SCDNR); Susan Pasko (USFWS); Wynne Radcliffe (TAMU); Romi Burks (Southwestern Univ.)

**Tuesday, Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**Call Meeting to Order/Introductions**

Chairman **Peter Kingsley-Smith** called the meeting to order and extended appreciation to the host agency and meeting prep aids before introducing panel members and guests. Opportunity for public comment was provided, with no comments given.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Matt Phillips made a Motion to adopt the agenda. Monica McGarrity seconded. Motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (Biloxi, MS – May 2024)**

Julie Holling made a motion to approve the minutes; Matt Phillips seconded. Motion passed.

**Announcements**

Jim Page gave update on status of GSARP Executive/Steering Committee positions.

**Presentations**

- Statewide AIS Management in Texas – *Monica McGarrity, TPWD & John Findeisen, TPWD*
- The TexasInvasives.org Program- *Ashley Morgan-Olvera, SHSU-TISI*
- Status and Trends in Zebra Mussel Populations in Texas – *Bob McMahon, UT-Arlington*
- Zebra Mussel Research at Texas State University – *Astrid Schwalb, TX State*
- Habitat Suitability and Distribution Modeling as Components of Integrated Risk Assessments – *Jane Rogosch, USGS/TTU*
- Evaluating the Suppression of *Hydrilla verticillata* by Manual Removal and Planting Native Plants – *Jeffrey Hutchinson, UTSA*.
- ANS Task Force Update – *Susan Pasko, USFWS*
- Overview of FWS AIS Activities/Upcoming High Priority Projects – *James Ballard, USFWS*
- Update on New ANS Introductions – *Cayla Morningstar, USGS*
- \*New USGS Aquatic Disease and Pathogen Database Update – *Wesley Daniel, USGS*
- Distribution of the Australian Redclaw Crayfish in South Texas – *Lance Williams, UT-Tyler*
- Testing the Efficacy of Low-Cost Control Methods for Giant Applesnail Egg Masses – *Cayla Morningstar, USGS*.
- Bear Lake Applesnail Eradication Efforts – *Romi Burks, Southwestern Univ.*
- Suckermouth Armored Catfish Management and Research in the San Marcos River, Central TX – *Christopher Riggins, The Meadows Center/TXST; Wynne Radcliffe, Texas A&M*.
- \*Asian Swamp Eel Summit Update – *Paul Evans, Invasion Science Research Inst. – UF*
- Panel Intro and Freshwater Invasive Fish Work in SW FL – *Michael Sipos, FL Sea Grant/UF*

**ACTION:** Motion by Peter Kingsley-Smith to modify Weds agenda and move Steering Committee discussion and nominations to Weds afternoon business and start Weds meeting at 9am. Motion seconded by Jim Page. Motion passed.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENT - MEETING RECESSED FOR THE DAY**

**Call to Order/Public Comment**

Chairman Peter Kingsley-Smith called the meeting to order. Opportunity for Public Comment provided but none given.

**Presentations (continued)**

- Overview of NOAA AIS Activities – *Dana Wusinich-Mendez, NOAA*
- Removal of Invasive Octocoral – *Nilda Jimenez, Puerto Rico DRNA*
- Integrating Chemical and Biological Controls for the Aquatic Weed *A. philoxeroides* (Alligatorweed) – *Gary Ervin, MS State* (GSARP-funded research)
- A Horizon Scan to Collaboratively Identify Invasive Species Threats to the Islands of Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands - *Wes Daniel, USGS* (GSARP-funded research)
- The Use of eDNA in comparison to trawl and historical catch data for assessing marine finfish in Matagorda Bay, TX – *Polly Hajovsky, TPWD*

**State Reports / Members Forum**

Verbal Updates/Reports were provided by the following states and members:

- Texas – *Monica McGarrity*
- Louisiana – *Rob Bourgeois*
- Mississippi – *Mike Pursley; Dennis Riecke*  
**\*\*\*Dennis Riecke was formally recognized for his long-time commitment and contributions to the GSARP as he is retiring soon\*\*\*.**
- Alabama – *Jessica Marchant*
- Florida – *Matt Phillips; Sarah Funck*
- Puerto Rico – No report beyond presentation
- Georgia – *Jim Page*
- South Carolina – *Peter Kingsley-Smith; Michael Kendrick; Julie Holling*
- North Carolina – *Rob Emens*
- Member – UT Arlington – *Bob McMahon*
- Member – USACE – *Ian Markovich (PROXY)*
- Member-At-Large – *Pam Fuller*
- Member – USGS – *Wes Daniel*
- Member – GSMFC – *Charlie Robertson*
- Member – USFWS – *Kristen Sommers*
- Member – FL Flood Hub – *Chuck Jacoby* – Nothing to report
- Member – USDA Forest Service – *Zanethia Barnett*
- Member – NOAA – No report beyond presentation
- Member – NC National Estuary Partnership – *Tim Ellis*
- Member – Frost Science – No report
- Member – FL SeaGrant – *Mike Sipos*

**Other Business**

**Topic: Budget Discussion:**

Annual budget for 2024 is \$50K (\$5K to NatureSource Communications to manage expense reimbursements; \$8K for Spring 2024 meeting). Remaining balance is \$37K, minus Fall 2024 expenses. Members discussed several ideas for potential surplus funds.

**ACTION ITEM:** Request for members to continue brainstorming and sharing ideas.

**Topic:** *Elections of Officers/Steering Committee:*

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- A nomination period was provided for members to submit officer nominations to the current Chair, Peter Kingsley-Smith. The only nominations were for Monica McGarrity (V/C) and Jim Page (Sec.).
- Per SOP requirement, motion required and made by Peter Kingsley-Smith for current V/C Matt Phillips to become Chair of GSARP. Motion seconded by Jim Page. Motion passed with Matt abstaining.
- Motion by Peter Kingsley-Smith for Monica McGarrity to become Vice-Chair (nomination unopposed, thus no election). Jim Page second. Motion passed with Monica abstaining.
- Motion by Peter Kingsley-Smith for Jim Page to continue as Secretary (nomination unopposed, thus no election). Matt Phillips second. Motion passed with Jim abstaining.
- Elected Member seat vacated by Monica McGarrity (new V/C) was filled via a ballot election from 3 nominees (Charlie Robertson, Michael Kendrick, Julie Holling), with Charlie Robertson being elected by GSARP members.

**Next Meeting, Time, and Place**

- Spring 2025 meeting to be held in FL. Details TBD.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENT - MEETING ADJOURNED**