

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AL-2026-02

Purpose: Travel authorization for listed travelers to attend the fall 2026 meeting of the Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel (GSARP) on Aquatic Invasive Species.

Destination: Hampton Inn Hotel, 62 South Royal St., Mobile, Alabama 36602

Meeting Dates: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 – Thursday, September 10, 2026

(In person attendees will be reimbursed for travel and accommodations for the day before the meeting date (Sep 8th) and/or for travel the day after (Sep 11th) the meeting date as necessary).

GSARP Fiscal Agent: Michele Tremblay, naturesource communications, PO Box 3019, Penacook NH 03303
<https://naturesource.net/>.

Name of Panel Member	Affiliation	Origin of Traveler
Matt Phillips (Chair)	FL FWC	Tallahassee, FL
Monica McGarrity (Vice Chair)	TX TPWD	Austin, TX
Jim Page (Secretary)	GA DNR	Waycross, GA
Charlie Robertson	GSMFC	Ocean Springs, MS
Mike Pursley	MS DMR	Biloxi, MS
Ryan Jones	MS DWFP	Jackson, MS
Robert McMahon	UT Arlington	Arlington, TX
Charles "Chuck" Jacoby	Florida Flood Hub	St. Petersburg, FL
Jessica Marchant	AL DCNR	Dauphin Island, AL
Julie Holling	SCDES	Columbia, SC
Michael Kendrick	SCDNR	Charleston, NC
Sarah Funck	FL FWC	Tallahassee, FL
Kelly Gestring	FL FWC	
Pam Fuller	Member-At-Large	Alachua, FL
Rob Emens	NC DEQ	Raleigh, NC
Rob Bourgeois	LDWF	Baton Rouge, LA
Tim Ellis	NEP	Raleigh, NC
Marcel Bozas	Miccosukee Tribe	Miami, FL
Mike Sipos	FL Sea Grant	Naples, FL
Rick O'Connor	FL Sea Grant	Naples, FL
Lad Akins	Frost Science	Miami, FL
Polly Hajovsky	TPWD	Palacios, TX
Nilda Jimenez	Puerto Rico DNER	Puerto Rico
Maria Vega Rodriguez (Alternate)	Puerto Rico DRNA	Puerto Rico
Dr. Ruber Rodriguez-Barreras	Univ. of Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico

PLEASE RETURN A COPY OF THIS TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION WITH THE TRAVEL EXPENSE REPORT.

Submission of claims for travel expenses should be submitted via email within 30 days of the meeting directly to the current GSARP Panel Chair and Vice Chair for approval. Claims should be submitted as a single PDF comprising of a scanned completed reimbursement form and scanned copies of all receipts. Receipts shall be itemized and included for all other expenses (e.g., air fares, hotel accommodation, car rentals, ground transportation, parking, etc.) except for meals which are reimbursed at SC rates (see below for details). **Fiscal Agent assumes no liability for payment after 30 days.**

Reimbursement will be made only for those travel expenses authorized in the Federal Travel Regulations, the NOAA Travel Handbook and other travel guidelines as issued, which relate to travel to be paid by the Fiscal Agent. Items of a personal nature (entertainment, alcoholic beverages, etc.) and travel insurance are not reimbursable expenses. Certain expenses require receipts before payment can be made. Air fare reimbursement only for Economy/Coach.

LODGING (Rates exclusive of taxes):

Hampton Inn Hotel, 62 South Royal Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602

\$114 per night. The cutoff date for making reservations in this block is **August 24, 2026**, at which time rooms will be released from the block for reservation by the public, without guarantee of the agreed upon rate.)

To reserve a room in this block:

Guests should use the link below to make reservations. Guests may contact the reservations office directly at (251) 436-8787 or 1-800-Hampton and use the Group Code: GSA. Individual reservations must be made by the cut-off date of **August 24, 2026** for the group rate of \$114 per night to be honored.

PER DIEM:

\$69.00 per day (see <https://www.gsa.gov/travel?topnav=travel> for breakdown).

First day of travel is calculated at 75% if the traveler leaves after 12:00 noon (i.e., \$55.50).

Last day of travel is calculated at 75% if traveler returns before 12:00 noon (i.e., \$55.50).

Mileage reimbursement for personal vehicles = \$0.76 per mile.

Certificate of Authorization by Designated Authorizing Officer

The above-named travelers are authorized to travel at the expense of the Fiscal Agent for the purpose described above. Travel shall be performed in accordance with the approved travel provisions with reimbursement to be made as currently authorized by the Fiscal Agent in agreement with the GSARP Chair. Reimbursement for travel by the Panel Chair will be endorsed by the Panel Vice Chair and processed by the Fiscal Agent.

Authorizing Officer: Michele L Tremblay Date: 8.4.26

Michele L. Tremblay, Principal Fiscal Agent
naturesource communications

Endorsing Signatory: Matthew Phillips Date: 8/4/2026

Matthew Phillips, Chair
Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species
FWC – Invasive Plant Management

Invited Speakers

Below is a list of speakers who have been invited to give presentations at the GSARP meeting.

Note: Federal partners on this list are not authorized to receive reimbursement.

<u>Name of Speaker</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
<i>Susan Pasko</i>	<i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i>
<i>James Ballard</i>	<i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i>
<i>Wesley Daniel</i>	<i>US Geological Survey</i>
<i>Wes Anderson</i>	<i>Alabama Power Company</i>
<i>Mark Albins</i>	<i>Dauphin Island Sea Lab</i>
<i>Christian Miller</i>	<i>Mobile Bay National Estuary Program</i>
<i>Levi Blackmon</i>	<i>Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn University</i>
<i>Jim Stoeckel</i>	<i>Auburn University</i>
<i>Adrian Stanfill</i>	<i>Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division</i>
<i>Katelyn Lawson</i>	<i>Auburn University</i>
<i>Don Bates</i>	<i>Osprey Initiative</i>
<i>Anna Reimer</i>	<i>University of South Alabama</i>