

Session 1A

**SPECIES AND HABITATS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO**

Co-Chair: Bruce Baird, BOEM

Co-Chair: Mark Belter, BOEM

Tuesday Afternoon, August 22

Room: TBD

*Description:* This session includes research on species of the GOM, including manatees, fisheries species, and corals, as well as habitats including coastal wetlands, reefs, oil platforms, and cypress forest. This information directly supports in-depth analyses of potential impacts to coastal and marine species and habitats, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

- 1:00 – 1:15            Welcome and Introduction  
                              Bruce Baird  
                              Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- 1:15 – 1:40            Florida Manatee Movement and Habitat Use in the Northern GOM  
                              Daniel Slone  
                              U.S. Geological Survey
- 1:40 – 2:05            Gulf of Mexico Land Change Assessment and Application to Louisiana  
                              Coastal Habitat Change  
                              Stephen Hartley and Brady Couvillion  
                              U.S. Geological Survey
- 2:05 – 2:30            Abundance and Distribution of Commercially Important Estuarine  
                              Dependent Species Populations within GOM  
                              Martin T. O’Connell  
                              University of New Orleans
- 2:30 – 2:45            BREAK
- 2:45 – 3:10            Long Term Monitoring at East and West Flower Garden Banks  
                              Michelle A. Johnston  
                              Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

(Continued)

Session 1A (Continued)

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- 3:10 – 3:35 Explosive Removal of Structures: Fisheries Impact  
Benny J. Gallaway  
LGL Ecological Research Associates, Inc.
- 3:35 – 4:00 Shallow Water Rigs as Habitat for Newly Recruited Reef Associated Fish  
Ed Chesney  
Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium
- 4:00 – 4:25 Ancient Bald Cypress Forest in Northern Gulf of Mexico  
Kristine DeLong  
Louisiana State University