GULF OF MEXICO ALLIANCE
Wildlife & Fisheries Priority Issue Team
Fall 2021 All-Team Meeting STRAWMAN agenda
September 21 – 23, 2021

Date/Time	Topic/Activity
Day 1 – Tuesday, September 21, 2021	
1:00 pm CT	**Welcome, Agenda Overview, GOMA WFT 101, and Introductions** *Robin Riechers, WFT Chair, TX Parks & Wildlife Dept.* Overview of the Cross-Team Initiative activities and sessions/opportunities outside our team meeting agenda
1:15 pm CT	**AP III Accomplishments** • Tier 2 status (briefly review the final Tier 2 report; point out which efforts continue into AP IV, like Oyster Blueprint) **Overview of AP IV** • Focus area and actions • Process for Tier 2 to date, charge for this meeting • Explain how we work with GOMA Development – the project menu
Diamondback Terrapin	
1:45 pm CT	**Gulf Star 2019 Project Report: Conservation Action Plan for the Diamondback Terrapin** – Tom Mohrman • Project overview • Results, recommendations, research needs
2:15 pm CT	**Gulf Star 2021 Project Update: Diamondback Terrapin Impacts, Outreach, and Research Plan for Texas** (Galveston Bay Foundation, Guillen and Mohrman)
2:30 pm CT	**BREAK**

Date/Time	Topic/Activity
3:00 pm CT	**AP IV Tier 2 Project Planning – Open Input Session** • Review Tier 2 project list • Group discussion, breakouts, etc.
5:00 pm CT	**Adjourn**
Day 2 – Wednesday, September 22, 2021	
8:30 am to 5:00 pm CT	**Speaker of interest (TBD)** **Taxa Rally** • **Avian community** • **Independent monitoring** • **Mammals**
4:00 pm CT	**Tier 2 Wrap up and Next Steps** *Robin Riechers, WFT Chair, TX Parks & Wildlife Dept.*
5:00 pm CT	**Adjourn**
Day 3 – Thursday, September 23, 2021	
8:30 am CT	**Integrated Planning Cross-Team Initiative**
10:00 am CT	**BREAK**
10:30 am CT	**Joint session with WRT and IP**
12:00 pm CT	**Adjourn WFT meeting/LUNCH**

Appendix attached: Governor's Action Plan IV Framework for Wildlife & Fisheries Priority Issue

Governor's Action Plan IV Framework for Wildlife & Fisheries Priority Issue

Wildlife and Fisheries Team Goals
- Work to understand and support diverse wildlife and fisheries populations to preserve and sustain a resilient Gulf of Mexico ecosystem
- Provide information concerning wildlife and fisheries to policy makers, managers, and other key stakeholders and through collaboration with the other Gulf of Mexico Alliance teams

Focus Area: **Status and Trends**

Provide tools and information regarding the status and trends, threats, and habitat linkages of wildlife and fisheries species to better support decision-making across the Gulf of Mexico region

Actions:

ST-1   Identify priority species to be assessed through consultation with the resource management community and Gulf stakeholders

ST-2   Prioritize research on status and trends, threats, and habitat linkages of wildlife and fisheries species

ST-3   Identify and coordinate priority short and long-term monitoring programs working with the Data & Monitoring Team to support the development, expansion, or refinement of these programs

Why Do This?
Natural resource management is dependent on access to and availability of social-ecological data and information, and the ability to adaptively respond to future changes though coordinated and integrated data collection efforts that are science-based, relevant, rigorous, and cost-effective.

Expected Results
Status and Trends results should assist natural resource managers in assessing and understanding key performance indicators of baseline conditions and historical trends to inform decisions and identify future research needs. Establishing baseline conditions for target resources will allow managers to respond better to future changes.

Focus Area: **Collaboration**

Collaborate with other Gulf of Mexico Alliance teams and partners to enhance ecological resilience by sharing knowledge and informing actions that impact wildlife and fisheries

Actions:

CB-1   Provide information to other GOMA priority issue teams, cross-team initiatives, policy makers, managers, other key stakeholders, and regional efforts concerning fish and wildlife, their habitats, requirements, or other issues

CB-2   Engage other GOMA priority issue teams, cross-team initiatives, policy makers, managers, other key stakeholders, and regional efforts to enhance ecological resilience through development of information, planning, tools, data, and messaging tailored to multiple audiences

Why Do This?
Sound natural resource management requires collaboration with the other Gulf of Mexico Alliance teams; local, state, federal, and international partners; and non-governmental organizations.

Expected Results
The benefits of working collaboratively, include: (1) reduced potential for duplication of efforts, (2) increased data and information sharing, (3) increased leveraging of resources, (4) broader applicability of monitoring and research results within and across taxa, (5) increased potential for future collaborations, (6) standardization of methodologies, protocols, and procedures, (7) better alignment with existing priorities and monitoring efforts, and (8) increased diversity and cumulative level of knowledge, skills, abilities, and expertise.

Focus Area: **Species Conservation**

Support and enhance efforts to protect and conserve wildlife and fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico

Actions:

CV-1   Identify relevant Gulf-wide conservation issues and threats and coordinate multi-partner collaboration to address them

CV-2   Identify key areas for conserving priority species, focusing resources on where the greatest results can be achieved

CV-3   Engage key partners who work with wildlife and fisheries to identify and address management issues and act as a broker to align projects to find economic and ecological benefits.

CV-4   Utilize data and information to inform management practices and priorities that support conservation needs

Why Do This?
To effectively conserve and manage Gulf of Mexico species that have economic, cultural, aesthetic, or intrinsic values, communication, and coordination across geo-political or jurisdictional boundaries is vital.

Expected Results
Wildlife and fisheries management should be grounded in sound science and management decisions should adequately reflect and address stakeholder values and needs. The Gulf of Mexico Alliance partners comprehensively conserve and manage wildlife and fisheries populations across geo-political and/or jurisdictional boundaries.